

WILLIAM (III) and MARY(II) (1688-1702)



WILLIAM (III) and MARY(II)'s REIGN

- February 6, 1689: William & Mary declared King & Queen
- Was seen by the English as the only man to save Europe from the domination of France & popery
- Spent a lot of time on European wars
- Did not inspire love
- Never did trust the English

WILLIAM (III) and MARY(II)'s REIGN

- Declaration of Rights
 - Designed to ensure Parliament could function free from royal interference
 - Limited the Sovereign's power
 - Reaffirmed Parliament's claim to control taxation and legislation
 - The Sovereign was not allowed to interfere with elections or freedom of speech
 - The exclusion of James II and his heirs was extended to exclude all Catholics from the throne

WILLIAM (III) and MARY (II)'s REIGN

- Monarch could not suspend laws passed by Parliament
- Proceedings in Parliament were not to be questioned in the courts or in any body outside Parliament itself
- Parliament had to be called frequently
 - the Triennial Act passed in 1694
- Monarch could not maintain standing army in time of peace without Parliament's consent

WILLIAM (III) and MARY(II)'s REIGN

- Bill of Rights
 - Established the succession with the heirs of Mary II, Anne, and William III in that order
 - The Monarch was forbidden to establish his own courts or to act as a judge himself
 - The courts were forbidden to impose excessive bail or fines, or cruel and unusual punishments

WILLIAM (III) and MARY(II)'s REIGN

- Toleration Act of 1689
 - Freed dissenters from penalties for failing to attend services
 - Gave all non-conformists except Roman Catholics freedom of worship
- Act of Settlement (1701)
 - further restricted the powers and prerogatives of the Crown:
 - parliamentary consent had to be given for the Sovereign to engage in war or leave the country
 - judges were to hold office on good conduct and not at royal pleasure, thus establishing judicial independence
 - barred any Catholic or anyone married to a Catholic from the throne

SOCIETAL CHANGES--ECONOMY

- Rise of capitalism: medieval ideas were abandoned in favor of unfettered production of cheaper articles & competitive free trade
- Stock Exchange incorporated
- The science of statistics made life insurance possible, thus making provisions for dependants after death without buying land, hitherto the only means

SOCIETAL CHANGES

- Bank of England– 1694
 - Beginning of accumulation of national debt
 - Raised £1,200,000 from public and lent it to the government at 8% interest
 - As long as interest was paid, principal did not have to

Bank of England



A VIEW OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

SOCIETAL CHANGES

- For the 1st time in 1,000 yrs. Christianity is on the defensive
- Newton publishes *Principia* (1687)
- Criminal law became harsher, in particular regarding crimes against property
- Invention of umbrella, made out of waxed silk or taffeta
- Carpets had become a normal feature of good houses

SOCIETAL CHANGES--RELIGION

- Deism

- 1st formulated by John Toland (1670–1722)

- God rules the world by established laws

- Asserts that neither God nor his revelation is above the comprehension of human reason

- Does not believe in the divinity of Christ or in the inspiration of the Bible

- Claims that happiness to be the chief aim of life

SOCIETAL CHANGES--PHILOSOPHY

- John Locke (1632-1704)
 - empiricism: all of our ideas ultimately derived from experience
 - the existence of God is entirely demonstrable by the process of human reason
 - argued for a broad (though not limitless) acceptance of alternative religious convictions
 - believed that men were born free & equal
 - people have rights, such as the right to life, liberty, and property