

THE ARCHIVE

ISSUE 4



Dear Readers,

Welcome to The King's Schools fourth edition of *The Archive*, a student-run magazine that invites historians from all year groups to write about any topic within the realm of history that interests them. We invite you to enjoy this edition's fine range of articles from students from past and present students. If your hoping to read history at university in the future, the article on studying at Cambridge may be of interest, or if your passion is for British history there is plenty of material in this edition to grab you, as well as on many other areas of World and European history too. In this edition we have also included written and photo coverage of two very different history trips from the October half terms of 2013 and 2014. Upon reading these reviews, we hope you will join the history department on tours of the Western Front battlefields or on an exploration of Berlin's place in the 20th century

We would also like to thank Mr P. G. Neal and Miss Titmuss for making editions of *The Archive*, both past and present, all possible.

Ellie Crisp and Harry Stables

Editors

BERLIN 2014



1798- Year of Liberty?

When on the night of the 23rd of May 1798 the mail coaches travelling from Dublin were seized by bands of rebels, it was intended to signal the initiation of the liberation of Ireland from British tyranny, and the formation of an Irish Republic of liberty, equality and justice based on the morals of nine years before, in which all men stand equal, whether Catholic, Anglican or Non-Conformist.



It was not to be. As the capital failed to rise under the leadership of a band of revolutionaries, and Dublin Castle began brutal counter-measures, the country remained a sea of indifference in which floated marooned rebels. However, 1798 did not simply become a mere date, another of the innumerable black marks held against the English in Irish history. It epitomised the Irish revolutionary spirit of the 18th century, and marked the end of the possibility of an 'inclusive' revolution.

Planned and executed by members of the Society of United Irishmen, a secretive body originally formed as a political organisation in Belfast but later driven underground by Dublin Castle, the rising depended (in theory) almost entirely upon French assistance, but in truth French intervention was nought but a minor preface and post-script to the rebellion.

Despite the ineffectuality of French intervention, it is the figure who engaged in Franco-Irish negotiations who enjoys the most fame. Theobald Wolfe Tone was, like the vast majority of the United Irishmen, a Protestant from the gentry of Dublin. His negotiations with the French did result in a major French commitment in 1796, when a fleet carrying 14,000 troops under the famed General Hoche sailed into to Bantry Bay, in the jagged West-Cork Coast. However, conditions meant that no landing could be made, and with no support for a rising in the locality, the ships turned tail and fled, many falling victim to the storms and rocks that had compromised the Armada centuries before.

This set a somewhat underwhelming precedent for a rising under the United Irishmen. Indeed, by 1798 the Society was so saturated with government informers, and had so many of its leaders incarcerated (including the gallant Lord Fitzgerald, leader of the Irish Directory), that it seemed entirely incapable. As such, the attempted rising in 1798 was unexpected by Dublin Castle, and could have met with far more success had the populace rallied behind the green flag. Instead, the Dublin rebels were arrested, imprisoned and executed en masse, and so centre stage was handed to more peripheral risings.

The Wexford Rebellion was by far the most successful. Not only did the rebels defeat 100 government troops in pitched battle, they also seized Wexford town and several other major strong points were abandoned by the government. However, following several successes, the Wexford rebellion suffered a series of defeats and was at last surrounded and routed, after much gallant fighting against superior numbers and cannon, on Vinegar Hill.



It is the ironic embodiment of the poor coordination of the rebellion that the only other major fighting (other than some insignificant rebel conquests in Ulster) was in County Mayo, on the

North West Atlantic coast (as compared to Wexford in the South East). Here a small French force conducted a successful campaign accompanied by local volunteers, with a great victory in Castlebar, but it eventually surrendered when faced with large British forces. While the French regulars were treated as respected prisoners, all Irish irregulars found (along with many innocents) were massacred.

In keeping with a tradition which lasted from the Ulster Plantation to the 1920s, the rebellion was followed by immense brutality. Sectarian violence towards Protestants during the revolt was returned on Catholics with government endorsement, with inter-religion violence of an unprecedented nature resulting, and still continues (to a mercifully decreased extent) in Northern Ireland today. Furthermore, end of Irish government with an act of Union in 1801 made the Protestant government in London the root of all evils in the eyes of the peasant Catholic majority. Henceforth, nationalism and Catholicism would be intrinsically entwined, and the seed sown for a century of unrest and insurrection.

Patrick Hudson

Charles Stewart Parnell: the Uncrowned King of Ireland

Charles Stewart Parnell (27 June 1846 – 6 October 1891) stands amongst the most important figures of 19th century British and Irish politics, and is also easily one of the most divisive, born to Anglo-Irish and American parents he was ultimately destined to become a key figure in the perennial campaign for Irish Home Rule. Referred to by Robert Kee as “a remote, romantic personage out of the sombre Irish past” Parnell has largely been obscured by time and the actions of more famous Nationalists such as Michael Collins (Director of Intelligence for the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and assassinated during the Irish Civil War of 1922-23) and Bobby Sands (a member of the Provisional Irish Republican Army who died whilst on hunger strike at HM Prison Maze in 1981 and is the subject of Steve McQueen’s 2008 film “Hunger”). However he remains significant as the leader of one of the first modern political parties and as a cultural keystone in Ireland and beyond, featuring heavily in the works of James Joyce (most notably “Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man”) and serving as the inspiration, and central character, of a film starring Clark Gable, produced in 1937.

Emerging from an unhappy youth in Ireland, marred by the divorce of his parents in 1851 and his father’s death in 1859 Parnell went to Magdalene College, Cambridge in 1865. However he was forced to end his education prematurely (1869) due to a worsening financial situation, though it has been claimed that he was expelled after a drunken row culminating in the assault of a local manure merchant. Many historians believed that it was during his time at Cambridge that Parnell developed his hatred of the English, who would have likely treated Parnell, a rural Irish landowner, with disdain. Parnell lived the idle life of an Irish landlord for 5 years albeit a relatively generous and honest one in comparison with the absentee English landlords who owned large swathes of Irish land at this time. He was spurred to become involved in politics in 1874 due to the attempt on a parliamentary seat in Wicklow made by his older brother, John Howard Parnell, as a part of the “Home Rule League” (founded in 1873 by Isaac Butt) and also the execution of the “Manchester Martyrs” a group of Fenians (a name, now used in a largely pejorative sense, for Irish-Catholic separatists coming from the Gaelic *Fianna*: a group of Irish Freedmen) who were unjustly executed, accused of murdering a number of Manchester policemen, Parnell went so far as to interrupt the Chief Secretary in Commons saying “I do not believe, and never shall believe, that any murder was committed at Manchester”.

In 1875 Parnell became the Home Rule League’s representative in Meath, a constituency North of Dublin that is located in the modern day Republic of Ireland, he quickly rose to prominence within this group and was widely regarded as one of Ireland’s most charismatic and influential speakers despite the fact that early on in his career he spoke with a stutter and was intensely superstitious. It is said by some that Parnell hated the colour green, decidedly the worst of all possible colours for an Irish Nationalist to despise. In Parliament he drifted to the more extreme wing of the League and engaged several of his fellow representatives in the strategy of “Obstruction”, a strategy that largely involved delaying the affairs of commons by filibustering on entirely unrelated subjects, thus retarding the legislative process. Obstructionism was a controversial tactic that won Parnell both supporters, largely in the Southern, Catholic areas of Ireland, and detractors, primarily in England though also in his own party, his relationship with Isaac Butt growing gradually more contentious as his stature grew within the party.

In 1879, Parnell was elected head of the National Land League, a group created in the interests of protecting native Irish landowners and freeholders with Parnell’s 3 F’s: Fair Rent; Fixed Tenure; and Free Sale of Land. This was in response to Gladstone’s own attempt to push Irish Land Reform through the Commons, it was eventually blocked by the Lords, to gather support and funds for the National Land League Parnell went to America where he gathered £26,000 from Irish expatriates in Boston and New York, the same areas which were to provide funds for the IRA in the 1980’s, by this point Parnell was being referred to openly as the “Uncrowned King of Ireland”, however Parnell was ultimately

unsuccessful in his attempt to secure Land Reform, violence and agitation continued to increase in Ireland and Parnell was sent to prison in 1881, only gaining his freedom when he agreed to the "Kilmainham Treaty" proposed by Gladstone. The importance of this treaty should not be underestimated for although the reforms it secured were inadequate it served to greatly increase nationalism in Ireland and elevated Parnell to a legendary status; a statesman so proficient that he could impose terms on Britain, the greatest Empire in the world, whilst languishing in gaol.

When Parnell was released in April 1882, he embarked upon a radical restructuring of both the National Land League, which was resurrected as the Irish National League (INL) on the 17th October 1882 putting an emphasis on modern agrarianism and the rights of tenants, and the Home Rule League, which he renamed The Irish Parliamentary Party (IPP), and indeed members of these groups came to be referred to as Parnellites. The IPP is amongst the most important of Parnell's achievements, the most radically different and modern political parties of its day it provided the template for today's political parties, which we see in its implementation of a party whip and strict party structure, as well as the basis for the majority of the Irish Nationalist groups of the 20th century. In this period Parnell also altered the stance of the Irish Nationalist movement, so that it more clearly endorsed Catholicism. This was to impact upon the entirety of Ireland's cultural landscape in that it contributed to the polarisation the already contentious attitudes of the Protestant and Catholic groups in Ireland, so that even today we associate Irish Catholics more closely with separatist movements (Sinn Fein is perhaps the most obvious example) and Protestants more with loyalism (the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)).

By the mid-1880's Parnell was easily the most important figure in Ireland and at the pinnacle of his power, he had reached the zenith of his political career, although it was in this period that a number of letters surfaced which appeared to reveal Parnell's complicity in the 1882 assassination of Lord Henry Cavendish, newly appointed secretary for Ireland, and Thomas Henry Burke, his permanent under-secretary in Dublin's Phoenix Park. This was a scandal that was only compounded by Parnell's divorce, and even when it was found that the letters had been forged by Richard Pigott an Anti-Parnellite who fled to Madrid after his transgression had been discovered and committed suicide there. By 1890 he had been deposed as head of the party and a number of his closest associates deserted him, including Michael Davitt, to join the Anti-Parnellites, though still a national hero Parnell had lost all of his previous political influence. This rift was also widened by Parnell's choice to catholicise the Party alienating Protestants from the separatist movement, and, displaying remarkable prescience, said, in a speech in May 1891; "It is undoubtedly true that until the prejudices of the Protestant and Unionist minority are conciliatedIreland can never enjoy perfect freedom, Ireland can never be united."

Parnell was to die of a heart attack later that year, although a lifelong Anglican he was buried in the Irish National nondenominational Glasnevin cemetery in Dublin in a ceremony that nearly 200,000 of his supporters attended and was elevated to immortality by the W.B. Yeats' poem "Parnell's Funeral". He was a figure of such fame, or at least notoriety, that his tombstone to this day simply reads "Parnell".

Gabriel McCluskey

Fancy a drink?



During the years 1920-33 the Prohibition was a nationwide outlawing on the production, sale, importation and transportation of alcohol in America. The intention of this was to reduce crime and corruption, improve health and solve social problems, which were spun from the consumption of such beverages. The majority of accounts now depict it as being an unsuccessful social and political experiment; alas it did in fact alter the way in which many Americans regard alcoholic drinks. Moreover it fundamentally strengthened the belief that the federal government can regulate such things as speed limits, but it cannot take the place of personal responsibility.

The 18th Amendment - which brought into play the Prohibition or "noble experiment" - was proposed by the American Senate on 8th December 1917, and with the prior approval of thirty six states was confirmed in January 16th 1919. On 17th January 1920 the entire country went dry. Straight after the amendment was passed there was a dramatic decrease in alcohol consumption, which resulted in many of the movement's advocates speculating about its future success. In the early 20's the consumption rate was 30% lower than it was before prohibition. Yet as the decade went on and as illegal supplies increased and a new generation started to reject the law, the public swiftly became disenchanted with it.



The determination of Americans to get what they desired is palpable through the resourcefulness used to obtain [alcohol](#) during prohibition. This period saw the rise of the 'speakeasy' where both homemade alcohol and that which had been imported could be bought. They were underground bars which attempted to discreetly supply their patrons with liquor

and often came paired with live bands and even shows. Such unmarked establishments did a roaring trade. There were kept in business through the efforts of many thousand rumrunners, bootleggers, and beer barons, whose work surpassed the line of the law. Corruption was raging during the time and even though raids were indeed a common occurrence, it was just as common that owners would bribe members of the police force to overlook their business or even supply them with notice of when a raid was scheduled.

One of the most highly speculated ideas surrounding the era, was that the control of a vast proportion of alcohol was tightly in the grasp of mob control. For the majority this is in fact fictitious, however in a number of areas gangsters did run the liquor racket, some of whose names we are still conscious of today. Chicago was one of those cities where they did control distribution, and Alphonse "Scarface Al" Capone of Chicago was the most notorious mobster. Such gangsters invested their profits in numerous other businesses, those which were both legitimate and contrastingly illegitimate as well. Their rife influence pervaded agencies aimed at law enforcement and other limbs of government. Crime had never been scarce amongst Americans, but in the twenties statistics on crime rocketed.

The eighteenth amendment had a multitude of defenders and just as many cynics. The reality illustrates a picture that, even in the face of the prohibitionist's propaganda, the prohibition was never really held in high regard with the American people. The American public, who had once at least unenthusiastically accepted the law, slowly began to perceive it as the ill-advised movement it was. In simplistic terms, those people who wished for a prohibition were able to depict that they had it, whilst at the same time those who wanted to drink could, and regularly did. In terms of enforcement it was also a logistical calamity – it was a senseless attempt to implement the impossible. One gentleman of the time understood, "They might as well have been trying to dry up the Atlantic with a post-office blotter." There were not a great enough number of law enforcement officers to be able to control every one of the illegal operations born from prohibition. And what is more, many of the officials were themselves fraudulent. Consequently as a social experiment, the prohibition was dubbed to be an utter failure. It was unworkable to enforce, and supplied the chief source of income for the thugs involved with the illegal activities, hence creating a whole new set of problems entirely.

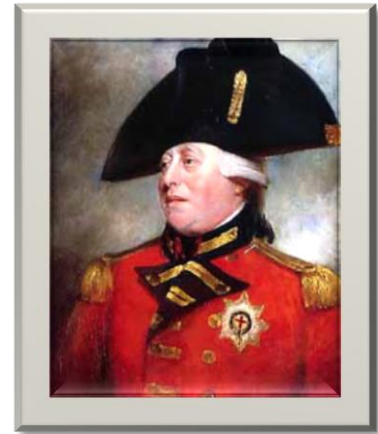
Yet as the Prohibition movement was political dynamite, the progress to eradicate it had very little successes during the 1920s. It was not until the first year of Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration that it was rescinded. Following the repeal, once more liquor became a state opposed to federal issue.

Modern day historians portray that if there is a product which people desire, as long as great enough number of people are willing to buy it – such as was the case of the American Prohibition – any attempts to prevent this are doomed to fail. This is the simple law of supply and demand, a law the 18th amendment could not overrule.

Ella Parry

Was King George III really a mad monarch?

George III was born on 4 June 1738 in London. Following the death of his grandfather in 1760, he became King of Great Britain and Ireland, because his father had died nearly 10 years earlier. In 1761, George married Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and the couple had 15 children together. He was also the first Hanoverian monarch to use English as his first language. In 1781 George's first minister resigned due to his government causing war with the American colonists. With the stress of the American War, as well as constant family feuds, George III's son (George IV) became regent in 1810, as it was widely believed that his father was now incapable of ruling. At the time the king was believed to have suffered from insanity, and was isolated in Windsor Castle until his death on 29 January 1820. However in the present day there is still debate as to whether he suffered from porphyria, manic depression or both.



In 2004 a piece of paper secreting several strands of hair was uncovered in the vaults of a museum in London. On the paper read 'Hair of His Late Majesty, King George III'. A lot of people were still puzzling over the disease George actually had, so the hair was sent to be analysed. The results came back that his hair contained over 300 times the toxic level of arsenic.

During the 1970s two psychiatrists discovered that, after looking over the medical records of George, he had a key symptom (dark red-purple, almost blue urine) of an extremely rare and commonly misdiagnosed blood disease, namely porphyria. Porphyria can cause abdominal pain, cramps, anxiety, irritability and confusion, epileptic fits similar to those of a seizure, and due to interruption of nerve impulses to the brain, psychiatric disorders such as depression. Even today some victims of the painful illness are thought to be only mentally ill, when in fact they have porphyria which has led to their psychiatric illness. Although this diagnosis seemed to cover many previous misunderstandings of George's odd health symptoms and wild behaviour, the toxic level of arsenic did still not have any significant relevance.

Attacks of porphyria are triggered most commonly by alcohol and medication, but can also be caused by arsenic, explaining why it was very likely that George III did suffer from porphyria. However this still did not account for the vast amount of the toxic substance. It was known that there was arsenic in skin cream and wig powder at the time of George's reign, though these factors couldn't cause 300 times the normal quantity being found in just 3 strands of his hair. The usual medication that was prescribed to George was James' powder, given to him several times a day and made of antimony. Antimony contains large amounts of arsenic. Therefore the medication George was given to treat his 'insanity' actually made it worse. His attacks became increasingly more severe into his 50's because the older he got, the more the arsenic built up and the worse the impacts were on him.

Even though it is almost definite that King George III had porphyria, it is more than likely that whilst suffering from this illness he became increasingly insane –most probably manic depression (an illness that is not unusual to stem from porphyria).

Thousands of letters written by King George himself were examined, and the analysts in question concluded that the sentences written by George were much longer whilst he was having his episodes of 'madness'. When he was noticeably ill, George was usually repeating himself in the same sentence and his vocabulary was suddenly complex and artistic, as if a very different person. Patients suffering from psychiatric personality disorders today, such as bipolar disorder, seem to have very similar characteristics in their writing. Whilst having phases of more severe illness, the patients seem to write more manically - something that would very often happen with George. With bipolar disorder episodes of both mania and depression occur, and witness accounts of George when ill match both ends of this spectrum. Most written descriptions of meetings with the king emphasised his never-ending chatter and manic convulsions, contrasting with several scenarios of deep sadness.

Overall it is highly probable that King George III had porphyria and it was likely that a psychiatric illness, such as bipolar disorder, stemmed from his initial disease. A lot of people believe that his porphyria was passed on to his son, King George IV, and also to Mary Queen of Scots and her son King James I. However it is then argued that these monarchs were only labelled with this disease to reduce a strong relationship between the Royal Family and mental



health issues being noticed and acted upon. It is agreed by all though, that King George III being put in straightjackets and chained to chairs to control his 'insanity' was inhumane. Whether or not he suffered from both porphyria as well as mental health issues, the stress of losing the American colonies, his constant arguments with his son, and being isolated from the family he loved for such long periods of time wasn't the most effective treatment for this King – mad or not.

Sophie Cliff

History Trip Review: October 2013

Over October half term, 60 students from Shells to Upper Sixth, accompanied by 6 members of staff, visited the World War One battlefields of France and Belgium. Travelling by coach, the group, guided by the wonderful ex-Colonel, Piers Storie-Pugh, visited some of the key areas of fighting on the Western Front, including the Somme and Ypres over a 5 day period and in the process commemorated former pupils who had lost their lives in the battles almost 100 years ago.



The Western Front was the site of several major offensives during the First World War; it spanned over 400 miles from the Swiss border to the North Sea. Between 1914 and 1918 millions of soldiers lost their lives here fighting in the trenches. In single offensives alone, such as the Battle of the Somme in Northern France, and the Battle of Passchendaele near the town of Ypres, hundreds of thousands of soldiers lost their lives. Warfare on this scale had never previously been experienced by anyone, and dwarfed all previous conflicts between nations.

Over the course of the trip, the group visited many memorials and cemeteries scattered across the battlefields. These are dedicated to those who died and went missing during the fighting on both sides, in both France and Belgium and, in the process, laid wreathes in remembrance of the fallen. The most memorable of the memorials included the imposing Thiepval Memorial on the Somme, which stands 150 feet tall and is engraved with the names of the 73,367 British and Commonwealth soldiers who died in 1916-17 and have no known grave. Equally memorable was the breathtaking Vimy Ridge Canadian Monument, a memorial to the Canadian soldiers who fought and died in France during World War 1 on the very site where the Canadian Corps staged an assault at the Battle of Vimy Ridge, and the Menin Gate, in the town of Ypres itself, which is dedicated to British and Commonwealth soldiers who fell in the Ypres Salient and who have no known grave. The group visited a number of other memorials throughout, but visiting these magnificent monuments in particular enabled the group to comprehend the sheer scale of the war, and to reflect on the lives of thousands of soldiers, some of them still of school age, who gave their lives in service to their country, all those years ago.

As well as this, the group visited several war museums and genuine trenches and tunnel systems used during the war by both German and Allied troops, such as the beautifully preserved trenches and tunnels at Vimy Ridge and at Beaumont Hamel, and the allied tunnel systems near the town of Arras, which allowed the group get a feel for what life was like for both German and Allied soldiers during the war.

On the whole, the trip was a fantastic and emotional experience, and one which has left a lasting impression on me, and everyone else who went. It allowed everyone to gain an invaluable firsthand experience of what the First World War was like, and just how significant and horrific an event it was.

George Thompson

Martin Luther King Jr Vs Malcolm X

Everything has its opposite. Black has white. Night has day. High, low. Hot, cold. If there was a Martin Luther King Jr., there simply had to be a Malcolm X. Martin Luther King, history remembers. Malcolm X, history tries to forget.

The sense of opposition between these two characters was not just apparent in their political methods, it is clear in their social backgrounds. As a boy, Malcolm X (born Little) went through terrible hardships; due to his father's prominent involvement in the Universal Negro Improvement Association and support for Marcus Garvey. His family home was burnt down by the KKK, something that he later recounted as his earliest memory in a Chicago TV interview. A few years later, his father was murdered by a white mob associated with the KKK and consequently, his mother had a breakdown.

Stirrings of his resilient character were already beginning to emerge as Malcolm X proved to be the best pupil in his all-white eighth grade class. Regardless, racism slashed the hopes of the young boy, and when he told a teacher that he'd like to be a lawyer, the man called him a racial epithet and told him to learn to do something with his hands. After dropping out of school, Malcolm X became deeply involved in street life, was arrested, convicted and sent to jail for a long period of time.



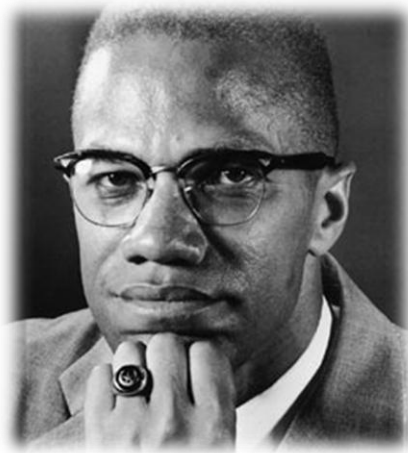
Martin Luther King Jr was the son of a prominent minister in Atlanta, Georgia. The close-knit family lived in the middle class, though nevertheless all Black, section of the city where professional occupations such as doctors and lawyers were commonplace. M.L King Jr graduated at age 15 from his local school, and entered Morehouse College, Atlanta, where unsurprisingly he finished top

of his class at age 19. Like Malcolm X, he was a gifted academic, but in contrast to the fiery nature of Malcolm, Martin had the ability to channel his energy and thoughts into improving himself as a person instead of, quite understandably in Malcolm X's case, turning to violence in the face of adversity.

During his long period behind bars, Malcolm X became a devout follower of Honorable Elijah Muhammad who was the leader of the Nation of Islam in America at the time. Malcolm X became the most charismatic leader of the Nation and membership swelled. He was an advocate of self-defense and the total economic and political independence of Black America, which was the opposite of the integration and inclusion that M. L. King Jr was campaigning for.

On 3rd December 1955 Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus. She was arrested, and consequently the Black community of Montgomery boycotted the buses for 13 months. At the end of this struggle, M. L. King Jr emerged as the leader of the movement for justice and equality that encapsulated the later half of the 20th century. The opposite nature of

their upbringing continued to be reflected in their political activity as leaders of the two wings of the civil rights campaign.



"We want freedom by any means necessary. We want justice by any means necessary. We want equality by any means necessary" said Malcolm X in his By Any Means Necessary speech in February 1965. This motto is highly indicative of the violent means of protest that Malcolm X advocated. His ideology was one that encapsulated protecting the right to self-defense where the government refused to step in and do this, and that it was the duty of the African-American community to protect itself from racially motivated mass murders, lynchings and bombings alike.

In stark contrast, M.L.King Jr condemned violent responses to violence. He once said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that"; this quote, whilst not one of his most famous, illustrates his view that violence may murder the hater, but not murder the hate. In fact, it simply increases the hate. In his quest for freedom, King Jr more than acknowledged the need for change and the education of the masses, but in this quest he defined freedom as inclusion in a hypocritical community that had shunned the African-American people, as opposed to Malcolm X's preferred notion of complete separation of the African-American community that many people now try to forget, and dismiss as extreme.

In truth, despite their ideological differences, Martin Luther King Jr and Malcolm X were undeniably entwined due to the very nature of the campaign that they both were associated with. Their polar opposite position in the titanic struggle for black civil rights seems now to be more similar than different and it is perhaps a tragic and inconceivable end that they should depart at the same age of 39, both assassinated, Malcolm X in New York 1965 and M.L.King Jr in Memphis 1968. So whether it be 'I have a dream' or 'the ballot or the bullet' both these men played the two faces of the civil rights movement not entirely differently. They were both on a quest for freedom; freedom in the 'land of the free and the home of the brave' that the Dream America stands for.



Ellie Crisp

A British Officer's Handbook - 'Napoleonic Wars'

The following information is for British officers serving in the infantry and cavalry. It instructs on the various troop formations, which have been proven most effective in battle.

The Infantry

This section includes foot soldiers and most other types of unmounted soldiers, with the exception of light infantry.

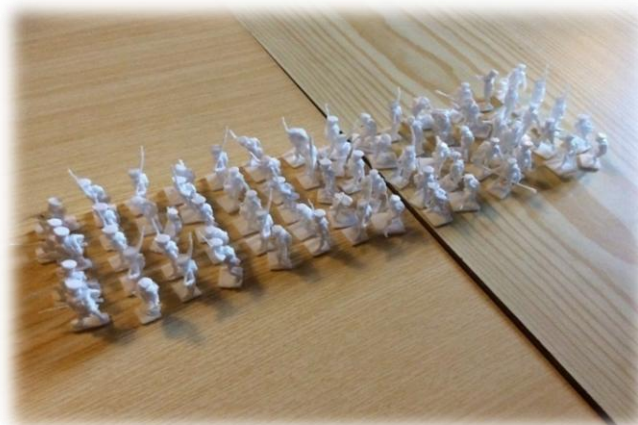
Squares

This is the formation of infantry used mainly against cavalry of all types, heavy, light and Cuirassiers for example. The square is a most effective method of defense against charging horsemen. However, the troops need to be highly trained and disciplined. This is because it takes time to move into squares. Only the best of sections can move into an effective square in two or three minutes, and for the less battle hardened, the square formation could take over five minutes. Time is vital on the battle field. It is therefore in the best interest of both officers and men alike, to train rigorously until this manoeuvre becomes second nature.



The Column

Used all over the battlefield and on the journey to the battlegrounds, it is an effective method of moving troops. It is a method that has been perfected over many years and is used by armies all over the world. Because of it being such an excellent and safe way to move troops to the battle, it is used very often in conveying moving troops to the front. But, it can be used in fighting, as it is a great way to advance behind cavalry.



Cavalry

The Diamond Formation

This formation is not used a lot by cavalry, but it can be very effective. The advantages of it are simply that you have a triangular front which can pierce through the enemy lines quickly. The diamond formation is of course not as good against a square of infantry. However, if you ever find infantry off guard and in a line, the diamond is the way forward. In addition, against light infantry it can be most effective.



The “Last Resort” Formation

This is only to be used if your army has no chance of winning the battle. Send all your troops including senior officers, to the Inn just before the battle. Make sure that they are all “merry” and get them to talk about holidays and getting puppies for Christmas. If you can, invite your enemy to have a drink with you too. If they accept, make sure they get “merry” as well. Buy them drinks all night long.

In the morning, get all your highland infantry to play their bagpipes and bash their drums as loud as they can. This will have the effect of rallying your troops, whilst your enemy, will be suffering from a big, big headache (as you have hidden all the medical supplies), they plead for them to stop... so at this point will probably surrender in droves! Job done! Fait accompli!

Arran Fearn OKS



Goebbels;The German Godfather

Goebbels, a strict anti-Semite and anti-capitalist, was born on the 29th October 1897, and eventually committed suicide on 1st May 1945. In his role as the Reich Minister of Propaganda under Hitler from 1933-1945 he succeeded in preparing the German people psychologically for the Nazi totalitarian state and the truths of World War II. His interesting strategies differ greatly from other notable propaganda campaigns throughout history. On the surface, his distinct lack of subtlety would seem like signs of arrogance and overconfidence. However, all of his actions seemed carefully calculated and if anything he did was overconfident, it was simply because of his faith in Hitler's power over the German people.

Before Goebbel's appearance, Soviet propaganda was the example followed by all extreme propaganda campaigns, and they were punctuated by smooth and subtle acts of censorship. For example, the editing of photographs using extremely modern techniques, such as cutting Nikolai Yezhov from a photograph of Stalin after he fell from favour. Goebbel's acts however, were nothing of the small meticulous movements of the Soviet establishment. His campaign began in 1933 after his appointment by Hitler to Propaganda Minister: he called his first imposition upon Germany 'Säuberung', which meant 'cleansing'. This happened from April 6th to May 10th, with a repeat occurrence on 21st June that year. It constituted the public burning of books considered to be 'un-German'. The first burning happened on the Square of the State Opera in Berlin, where Goebbels gave a speech in which he said: *"The era of extreme Jewish intellectualism is now at an end. The breakthrough of the German revolution has again cleared the way on the German path..."* Goebbels trusted in Hitler's influence over the people, and cleverly played on crowd instincts to mobilise public opinion in his favour. He created a fervour and excitement that consumed crowds and spread throughout Germany.

This incredibly public act of defiance set the tone for Goebbels entire career of dramatic acts, playing on huge crowds with explicit repeated messages, following Hitler's policies in the confidence that people would believe everything the officials said. He believed, similarly to Hitler, that the people below him were inherently ignorant, and that if a simple message was repeated then they would learn to understand it and believe it to be true.

Following from this, Goebbels released a series of loud, explicit posters following 6 major, repetitive themes: Labour Force, Conservation of Materials, Spying, Fuhrer Worship, Anti-Semitism, and Humour. Of these, by far the most interesting is his series of posters about spying. They constantly reminded the German people of the threat that spies in Germany created during the war. However, Goebbels knew that spies were not a major issue, and that actually there were very few spies, and even if there had been more the average German would know nothing of troop movements or plans. Goebbels intention by releasing these posters was instead to bring home the reality of war to the German people. By being reminded of spies around them, the public would subconsciously consider themselves in danger. This helped to increase the awareness of the realities of war and increase the effectiveness of the German total war policies. He drove the public, playing on their fear, to work harder to protect themselves, at the cost of any level of trust within the German people.

Goebbels had an unwavering faith in Hitler, worshipping him almost as fully as his posters asked the German people to. His confident dramatic acts of propaganda were partly styled by his flamboyant personality, and partly by his supreme confidence in the messages of the Nazis.

When Hitler committed suicide, he could not handle it. On 1st May 1945 Goebbels murdered his 6 children using cyanide, and then went, with his wife, to the Chancellery Garden behind the Reichstag. Although the details are still uncertain, the widely believed claim is that while his wife drank poison, he shot himself. Their bodies were found partially burned in a bomb crater, unable to be completely burned due to a lack of fuel. Historian Joachim Fest summed up Goebbels attitude to life, which in turn reflected his unprecedented style of explicit, public propaganda: *"What he seemed to fear most of all was a death devoid of dramatic effect."* Today Goebbels is considered an evil man, recently used as an insult in political gesturing in the US. He was driven by his selfish ambition and lust for public presence, careless to the thoughts and positions of those around him. He followed Hitler blindly, not caring about the political views he was representing, instead curious as to what he could get away with, and how far his influence would go.

Harry Stables



Death of Mary Queen of Scots



Mary Stewart (later changed to Stuart) was born in Scotland in 1542, and was crowned Queen of Scots while still a baby in September 1543. She led a charmed life in infancy, growing up in France with her powerful relatives, the Guise family, watching over the young queen. However, the beautiful girl who grew up in such luxury met a gruesome end at the hands of her own cousin, Queen Elizabeth I of England. During her life there was a constant power struggle between the two queens. Elizabeth, who was a Protestant, feared Catholic extremists in England would try to overthrow her and put Mary on the throne. Mary, who was a Catholic, believed that she should be named as heir to the English throne and was continually pushing Elizabeth into naming her successor. This rivalry led to the imprisonment and eventual execution of Mary when she was just 45 years old on

8th September 1587.

Mary had her whole life planned out for her by her relatives, the Guise family –at five years old she was engaged to be married, to the son of Henry II of France. Around 10 years later she was married at the age of 15 to the Dauphin Francis, the first of three husbands. The trouble began in France in 1558, when Mary drew herself a new coat of arms. This declared that not only was Mary Queen of Scotland, but Ireland and England too. Elizabeth was furious. She believed strongly in the right for kings and queens to rule their own land, and so she never attempted to overthrow any countries - she just objected when they tried to take over hers. But just 2 years later the tables had turned for Mary. Her husband, Francis, died in 1560 and Mary had to leave France as a widow at the age of 18. In Scotland things went rapidly downhill for Mary.

In 1564 Mary married her second husband. His name was Henry Darnley, and he was a drunken, rude layabout who murdered Mary's own secretary out of jealousy. Mary's obvious poor judgement when picking husbands aside, she did give birth to his son in 1566, who would later be James I of England. Elizabeth was not pleased when she heard about James, because as the son of Mary and Henry, he had a very strong claim to the English throne. She was feeling more and more cornered by her cousin. However, Mary was having problems herself. By this time she passionately hated her husband, and was looking for ways to get out of her marriage without damaging her son's legitimacy. In February 1567 the matter was taken out of her hands. A house that the King was staying in was blown sky-high, and he was killed. The number one suspect was a man named James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, who Mary was then forced to marry.

Having married her previous husband's murderer, Mary lost the love and support of her people. By the end of May, Mary and Bothwell had to flee Edinburgh to escape her angry people. Things got worse quickly. Mary was held captive by Scottish rebels baying for the death of their Queen. In July she was still a prisoner, and was forced to give up her crown to her son. Finally in May, Mary saw her chance to break out and succeeded in escaping from her guards. She now had two choices - to flee to France, or to England? This was the decision that changed Mary's life. Instead of going to France, where she had friends and supporters, she decided to sail to England, where nobody knew or cared about her, and put herself in the hands of her vengeful cousin.

Mary was 25 when she arrived in England. She had no idea that she would be held prisoner here until the day she died. When Elizabeth heard Mary was in England, she panicked. She knew she was now under serious threat of being overthrown, and acted quickly to ensure Mary was contained. Wherever Mary went she was now accompanied by a guard of 100 men. It was now clear to her that she was not a free woman, and a plot (later called the Ridolfi Plot, named after the Italian messenger who was caught with incriminating letters from the plotters) was formed to free her from Elizabeth's clutches. The Duke of Norfolk planned to marry Mary and liberate her from house arrest. This plot was uncovered by William

Cecil, Elizabeth's secretary, and Norfolk was thrown into the Tower of London. However, the plan did not end there. Once out of the Tower Norfolk resumed his attempts to free Mary and as a result was executed in 1572 along with other rebels involved. In 1583 a second plot began, similar to the first, which was named the Throckmorton Plot. Francis Throckmorton and Mary's French relatives had planned to overthrow Elizabeth, and Francis was executed. This nearly pushed Elizabeth over the edge, but she still did not have sufficient evidence to convict and execute Mary. Soon, however, there would be no hope for Mary ever escaping England.

The final plot is thought to have been planned to trap Mary by Elizabeth's spies. Sir Francis Walsingham (the head of the English intelligence service) planted a brewer near Chartley Manor, where Mary was being held. Mary was convinced to use the brewer to transport her secret SOS letters to the ambassadors of France and Spain - a seemingly safe path to her freedom. But the path was not safe, and the brewer was not a friend. Walsingham, who slowly collected more and more evidence to convict her, intercepted all her letters. Also involved in the plot was a man called Anthony Babington. He wrote to Mary about their plan, giving Walsingham more incriminating evidence. Another thing that made it easy to round up the traitors was a portrait. Babington was so bold (or stupid, whichever) he commissioned a portrait to be painted of him and his fellow conspirators, which came in *very* useful when identifying the traitors. In August 1586 Walsingham made his move. Men stormed the castle Mary was staying in, and she was arrested and accused of treason along with Babington. In September Mary was put on trial and found guilty. Her execution was looming.

Elizabeth had waited years for the chance to incriminate Mary, but now that the time had come to punish her, she had dreadful trouble signing the warrant for execution. After all, Mary was her cousin, and a rightful Queen. However, in the end Elizabeth could not overlook the threat that Mary posed to her crown, and on the 7th February 1587 she finally signed the warrant. Mary was to be executed the following day. Mary still had a few shocks in store for Elizabeth, though. When she was told to remove her robe in order to be executed, she wore red underneath it - a sign of a martyr. After her head had been chopped off, Mary's lips continued to move in prayer for several minutes afterwards. Then, her body seemed to move! From under Mary's skirts one of her little dogs ran out to Mary's severed head and began to howl. In Scotland there was outrage when they heard of Mary's death, and King Philip of Spain sent the whole Spanish Armada down to England to punish the Queen for killing Mary. The death of the woman who had led such a happy life in France was shocking, and she is remembered still today as the tragic Scottish Queen who got in the way of her shrewd and ambitious cousin.



Rhiannon Jackson

Richard III. Where will he be buried?

Richard III, after the death of his 12 year old nephew Edward V, was crowned King of England in 1483. This reign was fated to last only two years however, ending rather suddenly at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485. His death in this battle ended both the War of the Roses, and the rule of the House of York. Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond and from the House of Lancaster, became king.

In the summer of 2012, archaeologists from the University of Leicester discovered a twisted spine, and skeleton, beneath a car park in Leicester. These bones were later confirmed to be those of Richard III, proven through a 17th generation descendant of Richard's sister (Anne of York) whose DNA they could compare with the remains.

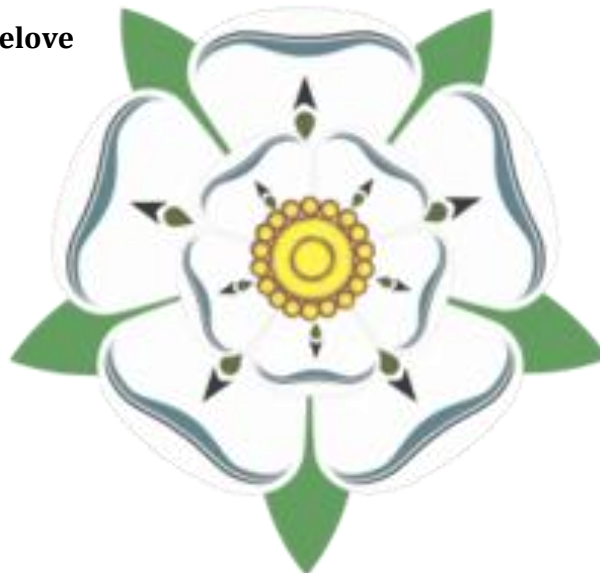
However, where is the King to be reburied? York claims that, as he was from the House of York, he should be buried in York Minister, as he has no connection with Leicester. Indeed, they even go so far as to argue that placing him in Leicester would be a breach of human rights, as it would be a failure to take into account relatives' wishes or the King's own preference. Leicester, however, wishes to place him in their city's cathedral and say he should rest close to where he fell.

York or Leicester?

Well, this is where I need to be careful since I have a brother studying History at York, and a sister studying History and Archaeology at Leicester!

Technically, according to archaeological practice, when a human skeleton is found it is customary for it to be reburied nearby. It is the case that Leicester is the city who found his bones. However, for me, one factor stands out in this argument. Whilst Leicester did find the bones, Richard III was from the House of York and spent most of his youth in Yorkshire. Had he died a peaceful death then it would almost certainly be the case that he would have been buried in York Minister – indeed there are claims that he planned to build a chapel in York Minister for his final resting place. Certainly his son was crowned Prince of Wales in York. It is also the case that distant relations of his also wish the skeleton to be reburied there. Therefore it seems only right that Richard of York be buried in York – and, before I cause a civil war of my own, both my siblings agree with this one! A judicial review on March 13 will decide where he actually is to be buried.

Bernadette Waddlelove



First Impressions of Cambridge

Coming to Cambridge in October was a completely overwhelming experience. Presented with a reading list with approximately thirty sources on it, a totally unfamiliar topic and a week to produce an essay that attempted to make sense of it all, was undoubtedly very daunting. So much so that by about the third week into term I approached my Director of Studies and told her that she had probably made a mistake. The advice she gave me in return was that they purposely 'throw us in at the deep end' because what makes History undergraduates valuable is not their knowledge about Henry VIII or Samuel Pepys, but the skills that we acquire as historians. So the first term was an incredibly steep learning curve, but having survived it and being able to look back, I can see that being thrown in at the deep end has taught me a lot.

However, despite acknowledging the importance of the skills obtained from an undergraduate degree in History, as historians the content of what we are studying is inevitably central to our reasons for choosing History. In this respect, the Cambridge course is a treasure chest of opportunities. It is composed of two parts –Part I and Part II- the first of which is examined in your second year (to the envy of all other students!). Part I is composed of five papers and at some point during Part I you are required to study a pre-1750 paper and papers in British Political, Economic and Social History. Whilst this may sound constraining it is very easy to fulfil and once you have done so you have complete freedom of choice.

In my first term I chose to study a period I had never studied before, and so chose Paper 4, which covers British Political History from 1485 to 1750, and subsequently this term I have done the corresponding Economic and Social History paper. What you end up studying within these papers is very much dependent on your supervisor. My supervisor specialises in Tudor history, which meant that my weekly essays started with Henry VII in 1485 and ended with the reign of Elizabeth I in 1603, whereas my friends at other colleges may have spent more time studying the Stuarts. Nonetheless, due to the nature of Economic and Social History, I have had more choice over my weekly essays this term ranging from marriage and courtship to witchcraft. Next term I will be studying Paper 17, a European history paper from 1750 to 1890, but I could have chosen any paper in European history from 776 BC right up to the twentieth century. Additionally, whilst the Historical Argument and Practice paper (HAP) is not examined until Part II, it is regarded as the jewel in the crown for the Cambridge Tripos and so we are encouraged to attend lectures on it, as well as having fortnightly classes this term (this varies from college to college). Next year I can select any two papers from Part I, this can range from World History from 1890 to papers in Political Thought – I cannot wait!

What I found surprising and initially confusing was that each term historians have lectures not only for the paper that you are currently studying, but also for the papers that you are going to study in the subsequent terms. So throughout both terms I have been attending lectures on Papers 4, 9 and 17. This amounts to about eight hours of lectures a week. These lectures are thematic or general surveys that do not necessarily touch specifically upon what you are studying but aim to give you a broad overview within which to fit your own personal reading

and thoughts. Therefore they are not compulsory and some students decide not to attend them, but I have found that lectures are a good break from reading and also have proven useful for setting my weekly reading into a historiographical framework. It is also very exciting when you realise that the person who has written the book that you read only the day before is lecturing you!

What I have enjoyed most so far is the enormous amount on offer outside your chosen course. I am a member of the Union and so have been to talks by speakers such as Reverend Jesse Jackson (who had us all captivated) as well as debates on current affairs such as the Arab Spring. Furthermore by being a History undergraduate you instantly have access to a huge wealth of history based talks or discussions. Thus far, the most engaging one I have been to was on the centenary of the First World War and the Imperial War Museum's attempts to re-design its galleries in order to appropriately approach this, raising stimulating questions such as how we should remember, along with the complex role of public and popular history. When I am sitting in these talks, surrounded by debate and brilliantly articulated opinions and ideas, I feel incredibly lucky to be where I am and see this as the most valuable thing which studying at Cambridge can offer.

Sophie Thompson OKS

The Abused City

Adolf Hitler's oppressive and tyrannical dictatorship over Germany throughout the 1930s and 40s left not only horrendous human consequences in its wake, but in addition traditional and architectural German structures were corrupted and destroyed. Symbolically, Hitler focused his efforts on the monumental city of Berlin in 1937; a city that he held deep hatred towards due to its Jewish culture and influence that he thought influenced the whole of Germany. Hitler believed the city should represent the focal point of Nazi power, the important political and military centre of the Third Reich. Moreover, his plans for the building of "Germania" highlight this belief.



The importance placed on ultra-nationalism within the Nazi party provided the basis for Hitler's vision of a "New Germany". Hitler's overriding aim was to achieve German greatness, moreover by

creating Germania to be the strongest and most prestigious city in the world he hoped to ensure the survival of the new Reich and maintain the strength of Nazism. Nazi architecture was intended to be intimidating in appearance and to symbolise Nazi ideals. Hitler's "Volkshalle" was a key structure in the plans for Germania, this "People's Hall" was planned to be around 320 metres tall, covered with a giant dome, that would have been the largest domed building in the world. This overpoweringly majestic hall was designed to intimidate visiting foreign powers who would be overwhelmed by the Chancellery's size and strength. The building could have held 180,000 people at once and illustrates the fundamental purpose Hitler had through creating the city; the rival powers would subsequently associate its design with the unbeatable power of the Third Reich. Hitler saw Germania as an opportunity to display the strength of Germany and prevent further threat from powerful enemies. He wished to create a grand city that would be a symbol of a Thousand Year Reich, a city so dominating that would dwarf London and Paris with its vast buildings and monuments. However, Hitler heavily relied on the aid of his confidant and architect, Albert Speer to shape these plans and ideas. Speer wrote in 1978 "My architecture represented an intimidating display of power".

Albert Speer (1905-1981) joined the Nazi party in 1931, known as "the first architect of the Third Reich". Speer's significant involvement in the parties growing strength during the 1930s and 40s enhanced Hitler's influence over the whole of Germany. Many even conclude this involvement prolonged the war, and accelerated the dominance of the Nazi Party; however his extensive advances as Armaments Minister was not his only measure in supporting the Nazi party. Speer was appointed General Building Inspector in 1937 and was put in charge of redesigning Berlin and many other "Fuehrer" cities. Had these plan come to complete fruition, the landscape of Berlin and Germany would look a lot different than it does today.

In Thomas Friedrich's book; "Hitler's Berlin: Abused City", Friedrich is able to summarize the sheer immensity these plans could have had and highlight the power of Nazism; "When Hitler took his own life in his Chancellery bunker on 30 April 1945, he took with him not only his plan for Germany's military domination of Europe but also his attempt to turn Berlin into the capital of the world, Germania...Berlin continues to the present day to bear the burden of both these irrational schemes."

Kate Robson

My Father's Diary

"Today is the celebration of the 49th birthday of the Chinese Communist Party of China. Forty Nine years ago Chairman Mao led the Chinese Communist Party to overthrow the three big mountains [imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism] on the back of the Chinese people. Chairman Mao led the poor people to launch a revolution and founded the Chinese Red Army of the Peasants and Industrial Workers. They successfully walked the 8,000 mile long march and arrived in Shanbei [Red Capital.] On the 1st of October 1949 the People's Republic of China was established. Chairman Mao led the Chinese people to develop socialism in China. The Chinese Communist party has made outstanding contributions to the Chinese people."

-Qing Cao, Wednesday 1st July 1970, Age 12

The diary my father kept when he was twelve is very different to the one I kept at the same age; but then again, my father lived in a very different era to me.

Unlike me, he had grown up in 20th century China under the authoritarian rule of Mao Zedong- a time of great turmoil and distress. My father was born into the 'Great Leap Forward' -an attempt by Mao to change China from an agricultural society into an industrial power capable of competing with the USA, within the time period of merely twenty years. Needless to say this ended in catastrophe; famine swept the country as farmers abandoned their crops to work in industry- estimates of the death toll range from 18 million to 32.5 million. Fortunately, my father (being a city-dweller) was lucky enough to avoid the devastation, as the worst of the famine was confined to the countryside. So, when in 1961 the Great Leap Forward was called off, my father at the age of 3 had lived through one of the most devastating events in 20th century history. However, even as the embers of disaster died down, another crisis was emerging from the wreckage of the Great Leap Forward; a crisis that would tear down the old way of life and change the face of China - the crisis of the Cultural Revolution.

At the end of the disaster of the Great Leap Forward, Mao stepped down from day to day work of the government as Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and became marginalised. Liu Shaoqi (the President of the People's Republic of China) and reformist Deng Xiaoping (CCP General Secretary) were then left in charge to change policy and to bring about economic recovery.

However, during this time Mao became increasingly concerned over the condition of the country under the leadership of Liu Shaoqi, as he saw it become increasingly similar to the old China that he had sought to destroy; and even worse he saw it taking dangerous steps toward capitalism. Mao had to find a solution to this problem and began to lay the foundations of his plan- the Cultural Revolution. This was a plan that simultaneously sought out to rectify the steps China was taking toward capitalism and to reassert Mao's own authority within the party.

Mao saw China's society as being heavily bourgeois and obsessed with materialism, thus Mao set out to create a truly proletarian and fair society by destroying anything representative of the past. Furthermore, he believed that old Chinese (and foreign) art and culture only served to increase bourgeois culture and thus could not be accepted in a proletarian society. Therefore Mao also sought out to create a strict censorship and re-education program.

All this planning came to head when on the 18th August 1966 Mao stepped out onto a rally of one million red guards in Tiananmen Square and announced the beginning of the 'Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution'. My father's first experience of the Cultural Revolution was going to school and being told by his teachers that he was no longer obliged to go to school. This was part of Mao's plan to re-educate the masses, as he believed that the education system was revisionist and capitalist; thus in order to combat this he sought to suspend education. However, to my eight-year-old father none of this mattered, all he knew was that he no longer had to go to school- he and his friends were overjoyed. So for over four years he received no education and spent his days playing with his friends.

Yet, Mao didn't stop there at tackling the issue of education. Not only did he suspend education, he also supported students to rebel against their teachers and to criticise them intellectually. This he believed would allow the youth (who Mao saw as China's future) to distance themselves from their bourgeois past. Furthermore through rational, intellectual criticism of the past, a new breed of proletarian scholars would be born. This rebellion first materialised in the form of Dazibao (this literally meant "big letter poster") - these were big posters written by students to criticise teachers and would often be hung in schools. Unfortunately, this began to descend into teacher humiliation, where teachers would be taken out in public to be made fun of. This then further devolved into outright violence toward teachers.

During this time teachers often faced violence from their students and unfortunately many died as a result. So my grandparents were especially lucky considering they were both teachers. My grandfather was a professor of classical Chinese civilisation and my grandmother was a professor of Chinese literature. They both taught at a school for mature students, thus explaining why they were not met with the same violence that plagued other teachers. Most of the students participating in the violent attacks were young and as a result had grown up with Mao's propaganda; whereas the mature students (most of whom were in their mid-thirties) had not been raised on this propaganda. Furthermore, most of the mature students already had jobs and thus simply didn't have the time to commit these atrocious acts. Many argue that young people simply used the Cultural Revolution to return to their most basic instincts and that the mature students were old enough resist this and remain civil. Regardless of the reason, my father's family managed to survive through this part of the Cultural Revolution- however this wasn't the only danger they had to survive.

One of the reasons that this violence against teachers was allowed to occur was due to the lack of effective policing- caused by the rise of the red guards. The red guards were a communist youth organisation, who carried out most of the atrocities during the Cultural Revolution. According to a Red Guard leader the aims of the red guards were as follows: "Chairman Mao has defined our future as an armed revolutionary youth organisation...So if Chairman Mao is our Red-Commander-in-Chief and we are his Red soldiers, who can stop us? First we will make China red from inside out and then we will help the working people of other countries make the world red...And then the whole universe". Joining the red guards was not compulsory, however roughly 90% of secondary scholars became part of the movement. There was even a division for primary school kids known as the "little red guards" (which my dad was part of from the age of eight to fourteen).

The red guards carried out most of the war on capitalism; and it was the red guards who would destroy temples and beat 'enemies of the state'. However, violence leads to more violence as the red guards began to turn on each other. During the time of the Cultural Revolution the red guards began to split into various factions- each of which proclaimed to be the most devoted to Chairman Mao; inevitably these factions began to fight on another. University campuses and high schools became battlegrounds for the red guards; and coincidentally it was during this time that my father lived in-between university and a high school. Unfortunately for my father the high school and university both housed rival Red Guard factions intent on destroying each other; even worse both groups had managed to raid a local army warehouse and were armed to the teeth with military grade weapons. Both schools had managed to set up machine gun turrets on their roofs; and by night the sound of these guns firing coupled with the glare of searchlights would keep my eight-year-old father awake. The whole family had to sleep directly under the windows in order to prevent themselves from being hit by stray bullets; and it was a common occurrence to wake up and notice bullet holes in the walls.

One of many dangers was the prevalence of checkpoints run by the various Red Guard factions. People coming upon these would be questioned about which Red Guard faction they supported, answering that they supported a rival Red Guard faction was very dangerous and could result in serious injury; however the main danger was that it was very difficult to know which Red Guard faction controlled which checkpoint. These were rare, but in my father's city they blocked the road leading to the hospital. So when my nine-year-old father broke his arm you can imagine the terror he and my grandfather faced on the way to the hospital. Thankfully, they managed to avoid confrontation by mentioning my father's broken arm to the checkpoint guards. That single trip was dangerous enough, so you can imagine my grandfather's despair when three weeks later my father broke his arm again. Luckily, they managed to get to the hospital without any incident.

By August 1967 the chaos caused by the red guards was on the verge of plunging the country into turmoil. Mao was forced to call the PLA (People's Liberation Army) to control the situation and crackdown on the red guards. The army was swiftly able to calm the situation and quickly a sense of normality began to return- thus my father had survived another aspect of the Cultural Revolution.

After the mayhem caused by the red guards Mao needed a way of making sure that such chaos would not return to China- in order to do this Mao created a relocation scheme. This was a relocation scheme in which all high schoolers would be moved to the countryside in order to live life as a peasant. Not only did this have the effect of splitting up the guards; it also served as an ideological purpose as it allowed people to live a basic proletarian lifestyle- thus Mao extended the scheme to intellectuals and those who Mao deemed as having a capitalist lifestyle.

So at the age of eleven my father, his three sisters and his two intellectual parents were relocated to live their lives as peasants. It began with government officials going to their home and presenting them with a list of places that they could be relocated to, then my grandparents ranked these places in order of preference and naturally they were given the one they wanted the least- the one furthest away. Thus, the family boarded the train toward the most remote region of Inner Mongolia- the Tuquan grasslands. When they arrived at the empty train station they were met with a bus to take them to the village in which they would be staying. Upon arrival my father realised that all the families in the village had come to greet them- all forty of them. In fact in the whole area there were more wolves than people. So, thus began my father's immensely enjoyable life as a peasant child. Out in the remote countryside there was little for him to worry about (except for the occasional wolf raiding the chicken coop). He had no school and his only responsibilities were raising a clutch of over 50 chickens, two pigs and a dog. Furthermore, the farmers provided them with a specially built house, and due to the collectivisation of farms they always had enough to eat. For over three years he lived like this. However, it is important to note that only the minority shared my father's experiences. Most of those relocated suffered miserably. It was only down to the fact that the region they lived in was remote and far away from the city.

When my father was fourteen my grandparents were allocated a job in a university, and thus my father was to move back to the city. However, not before the whole village turned up to wish them goodbye; most of the families came to give them the most treasured parting gifts they could acquire- eggs. In fact his family was given so many eggs that they had to leave most of them behind. Mao then decided to expand the relocation scheme to high school graduates; and thus upon graduating from high school (two years of which was spent fixing tractors and building bridges) at the age of eighteen my father was once again sent to the countryside- albeit this time he was alone. This time the fun days of raising chickens was over as my father was thrown into hard manual labour. For a year he toiled as a farmer doing backbreaking work every day. Then on the 9th of September 1976 the unthinkable happened- Mao Zedong had died. Immediately the Cultural Revolution was called off as people mourned and the government prepared for the funeral. As a result, for the first time in ten years universities were once again opened to the public (they had only been open to farmers, workers and soldiers). Working hard my father managed to secure one of the 2,000 places (out of 200,000 applications) in a university to study English language and literature with German as a minor. Thus my father went on to graduate, meet my mother and move to Britain, but the rest they say is history.

Looking at the numbers, it is easy to see the colossal human impact of the Cultural Revolution; estimates of the deaths as a result range from 50,000 to 1 million. These deaths would have been from a range of factors such as the violence of the Red Guards to starvation of those relocated that couldn't produce enough food. In fact many historians place the Cultural Revolution as one of the most destructive periods in the twentieth century, placing it on a similar level to many other major disasters. However, looking at the figures we are missing out a crucial fact- my father survived; not only that- he thrived; he recounts those years in Inner Mongolia were some of the best of his life. In fact, many people survived and have gone on to become businessmen with assets worth billions such as Wang Jianlin; or scientists such as the group at Nanjing Medical University who are developing a procedure to fix genetic disorders. China currently has the world's largest population and many of that population are of the generation that lived through the Cultural Revolution. Thus, showing that in the words of the historian Peukert: "there are no entirely hopeless situations in history".

"Finally, all the eggs have hatched. I'm over the moon! The chicks used their beaks to break open their shells. Twenty one chicks hatched out of twenty five eggs. Two of the eggs were eaten by the mother hen [he forgot to feed her]. One of the eggs had two yolks. One was not fertilised. Last night I could hear the peeping of baby chicks. By morning the mother hen was surrounded by the little yellow balls of fur. I'm really looking forward to caring for them."

-Qing Cao, Monday 8th June 1970, Age 12

Dave Cao

The British Raj

India was considered the pinnacle of the British Empire. The British went on to settle in India for almost another 200 years. Why was India so important, and what happened in those years?

The first of the British who arrived in India were merchants. They came as it was a very wealthy country, and many trading opportunities were available. The main products for trade were spices and fancy dresses. The dresses were known as saris and were very colourful.

In the 1750s, the British decided to capture India so they could profit from the wealth in that country. A man named Robert Clive started the process by building his trading company in East India. Few Indians dared to rebel against him, as he was very strong.

Clive had taken over more than 60% of India, so most of the natives lived under his control. The national situation did not change for the next century. However, the Indians were tortured and treated like slaves. Very few held equal rights to the British. The Indians were also upset because they were forced to follow:

- New laws
- New technology
- New religion (including the subdivision of India into states and the split of India and Pakistan)

The Indians were peaceful and law-abiding people so they accepted this. In fact, India has never invaded any foreign land in its five thousand year history.

The tipping point occurred when the British crown was officially established in 1858. Queen Victoria was crowned Empress of India. The Indians took action this time by declaring war, and this was known as the Indian Mutiny. The war was brutal and lasted 2 years. The Indians managed to re-conquer most of the north of the country. However, to the natives' dismay, counter attacks by the reinforced British soldiers ensured victory for the foreigners. The impact of the war involved a loss of £36million!

After the events of the Mutiny, the British were more respectful to the Indians, and were not as harsh. They also revolutionised India by bringing many advancements. These include:

- The Indian railway (now the second biggest organisations in the world)
- Democracy
- Education
- Philosophy
- Science

The following years saw no changes in the status quo. Until a man called V.O.Chidambaram stepped announced himself in the national stage. He was a wealthy and successful Indian businessman. In 1906, he started his own Indian shipping business. Shortly thereafter he sailed his first ship abroad. For this he was tortured and arrested. This caused riots as Chidambaram was a popular figure amongst the Indian public. This gave the Indians the desire for independence.

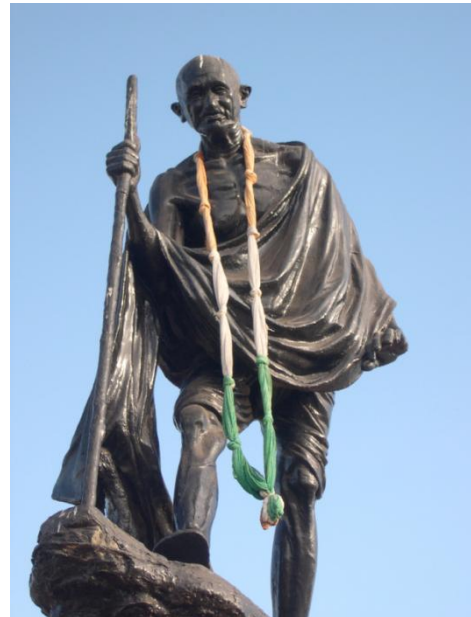
Mahatma Ghandi was the man who led India to independence. He was the leader of the Indian National Congress. This was formed in 1885; its purpose was in trying to achieve independence.

To achieve his goal, Ghandi structured his efforts into 3 separate movements. They were as follows:

- Non-cooperation movement (1920-1922)
- Civil Disobedience (1930s)
- Quit India movement (1942)

((The image at the side shows the famous statue of Mahatma Ghandi leading the Satyagraha in Marina Beach, Chennai)).

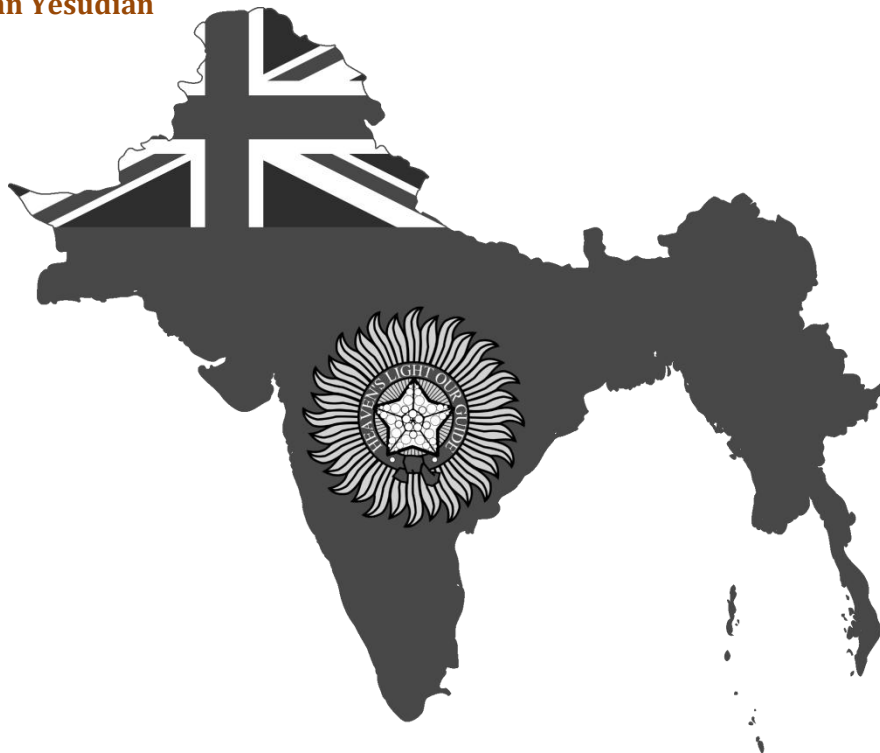
The first 2 movements included some form of violence. The last one, also known as the Satyagraha, involved a non-violent march, where the Indians would go on strike. This resulted in paralysis of the government and hence the British were forced to cede to most of the Indians demands. On 15th August 1947, India officially attained independence.



Other contribution factors that led to the victory included the world wars 1 and 2; this resulted in financial constrains within the British empire. The USA, Britain's most important ally in the wars, strongly encouraged the British to leave India.

After the Empire, there were wars between India and Pakistan. The British prevented this when they were in control; after they left, civil war broke out, resulting in the loss of millions of precious lives. The animosity between India and Pakistan persists to this day.

Rohan Yesudian



Wartime Farming

When you read or hear the word 'war', what do you think of?

You may think of tanks, planes, guns, Hitler or Winston Churchill; this is what war means to many people. However, we don't always go into deep thought about why we won the war. We have since learnt that it was the lack of imports into Germany that forced her to surrender. However, our imports were cut off by German u-boats. So how come we did not lose the war?

When war was declared in 1939, the government turned to the farmers of Britain. They told them that they needed to at least double homegrown food production as in pre-war times; two-thirds of British food had been imported. Churchill called British farmers "the front line of freedom". Also, farmers living in the south of England were recruited to protect their coastline from the threat of invasion, and this meant longer working hours for farmers. Farming was a reserved occupation because of its high importance and the key role it would play in the war.

Both the Germans and the British had surrounded each other to try to starve each other out. To make things harder, farming was already in recession because of high levels of imports. So farming was 20 years behind where it should have been.

Before the war cereal crops such as wheat, barley and corn had been imported from America and Canada so British agriculture was more devoted to livestock. This was a problem because the British could not be fed purely on meat because it would soon run out. They had to make huge adjustments to their farming practices to once again produce cereals and crops for the people to eat. In total, six and a half million acres of land had to be ploughed, which equates to an area of land bigger than Wales.

To make sure that farming production was at its utmost capacity the 'War Ag' was introduced. This was a Government committee, given powers to make sure that farmers did what was required. Livestock was not an efficient way of feeding people, so a massive cull had to take place. Farmers were ill equipped for the task. They did not have suitable machines and they often had to improvise if they could not afford new machinery.



In pre-war times there were only 55,000 tractors. Despite this, throughout the war the use of tractors became more popular, and by the end of the war, there were 175,000 tractors.

Certain occupations that had seemed to become extinct were again needed. Such occupations were blacksmiths, who were to help farmers with renovating old machinery or improvising equipment. With this equipment, they had to make every scrap of land productive. Tractors were used whenever possible instead of horses, because they didn't need feeding or rest.

Women were also a vital part of the workforce in wartime farming. As well as farming, both farmers and their wives were recruited into Auxiliary Units; this was a secret service spying for enemy planes, reporting locations and anything suspicious. Life in farmhouses had to become easier in order for the women to come out and work on the land. Only one in ten farms had electricity, so petrol generators were used to power lighting and small labour saving devices. Children were also recruited to help on farms at the busiest times and to forage in the hedgerows for any available food. As well as farmers being used in Auxiliary Units and to produce food, they had to provide accommodation for evacuees.

In 1941 all of continental Europe had been invaded and occupied by Germany. Britain therefore stood alone against Germany. If Britain could not feed itself then she would be starved into surrender. The demands on British farmers had never been so urgent; the third year of war saw more Government intervention. The Government 'War Ag' would not tolerate any failure so the farmers were under huge pressure.

By 1942 Britain had encountered three years of food blockades. Farmers were struggling to deliver food targets and raw materials were becoming scarce. There were shortages of fuel, wood and animal feed. The shortage of animal feed was overcome by ensiling plant material (starving the plant material of oxygen to preserve it). This technique was already known, but became more popular during the war because it could use waste material such as sugar beet tops, and weed materials such as nettles.

To overcome fuel shortages they had to reintroduce age-old crafts such as charcoal making and had to convert vehicles from using petrol to coal power! Farmers had to learn great amounts quickly and show great ingenuity. They also had to set up emergency feeding centres, for people who had been evacuated from the cities.

In 1943 Britain was at breaking point. There were record losses at sea, depleting imports more than ever. After four years of war Britain's farmers were exhausted. New sources of people to work on the land were desperately needed and every scrap of land had to be used, including odd strips of land along the sides of roads. Everyone was stretched to their limits.

In 1944 the tide of war was beginning to favour the allies. Farmers were extremely important to the success of the 'D Day' landings because they grew a crop called flax which, when woven into fabric, would be used for making parachutes, ropes, aircraft and tents. They also accommodated prisoners of war to bring in the harvests. Farmers also bred carrier pigeons to carry top-secret messages for the army and for secret agents in the French Resistance.



After six years of conflict Britain's fields were exhausted. The land didn't have the nutrients to generate a good harvest. Improving the fertility of the land was crucial. Traditionally animal dung would be spread on the land because it improved the structure of the soil and contained crucial nutrients. However, the lack of livestock in Britain meant a severe shortage of animal dung due to the cull of millions of livestock and now the effects were really being felt. The land

was so depleted that nothing much would grow anymore. Towards the end of the war many farmers were questioning the wisdom of having culled so much of the nation's livestock. For centuries, sheep and cattle manure had been successfully used to maintain the soil. Now chemical fertilisers had to be obtained and used but were very hard to obtain.

By 1945 the Government knew that the land was exhausted and record food targets could not be met or maintained through another year of war. Spring was a huge relief - the Russians had taken Berlin and it looked like the war would be won! On 7th May 1945 the good news came that the war was over in Europe. VE day was declared. Germany had surrendered. They too had had terrible food shortages and were starving. We had managed to feed ourselves through the war. But only just! So next time you read or learn about celebrating our winning the war, remember to thank a farmer!

Harry Edwards

William Hague - 12.11.2014:

On Wednesday 12th November King's lower and upper sixth form politics students went to a question and answer session at Chester University hosted by William Hague; former leader of the Conservative Party, current First Secretary of State and Leader of the House of Commons and MP for Richmond (Yorks) since 1989.

Beginning with a brief talk about his impressive and expansive political career, from his Conservative Party Conference speech at the age of 16 to his leadership of the party, Mr. Hague went on to discuss current and future issues and give us a deeper insight into the aims of his party alongside his personal aims. Covering issues such as Ebola and the use of chemical weapons in Syria we were able to get an inside view of the UK's efforts to deal with international turmoil. Closer to home we were spoken to about issues including Scottish devolution, the coalition's effectiveness and his proudest achievement of passing the Disability Discrimination Act.



We were all vastly impressed by Mr. Hague's flair and style, alongside what is clearly a deep-rooted belief in his party and the UK's political system. Whether or not the Conservatives are a party that you are ideologically aligned with, there is no doubting Mr. Hague's skill as a politician and a statesman or the good that he has done for the UK in his long political career. His retirement from politics in May marks the end of the amazing career of a truly great British politician whose rhetoric and ideals will no doubt influence politics for many years to come.

Harry Stables

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