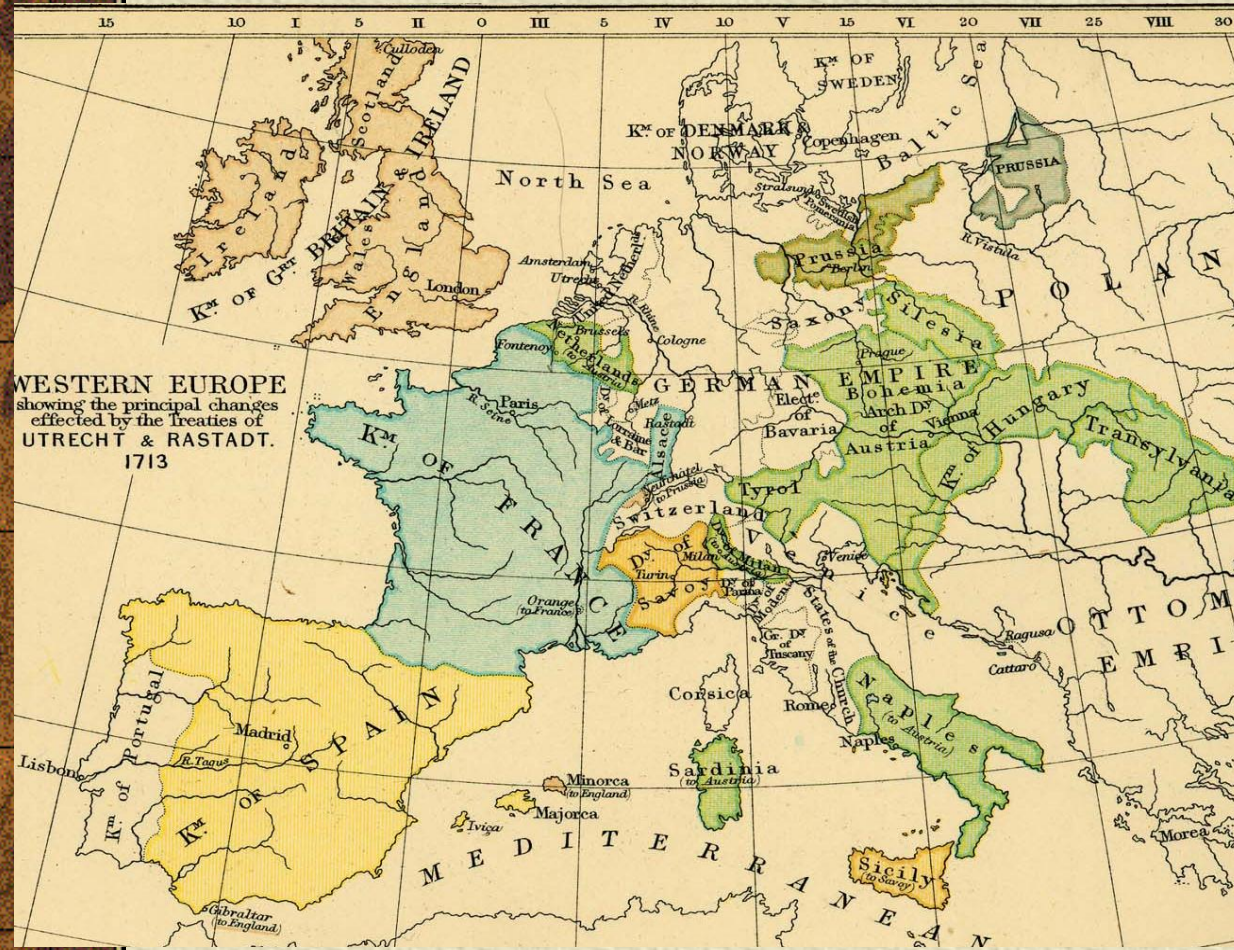


# Chapter 18: European States in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

Mid 1700s characterized by:

- Five major powers
- Rivalry between Britain & France
- Rivalry between Prussia & Austria
- Russia – Modernized under Peter the Great
- Spain resurgence under Bourbon Philip V
- Netherlands – not the power of the 17<sup>th</sup> C, but economically relevant



# Enlightened Absolutism:

- ✦ Utilitarian arguments replace divine-right
  - ◆ Adherence to law
  - ◆ Defending state vs. enemies
  - ◆ Encouraging economic development/industry
  - ◆ Frederick II: “first servant of the state”
- ✦ Enlightenment Ideals/Natural Laws Applied to Governing:
  - ◆ Equality before the law
  - ◆ Freedom of religious worship
  - ◆ Freedom of speech/press
  - ◆ Right to assemble
  - ◆ Right to hold property
  - ◆ Pursue happiness/self fulfillment
- ✦ Tasks of enlightened monarchs
  - 1) protect natural rights
  - 2) foster arts, sciences, and education
  - 3) must rule fairly, not arbitrarily
- ✦ Useful Concept???





# Enlightened rule in France?

No: Louis XIV left enormous debt

Louis XV lazy, weak,  
influenced by ministers and  
mistresses, lost empire in 7  
Years War, court life at  
Versailles

Louis XVI: –lacked  
knowledge and the energy to  
solve the country's affairs,  
spoiled wife in Marie  
Antoinette - out of touch with  
the countries problems



## France: The Problems of the French Monarchs

- RECALL:
- Conflicts with Huguenots,
  - Consolidated monarchy, built Versailles,
  - Mercantilist state (Colbert), established colonies in New France, commercial output, ineffective tariffs, increased taxes (peasantry)
  - Enlargement of the army! --- Wars  
(Spanish Netherlands, vs. Habsburgs, League of Augsburg  
Spanish Succession)
  - Depression/famine

### ✦ End of the reign of Louis XIV

- ◆ Enlarged territories
- ◆ Huge debt
- ◆ Surrounded by enemies
- ◆ Unhappy subjects
- ◆ Regency of duke of Orleans and Cardinal Fleury  
– focus on industry (coal/textiles) and balanced the budget



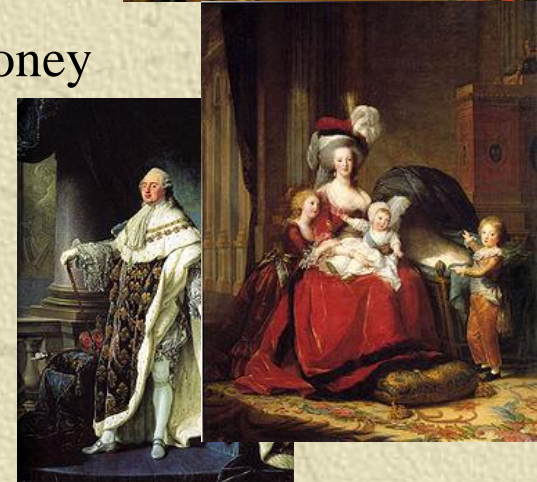
## ✦ Louis XV (1715-1774)

- ✦ Poor ruler
- ✦ Power to mistress – Madame de Pompadour – resented (bourgeoisie)
- ✦ War of Austrian Succession/Aix-la-Chapelle (land to Austria), Seven Years 'War (lost land in Americas)
- ✦ Loss of prestige, debt, taxes, impoverished people
- ✦ Crisis of public finance: “Mississippi Bubble” 1720 (John Law – Mississippi Company issued stocks, underwrite gov't debt, reform tax system & make profit – over-speculation led to a boom/bust – forced the state to repudiate its debt)
- ✦ France (unlike Britain) did not have public debt funded by banks – debt was king's personal debt – insufficient credit institutions/ability to borrow money
- ✦ Assassination attempt - Robert-François Damiens

## ✦ Louis XVI (1774-1792) & Marie Antoinette

### **THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD:**

- ✦ Landed/Commercial classes increasing in power
- ✦ Absolutism est. by Louis XIV - eroding



# Enlightened rule in Great Britain?

## ~ Debatable:

\*Glorious Revolution: power parliament over king

\*Parliament: make law, taxes, pass budget

\*Evidence of aristocratic dominance

- House of Lords – “Peers” inherited their positions for life
- House of Commons – landed gentry (boroughs/counties)
  - ◆ Voting, but NOT a “popular vote” – voting rights tied to property
    - \*Corruption\*
  - ◆ Boroughs – voting eligibility varies
    - ◆ Use of patronage, bribery, and threats
    - ◆ Existence of ‘pocket boroughs’ (a.k.a. ‘rotten boroughs’)
      - \*Duke of Newcastle example (controlled 7 boroughs)
    - ◆ Lack of representation for newer, middle class boroughs (Manchester – zero seats...)
  - ◆ Counties – 2 delegates from 40 counties – property value of >40 Shillings



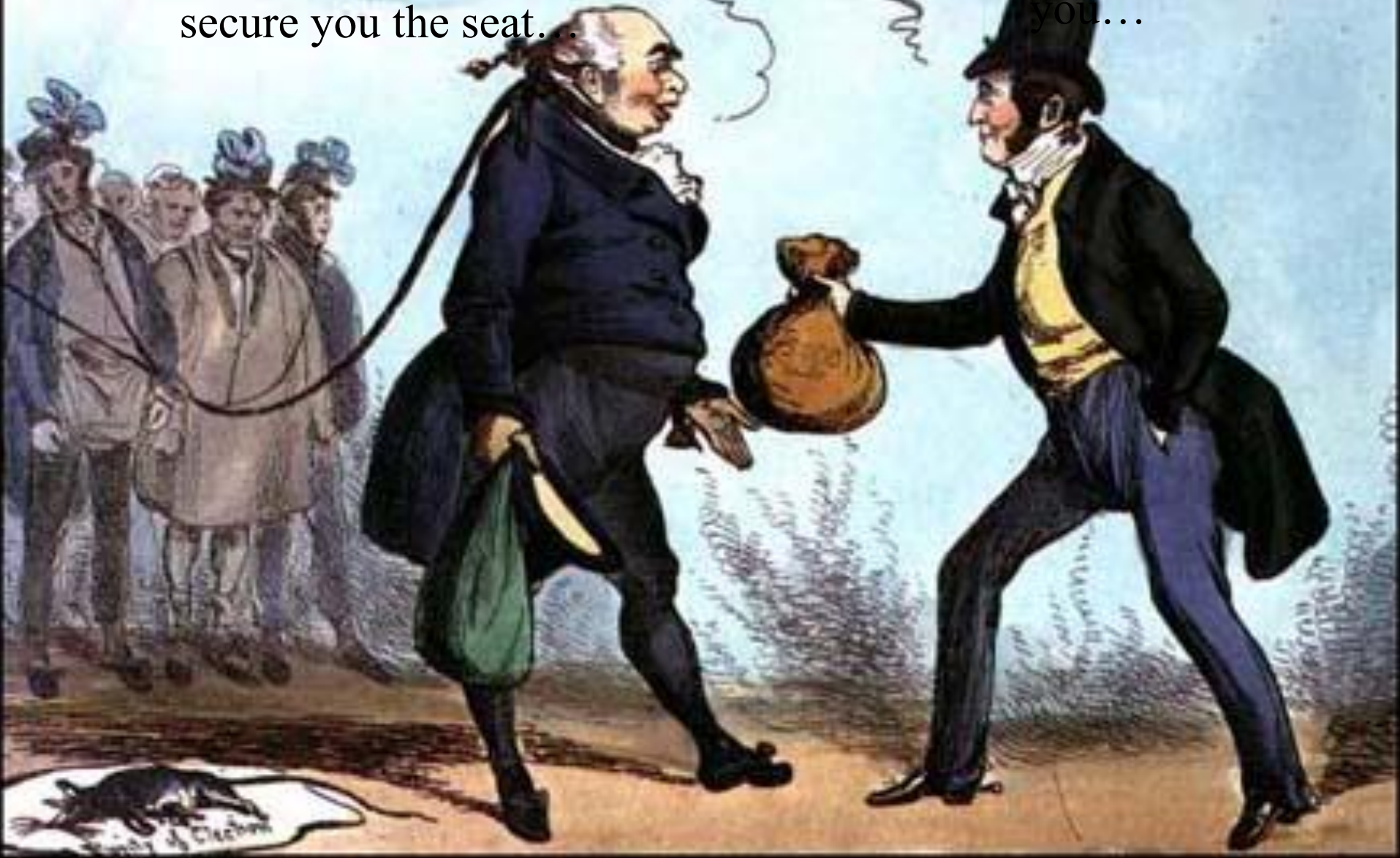
© Wadsworth, Cengage Learning



<b>Borough</b>	<b>Patron</b>	<b>MPs</b>	<b>Houses in Borough</b>	<b>Voters in 1831</b>
<b>Bramber</b>	<b>Duke of Rutland</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Callington</b>	<b>Lord Clinton</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Dunwich</b>	<b>Lord Huntingfield</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>East Looe</b>	<b>John Buller</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Gatton</b>	<b>Sir Mark Wood</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Old Sarum</b>	<b>Earl of Caledon</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Newtown</b>	<b>Sir Fitzwilliam Barrington</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Plympton Earle</b>	<b>Earl of Mount Edgcumbe</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>40</b>

Here they are – all good votes – ready to vote for my coach horse if I order them... Give me the money and I'll secure you the seat...

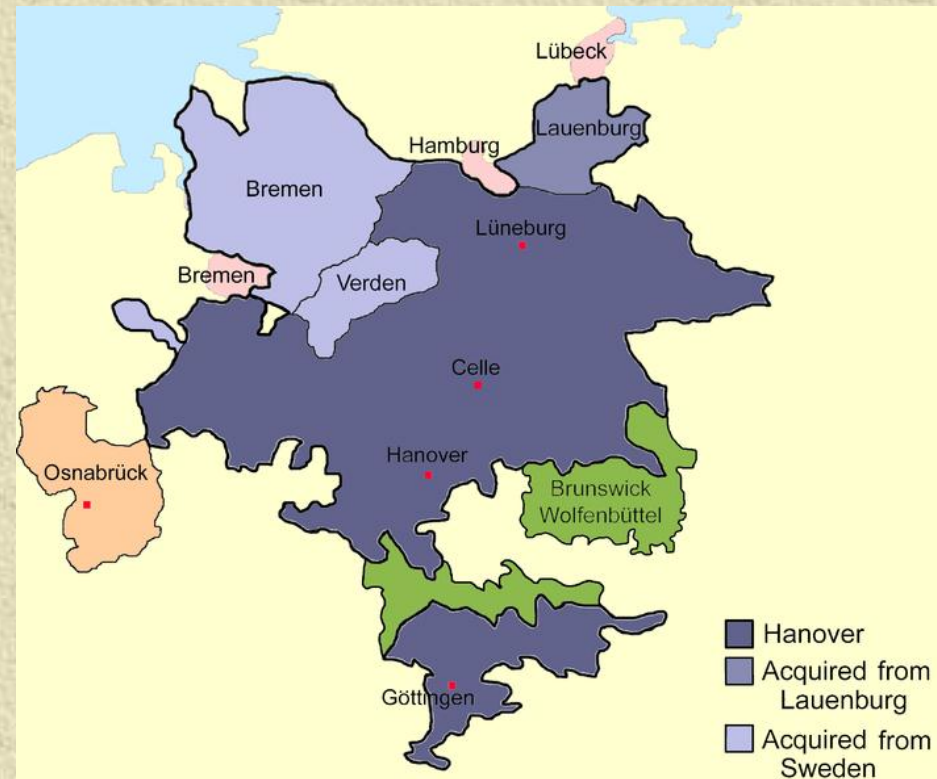
Well, here's the cash... as for the votes, I'll leave them to you...



# Transfer of power from Stuarts to Hanoverians

- ◆ Recall: Test Act (1673) and cause of Glorious Revolution (1688-9)
- ◆ End of Stuart Dynasty
  - Death of Queen Anne (1714) w/o a direct heir
  - Desire to avoid Catholic James III
  - Invitation to protestant, George I of Hanover

## Coat of Arms House of Hanover



# Expanding role of chief or “prime” minister under Hanoverians

- ◆ Importance of patronage to monarchy
- ◆ Absence/inexperience of George I and George II
  - Reliance on PM as main dispenser of patronage
- ◆ George III (1760-1820) \*\*
- ◆ Early prime ministers
  - Robert Walpole (1721-1742)
    - ◆ Peaceful foreign policy/no new land taxes
  - William Pitt the Elder (1757-1761)
    - ◆ Acquired Canada/India – Seven Years’ War
  - Lord Bute (1762-1763)
    - ◆ Brought in w/ new king, George III
    - ◆ Growing middle class discontent w/ electoral system, loss of American colonies – criticism leads to appointment of William Pitt, the Younger (1783)



# Enlightened rule in the Dutch Republic?

No:

**REMEMBER** – wars in the late 1600s with France (Louis XIV's Dutch War) & conflict between:

- Oligarchs (States General – Dutch Towns - republican)  
vs.

- House of Orange (Monarchy – Stadholders)

...Still on...

**NOW**

- “Regents” (Oligarchs – Dutch Towns)  
vs.
- Stadholders (Executive Branch – House of Orange)
- Rise of “Patriots” (artisans, merchants and shopkeepers) pushed for democratic reforms

Prussian king sent troops in to crush the Patriots who were a threat to his sister (wife of an Orange stadholder)

Old order reestablished



# Enlightened rule by Hohenzollerns in Prussia?

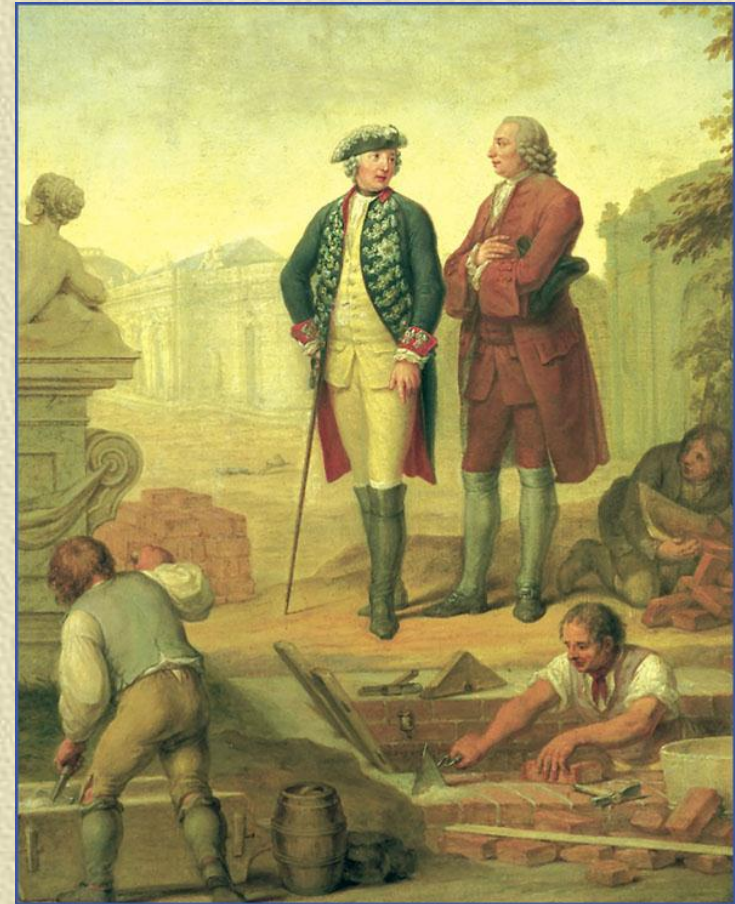
Some reforms, but no:

- ✦ RECALL: Emergence of Brandenburg-Prussia (1648), Frederick William, est. of the War Commissariat, Frederick III → “King Frederick I” (helped Austria in the War of Spanish Succession), Junker power/suppression of peasantry
- ✦ Prussia: The Army and the Bureaucracy
- ✦ King Frederick William I (1713-1740)
  - ◆ General Directory – admin. Central gov’t (military, police, economic/financial affairs)
  - ◆ Civil Service Workers – service/loyalty to the state – military virtues (duty, obedience, sacrifice)
  - ◆ Prussian militarism – *“not a country with an army, but an army with a country which served as headquarters and food magazine”*
  - ◆ Rigid social classes
    - Junkers: owned land (serfs), military officers
    - Peasants: serfs-dependent on Junkers
    - Middle Class: civil servants – could earn high posts (non-noble birth)



## ✦ Frederick II (1740-1786) “Frederick the Great”

- ◆ Connections to Voltaire/philosophes
- ◆ Relationship with father? (p.546)
- ◆ Role: “first servant of the state”
- ◆ Prussian bureaucracy: professional, efficient, honest, obedient
- ◆ Single code of laws – limited use of torture
- ◆ Some free speech/press
- ◆ Religious toleration .... **BUT**
- ◆ Did not interfere with Junkers’ hold on serfs
- ◆ More aristocratic – reversed merit system and installed nobility
- ◆ Enlarged the Prussian Army
- ◆ Took Silesia from Austrians
  - War of the Austrian Succession
  - Seven Years’ War
- ◆ Partitioned Poland (Austria/Russia)  
1772



© Wadsworth, Cengage Learning

**Enlightened rule in Austria?  
Temporarily, Yes – Joseph II,  
but ultimately, no:**



Maria Theresa (1740-1780) Catholic and conservative

Joseph II (1780-1790) “tried to push through reform with a steamroller”

\*alienated the nobility by freeing the serfs, alienated the church by his attacks on the monastic establishment, serfs were unhappy and unable to comprehend the changes\*

Reforms were rolled back by successors.





# The Austrian Empire of the Habsburgs

✦ Diverse Empire – Vienna – cultural capital

✦ Maria Theresa (1740-1780)

- ◆ Catholic & Conservative

- ◆ Loss of Silesia to Prussia leads to a push toward centralization

- Reduced power of diets in the provinces (less taxation/local admin.) -- Income/property taxes from clergy and nobles to royal officials
- Reorganization of territories into royal districts
- Modernization/build up of military

✦ Limited response to calls for reform

✦ Joseph II (1780-1790) - more reform-minded

- ◆ Continued Centralization trend

- ◆ Educated – enlightenment-influenced

- ◆ Abolition of serfdom – hereditary land rights

- ◆ Penal code – equality before the law/elimination of death penalty

- ◆ Complete religious toleration

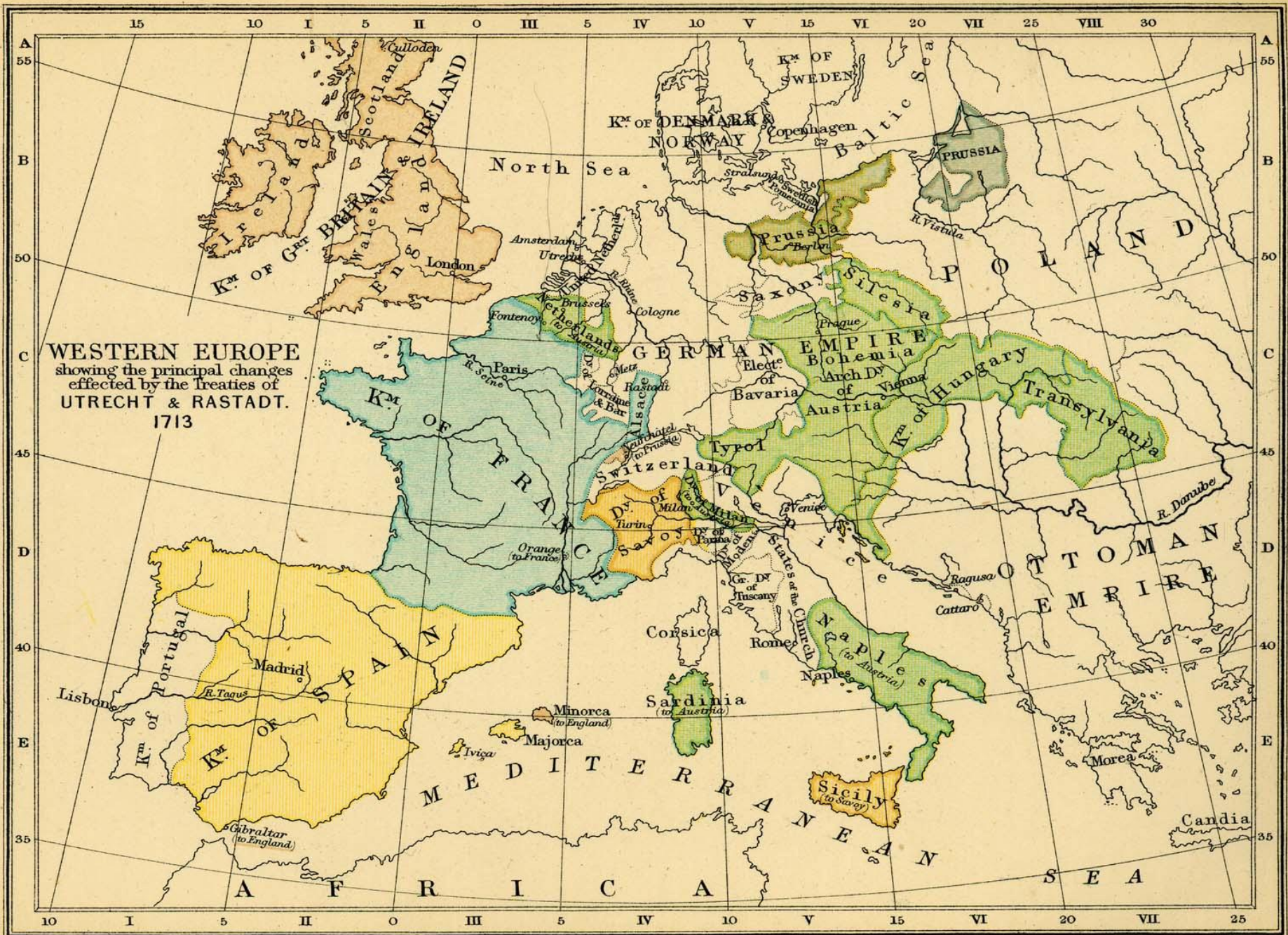
- ◆ German as official language

- ◆ 6000 decrees/11,000 laws

✦ BUT

- ◆ Alienated nobility and the church, non-German speakers, even serfs

- ◆ Reforms did not largely take hold



**WESTERN EUROPE**  
 showing the principal changes  
 effected by the Treaties of  
**UTRECHT & RASTADT.**  
 1713

# Russia Under Catherine the Great, 1762-1796

- ✦ Peter III (murdered) – German Wife – Catherine
- ✦ Learns Russian
- ✦ Educated (Enlightenment-minded) – (Voltaire/Diderot)
- ✦ Reforms
  - ◆ Election of an assembly in 1767 – new law code
  - ◆ Questioned practices of serfdom, torture, capital punishment, advocated equality before the law
  - ◆ **Result** – little change b/c
- ✦ Strength of land owning class (**Boyars**)
  - ◆ Reorganization into 50 provinces, subdivided into districts – officials chosen by Boyars
  - ◆ Nobility formed corporate groups w/ privileges (trial by peers, exemption from personal taxation, corporal punishment)
  - ◆ Privileges formalized in the Charter of Nobility (1785) ---- peasants suffered



© Wadsworth, Cengage L



# Pugachev's Rebellion (1773)

- ◆ Emelyan Pugachev – support by Cossacks
- ◆ Spread throughout Russia
- ◆ Manifesto 1774 – freedom from oppressive taxes/military service
- ◆ 1,500 estate owners killed
- ◆ Rebellion crushed, Pugachev executed

✦ **RESULTS:** Greater repression of peasantry  
(rural reforms halted, serfdom expanded into newer parts of Russian Empire)



# Pugachev's Rebellion



# Catherine the Great - Legacy

- ✦ Reform minded – blocked by reality – nobles kept privileges
- ✦ Expansion of Russian territory westward into Poland (eventually 50%) and southward to Black Sea (Ottoman Turks)
- ✦ \*Treaty of Kuchuk-Kainarji\*





Enlightened reforms in Poland?

No:

**Polish king was elected by the nobles and was forced to accept drastic restrictions on their power including limited revenues, a small bureaucracy, and a standing army of only 20,000 soldiers**

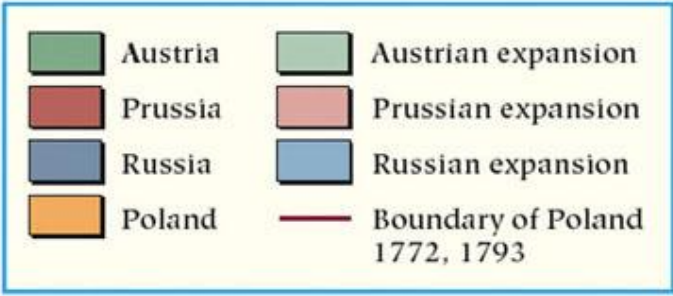
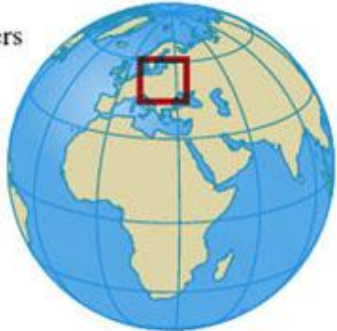
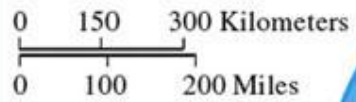
**1772, 1793, and 1794 Austria, Prussia, and Russia divided up the weak country**

# The Destruction of Poland

- ✦ **REMEMBER:** The Electoral Nature of the Monarchy (Sejm) did not have an absolutist state
- ✦ Limited bureaucracy and ARMY
- ✦ Weak decentralized state
- ✦ Division of Polish Territory – Balance of Power (Austria, Prussia, Russia)
  - ◆ 1772 – 30% of land 50% of population – given up
  - ◆ 1792 – Russia and Prussia (w/ Austrian support) - 2<sup>nd</sup> partition
  - ◆ Polish rebellion under General Thaddeus Kosciuszko – crushed and the rest of the state was overtaken (1795)
- ✦ Brought Russia into European State system
- ✦ Cynical nature of the balance of power







# The Mediterranean World

Enlightened rule in Spain?

**no:** The monarchy was “Bourbonized” (centralized) ...  
Jesuits were banished and the Catholic Church was brought under control but the landed aristocracy continued to exercise substantial power

- ✦ **REMEMBER** – when did we last see Spain? – Treaty of Utrecht (1713 – end of the War of Spanish Succession)
  - ✦ Habsburg to Bourbon – more centralized state – Philip V (1700-1746)
  - ✦ Laws/institutions/language Castilian
  - ✦ Royal bureaucracy established – ministries/intendants
  - ✦ Easier to maintain – Utrecht (loss of Italian lands and Netherlands)
- 
- ✦ Charles III (1759-1788) – Catholic Church under state control
  - ✦ Banished Jesuits
  - ✦ Constrained the Inquisition
  - ....**Still** – powerful aristocracy



# Portugal

Enlightened rule in Portugal?

**no:**

- ✦ In Decline
- ✦ Pombal (1699-1782) – Chief minister to Portuguese kings, nobility, Church
  - ◆ Portuguese Empire temporarily revived
- ✦ Once removed from office – nobility/church gained power

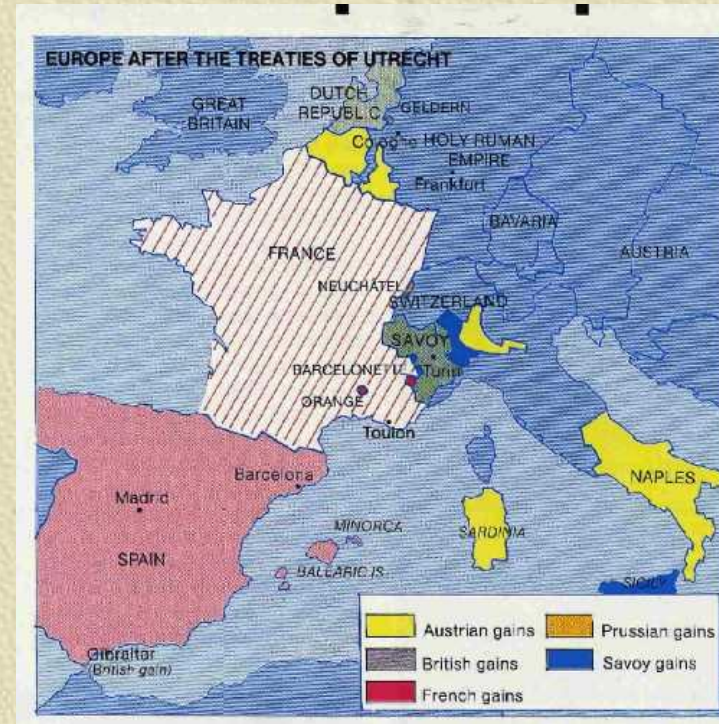


# The Italian States

Enlightened rule in the Italian states?

**No: Italy remained fragmented into several states which allowed Austria and Spain to have control over much of the area**

- ✦ Utrecht – Austria took Spain's territory in Italy (Milan, Sardinia, Naples)
- ✦ Savoy (N. Italy) – Sicily – expansionary
- ✦ 1734 – Bourbons of Spain – reestablished control over Naples and Sicily
- ✦ Other states: Venice, Genoa, Papal States – Independent
- ✦ Decentralized



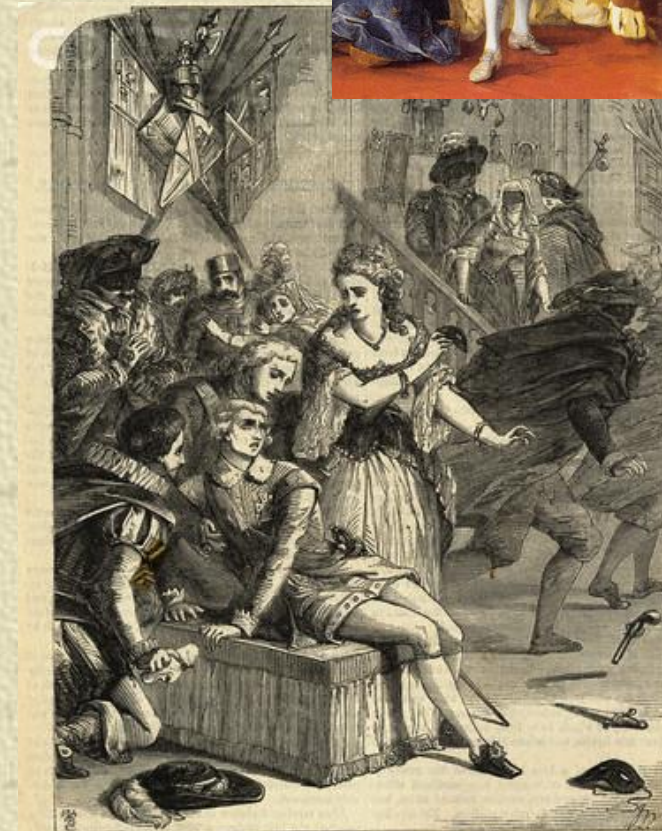
# The Scandinavian States

## Sweden

Was there Enlightened rule in Sweden?

**Close: King Gustavus III (1771-1792) implemented freedom of religion, speech, and press, new code of justice that eliminated the use of torture, laissez faire reforms: reduced tariffs, ended tolls, and encouraged trade/agriculture, the King was killed by nobles who tried to reinstall their power with limited results**

- ✦ Had been dominant in Scandinavia
- ✦ Declined after Battle of Poltava 1709
- ✦ Death of Charles XII (1718)
- ✦ Nobility reasserts control → pro-French vs. pro-Russian factions
- ✦ King **Gustavus III (1771-1792)**
  - ◆ Able to take control of Swedish diets
  - ◆ Enlightened monarch?
    - Freedom of religion, speech, press
    - Code of justice – elimination of torture
    - Laissez Faire economics: reduced tariffs, abolished tolls, encouraged trade/agriculture
    - Assassinated after a masquerade ball!



# Denmark

Enlightened rule in  
Denmark?

**No: King Christian VII  
(1766-1808) tried  
reforms but stopped  
after his chief minister  
John Frederick  
Struensee was killed  
because of aristocratic  
opposition**



# Enlightened Absolutism

## Revisited

- ✦ Comparing Joseph II, Frederick II, Catherine the Great (Joseph II)
  - ◆ Needs of state, dependence upon nobility
  - ◆ Need for centralized state power/bureaucracy/taxation – national armies
  - ◆ Some legal reform, installation of rights, religious toleration, education
  - ◆ Changes limited to bureaucracy, administrative and judicial systems

STILL – hereditary aristocracy maintained a lot of power/rights/privileges

- ✦ Enlightenment reforms ultimately held back by landed aristocracy

# Wars and Diplomacy

- ✦ Concept of **Balance of Power** – prevent one state from becoming too powerful – not a desire for peace – expansionism the norm

## TRANSITION

- ✦ **Dynastic interests** dominated diplomacy – expansion of dynastic holdings  
to
- ✦ *raison d'état* – **Reason of the State**
- ✦ Development and centralization of the modern nation state closely linked with winning wars and maintaining standing armies





# The War of the Austrian Succession (1740-1748)

- ✦ Habsburg Charles VI (1711-1740) dies
  - ◆ Pragmatic Sanction – for Maria Theresa
- ✦ Maria Theresa(daughter) vulnerable
- ✦ Frederick II invades **Silesia**
- ✦ France sides with Prussia
- ✦ Britain sides with Maria Theresa/Austria
- ✦ France invades the Austrian Netherlands, took Madras (India) from Britain
- ✦ Great Britain takes Louisbourg (St. Lawrence R.), Canada from France
- ✦ 1748 – **Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle** – virtually all territories returned
  - Except...
- ✦ Silesia kept by Prussia – tension remains
- ✦ Prussia's power status recognized



# Seven Years' War, 1756-1763

- ✦ 1<sup>st</sup> truly global conflict
- ✦ Maria Theresa builds army with the intent of retaking Silesia – worked through Count Wenzel von Kaunitz to separate Prussia from France
- ✦ **1756 – Diplomatic Revolution:**
  - ◆ 2 ½ C. old Bourbon-Habsburg rivalry eclipsed by Britain-French/Austrian-Prussian rivalry
- ✦ Austria allies with France (also Russia)
  - Cemented by the Maria Theresa sending her daughter **Marie Antoinette** to wed future king, Louis XIV (France)
- ✦ Britain shifts to support Prussia (to oppose chief rival, France)

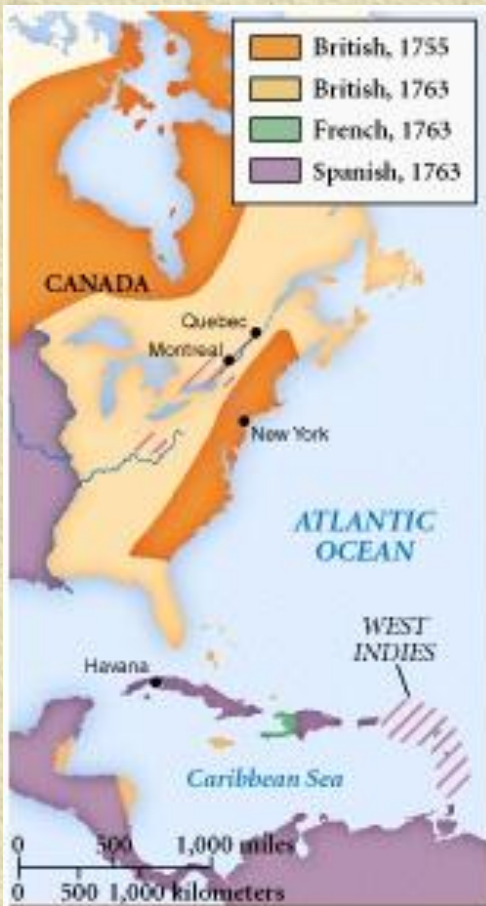


**Reason  
of the  
State**

# The Battlefields of the Seven Years' War

©2003 Wadsworth, a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Thomson Learning, Inc. is a trademark used herein under license.





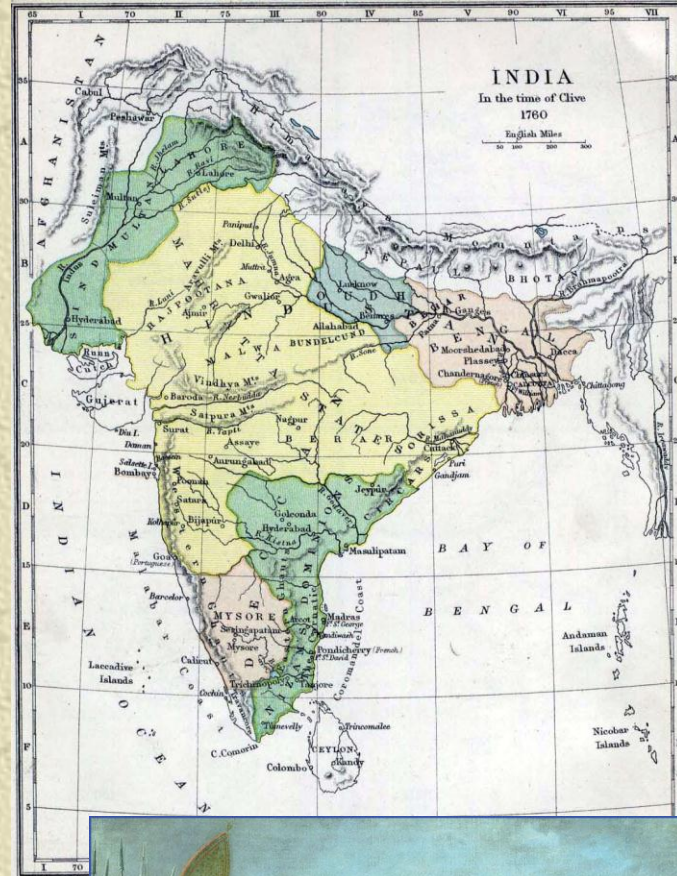
# Seven Years' War: Conflict in Europe

- ✦ Britain although it subsidizes Prussia – **focuses its military efforts in Americas/India**
- ✦ Prussia surrounded and position desperate in spite of victory at Rossbach in 1757 – eventually worn down
- ✦ “Miracle of the House of Brandenburg” 1762 – **Russia withdraws**
  - Tsarina Elizabeth of Russia died – Peter III (nephew) left the war b/c of admiration for Frederick the Great and Prussia
- ✦ w/ Russia gone – stalemate
- ✦ War ends in 1763 w/ Treaty of Hubertusburg (coincides with Treaty of Paris)



# Seven Years' War: Conflict in India

- ✦ Madras had been returned to Britain at the end of the War of Austrian Succession
- ✦ Britain & France each supported different Indian princes
- ✦ British forces under **Robert Clive** took control of French bases and defeated Indian princes
- ✦ Treaty of Paris in 1763 – **India left to British**



# Seven Years' War: The French and Indian War

- ✦ In 1754 – clashes between Britain and France for control of St. Lawrence / Great Lakes (Louisbourg and other forts) and Ohio River Valley
- ✦ French forces pushed out of the north into the garrisons along Mississippi – forts from Appalachians to Mississippi – threatened British colonial expansion
- ✦ French allied with Indians – a way to repel British colonial advance – France less threatening
- ✦ British troops took **Fort Duquesne** in 1758 and build on the spot Fort Pitt (Pittsburgh)
- ✦ **In 1759 – British forces capture Quebec, Montreal, Great Lakes, Ohio Valley / French Caribbean Islands**
- ✦ Treaty of Paris 1763 – Britain gets Canada and lands east of Mississippi from France, Spanish Florida from Spain, French give Louisiana territory to Spanish
  - ◆ End of New France
  - ◆ Eviction of Acadians (Cajuns) to SW Louisiana “Great Expulsion of 1755-1763” 1/3 of 14,000 perished – ethnic cleansing by British?
  - ◆ England – greatest colonial power



# Remnants of Fort Duquesne (downtown Pittsburgh)



## ...in North America

- aka “French and Indian War”
- Pitt the Elder’s desire to expand British colonial empire
- **Successes of British navy; effect on French armies**



  
St. John's

  
Louisbourg


  
Halifax


  
Quebec/Québec

  
Montreal/Montréal

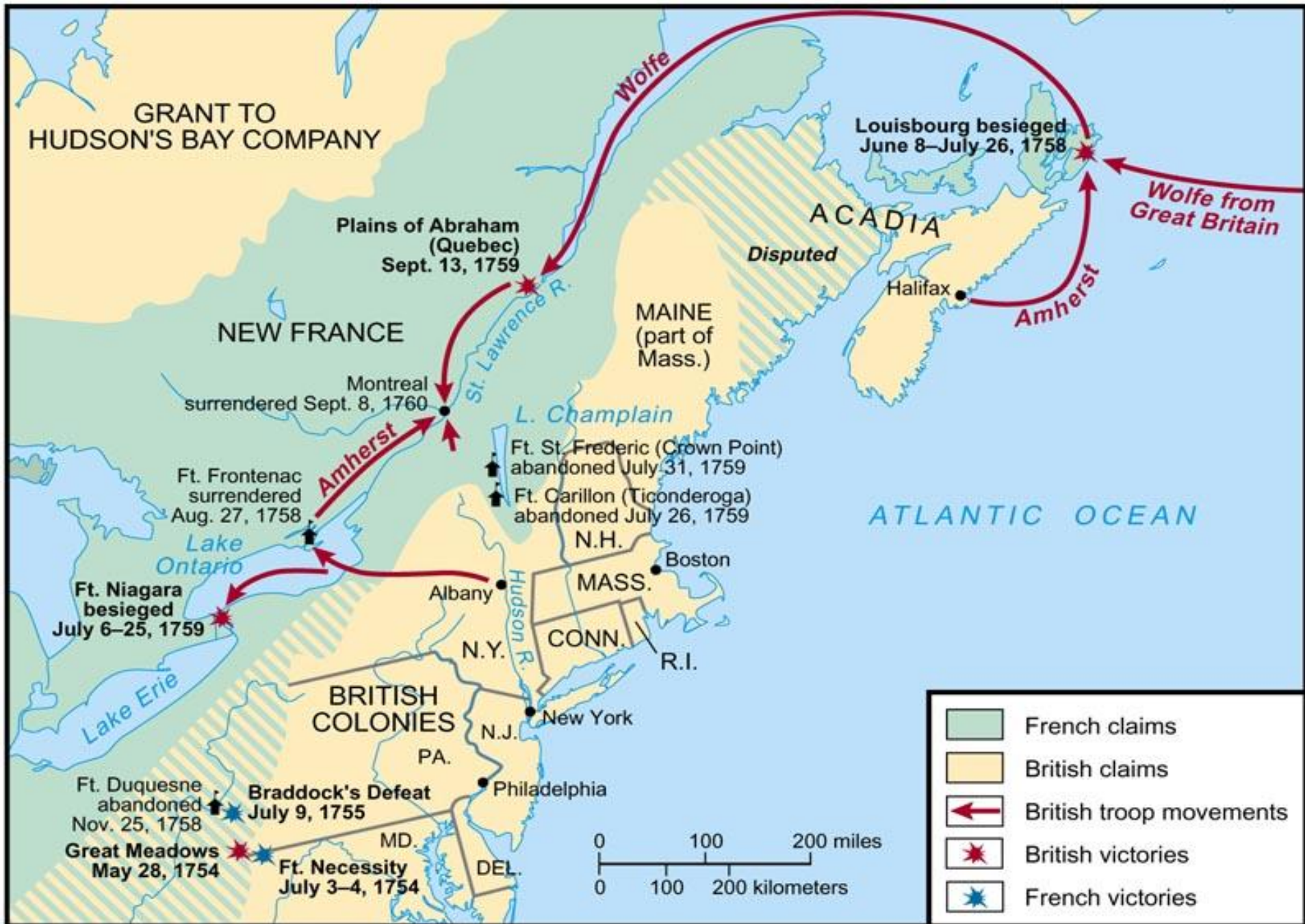
  
Boston

  
New York

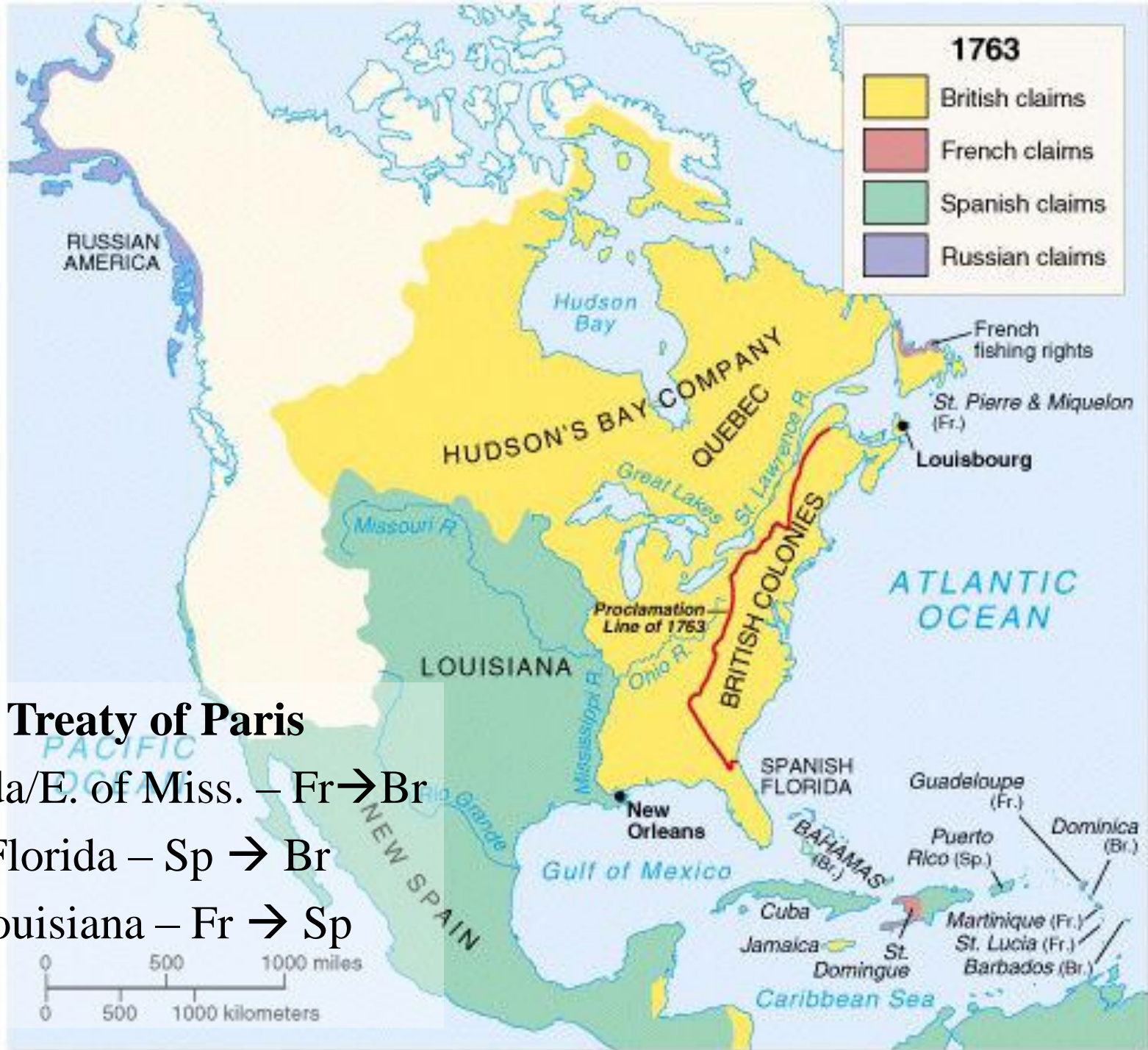
 French Settlements, 1755/  
Établissements français, 1755

 British Settlements, 1755/  
Établissements britanniques, 1755

BRITISH AMERICA/  
AMÉRIQUE BRITANNIQUE



**THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR, 1756–1763**



## Treaty of Paris

Canada/E. of Miss. – Fr → Br

Florida – Sp → Br

Louisiana – Fr → Sp

# European Armies and Warfare

✠ Professional standing army

✠ Increase in size – 1740 - 1780

- ◆ French army: 190,000 – 300,000
- ◆ Prussian army: 83,000 – 200,000
- ◆ Austrian army: 108,000 – 282,000
- ◆ Russian army: 130,000 – 290,000

# European Armies and Warfare

## Composition of Armies

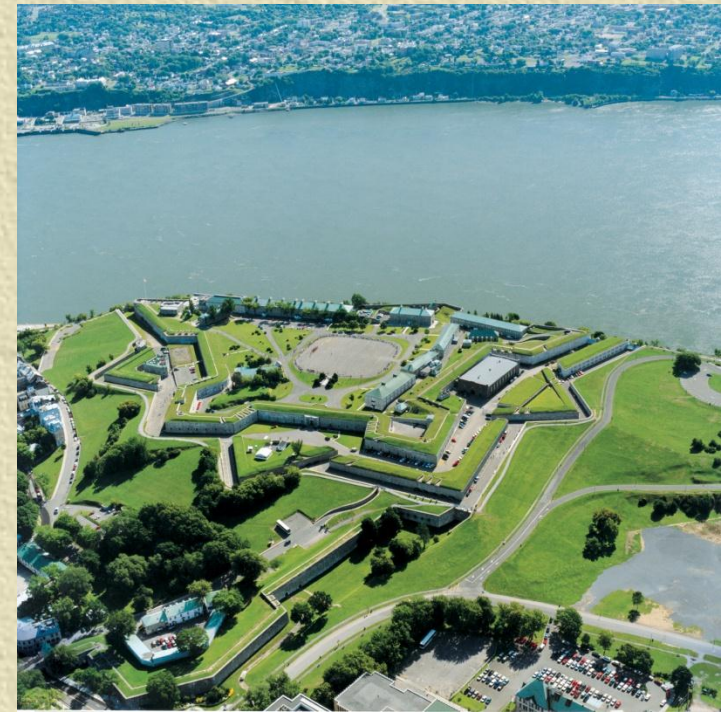
- ✦ Officers – Nobles
- ✦ Rank & File – Lower classes
- ✦ Peasants – generally – farmed
- ✦ Use of foreign troops  
(Switzerland, German states)
- ✦ **Britain alone – no standing army** – relied on mercenaries  
(Hessian troops)
- ✦ French & Austrian Armies –  
Natives – 6 year terms
- ✦ Unemployed – means of escape
- ✦ Growth of Navies –  
British/Dutch – scurvy/sauerkraut!



American colonial  
mage showing Hessian  
soldiers as heartless  
warriors.

# The Nature of Warfare

- ✦ War – **less ideological** (vs. religious wars of the 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> Centuries) – less violent
- ✦ Destruction of taxpayers – foolish
- ✦ Warfare based on **limited objectives** – too costly
- ✦ Less direct confrontation in favor of generals outwitting enemy – use of artillery
- ✦ System of formalities – allowed defeated opponents to withdraw without capture/destruction
- ✦ Use of fortresses – sieges – predictable patterns





*Surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown*



# Economic Expansion & Social Change

## ✦ Steady Population Growth after 1750 / Falling Death Rate

1700 – 120 million

1750 – 140 million

1790 – 190 million

- more plentiful food
- better transportation,
- improved diets
- new crops from the Americas (potatoes, corn)
- End of the bubonic plague
- 1750 – farmers producing 50% more food than needed (up from 20-30% around 1700)
- Ideal growing conditions

# Family, Marriage, and Birthrate Patterns

- ✦ Patriarchal institution – women/children - property
- ✦ Arranged marriages – interests of family
  - ◆ Read 555!

# Child Care

- ✦ Views on breastfeeding – lower class women did it – upper class women saw it as undignified
- ✦ Use of wet nurses
- ✦ Childhood as a phase of human development – games/toys
- ✦ Primogeniture – under attack
- ✦ Appeals for all women to breast feed
- ✦ Children – a source of anxiety (mouths to feed, risk in pregnancy)
- ✦ Infanticide – dropping children at foundling homes (1/3 of babies in Paris in 1770s!!!)– law in Austria banning children under 5 to sleep w/ parents
- ✦ Foundlings – high rate of death (50-90% mortality) as infants – poor children suffered

*The little k Play.*



BASE-BALL.

**T**HE *Ball* once struck off,  
Away flies the *Boy*  
To the next destin'd Post,  
And then Home with Joy.

MORAL.

Thus *Britons* for *Lucre*  
Fly over the *Main* ;  
But, with *Pleasure* transported,  
Return back again.

TRAP-

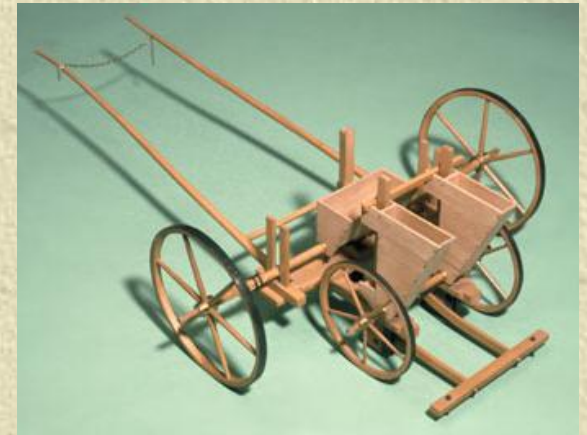
# Marriage and Birthrates

- ✦ Newly weds – independent of parents households
- ✦ Marriage – relatively late mid-late 20s
- ✦ Illegitimacy increases by end of 18<sup>th</sup> C.
- ✦ Avg. – 5 births/family BUT 40-60% of fertile aged women not married at any given time – the average fell from 1650-1800
- ✦ Coitus Interruptus
- ✦ Women & children contributed to family economy

# An Agricultural Revolution?

## ✦ 18<sup>th</sup> C. Agriculture

- More farmland
- Increased yields/acre
  - ◆ Open Field → crop rotation
  - ◆ Jethro Tull – experimentation w/ hoe and drill to plant seeds
- Healthier/more abundant livestock
  - ◆ Selective breeding
  - ◆ Roots available from new crops during winter as fodder for animals
  - ◆ Animal manure – more fertilizer
- Improved climate – “little ice age” declined in 18<sup>th</sup> C.
- New Crops – potato & maize after 1700



# Enclosure Movement – Development of Capitalism

- End of Open Field System – Enclosure Movement
  - ◆ Denial of peasant farmers access to “Commons” – mowing for hay, grazing lands, collecting firewood – stripped of “gleaning rights”
  - ◆ Inability to produce legal documents proving ownership
- ◆ Large estates developed
- ◆ Small farmers – wage laborers/tenant farmers
- ◆ Destroyed traditional patterns of English life
- ◆ Increase in productivity
- ◆ Relationship between property/power?

“England is not a free people, till the poor that have no land, have a free allowance to dig and labour the commons...”

*Gerrard Winstanley, 1649*



# New Methods of Finance

- ✦ Shortage of Gold/Silver
- ✦ New Public/Private Banks
- ✦ Use of Paper Notes – Expansion of Credit
- ✦ Bank of England – lent to government
  - ◆ Issuing of bonds – interest
  - ◆ Public/National Debt vs. Personal Monarch Debt
- ✦ Creation of credit markets – leads to speculation  
“Mississippi Bubble”



## ✦ France and the “Mississippi bubble” (1719-1721)

- ✦ Bubble: an unusually rapid increase in the value of an asset, followed by an equally rapid collapse
  - Modern day examples: technology stocks, housing
- ✦ Recall: financial problems left by Louis XIV, France’s possession of Louisiana territory
- ✦ Lack of knowledge among most French about Louisiana





## ◆ John Law

- Duke of Orleans (regent)
- ◆ 1716: opening of Bank Royale to help French economy
  - Issuance of paper currency
- ◆ 1717: creation of the Mississippi Company
  - Granting of monopoly over North American trade
  - Later winning of control over all French inter-continental trade
- ◆ 1719: tying together of Bank Royale and Mississippi Company



*John Law*

◆ The bubble forms

Jan 1719: 500 livres per share

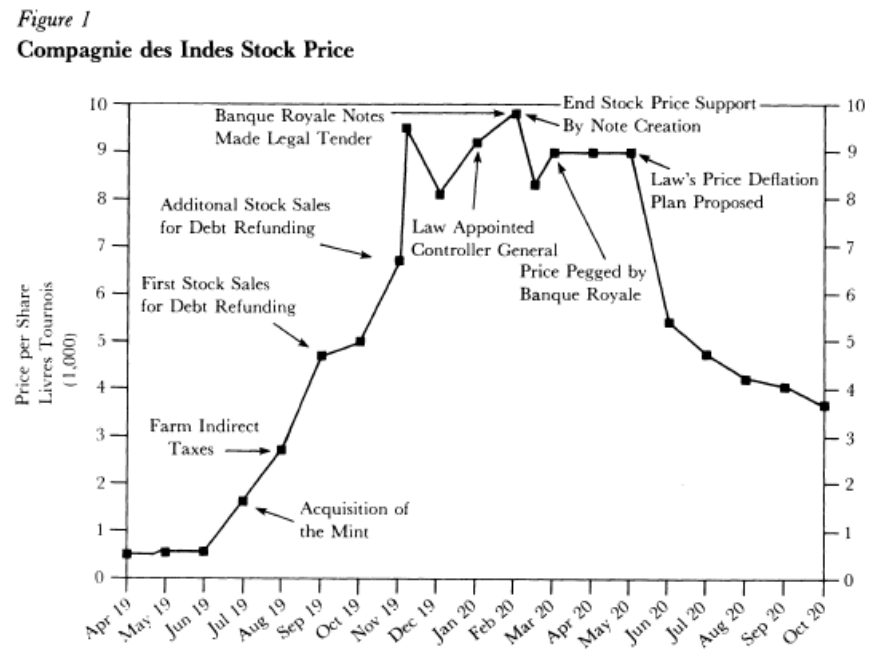
◆ The bubble bursts

Feb 1720: 10,000 livres per share

◆ Impact

Sept 1721: 500 livres per share

- ✦ Failure to develop a national bank in France or to establish public borrowing/debt
- ✦ Dutch power waned – Dutch Capitalists – became financiers of other countries' capitalists



# European Industry

Textiles (wool – majority)

## Cottage Industry

- ✦ Production of **textiles in countryside**
- ✦ Capitalist-merchant entrepreneurs in cities – used labor of countryside – spinning/weaving in their own cottages – supplemental income
- ✦ Textiles sold at a profit
- ✦ New Methods and New Machines
- ✦ Cotton as a new substitute to wool
- ✦ From India – cheap – slave labor
- ✦ Unable to keep up with cotton demand until – flying shuttle, water frame (Horse/water power to make yarn -- Richard Arkwright), later mechanized looms invented in 1780s – used in early 19<sup>th</sup> C., cotton gin
- ✦ Rural workers – saw new machines as a threat (READ p. 561)

# Mercantile Empires and Worldwide Trade

- ✦ Commercial Capitalism
  - ◆ Integrated markets
  - ◆ Joint stock companies
  - ◆ Banking/stock exchanges
  - ◆ Mercantilist theory – required colonial expansion – globalization
    - Majority of trade – intraEuropean, but international trade growing
    - Growth of slave trade – plantation economy
    - Cheap labor fueled growth of Atlantic States
- ✦ Britain – increased trade with colonies // increase in size of fleets of merchant ships/trade
- ✦ Greater prosperity for Atlantic cities – trade industries (dock workers, tradesmen, servants)

# The Social Order of the Eighteenth Century

- ✦ Patterns of society

- ✦ Forces of change

- ✦ The Peasants

- ◆ General situation

- ◆ Compulsory services

- ◆ Importance of the village

- ◆ Domination by wealthy landowners

- ✦ The Nobility

- ◆ Privileges of the nobility

- ◆ Military service

- ◆ Moving into the ranks of the nobility

# Inhabitants of Towns and Cities

- ✦ Townspeople still a minority of the population
- ✦ Importance of towns
  - ◆ Centers of culture
  - ◆ Urban oligarchy
  - ◆ Middle class
  - ◆ Petty bourgeoisie
  - ◆ Laborers
  - ◆ Sanitation and poverty

# Discussion Questions

- ✦ How did enlightenment ideas help form Enlightened Absolutes in Europe in the 18<sup>th</sup> century?
- ✦ What do you think are the reasons for the rise of enlightened monarchs in Central Europe?
- ✦ Who was Frederick II and what was his impact on the history, culture and laws of Europe?
- ✦ What started the Seven Years War? How did the war progress and ultimately who won?
- ✦ What were some of the changes in social order in the 18<sup>th</sup> century?

# Web Links

- ✦ [Louis XIV](#)
- ✦ [Frederick the Great](#)
- ✦ [Catherine the Great](#)
- ✦ [Maria Theresa](#)
- ✦ [Seven Years War](#)
- ✦ [Pre-enlightenment Europe](#)