

A photograph of the Tower Bridge in London at dusk. The bridge is illuminated with warm orange lights, and its reflection is visible in the water below. The sky is dark and cloudy. The text "Britain in the XVII and XIX centuries" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

# Britain in the XVII and XIX centuries

# *Queen Anne (1665 / 1702 – 1714), the last of the Stuarts*



In **1707**, during the reign of Queen Anne, the **union of England and Scotland** was made official.

Scotland gave up its Parliament but kept its own **legal system** and **the Presbyterian Church**. The united country got a new name of **Great Britain**.



In 1801 the **Act of Union** added Ireland, and **the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland** was created



# House of Hanover (1714 – 1901)



George I  
(1660 /  
1714 –  
1727)

In 1714 the royal **House of Hanover** succeeded to the British throne.

The dynasty of German origin, descended from **George I**, provided Britain with six monarchs during the XVIII and XIX centuries, the most well-known being **Queen Victoria**.



Victoria  
(1819 /  
1837 –  
1901)

# Robert Walpole – the first British Prime Minister



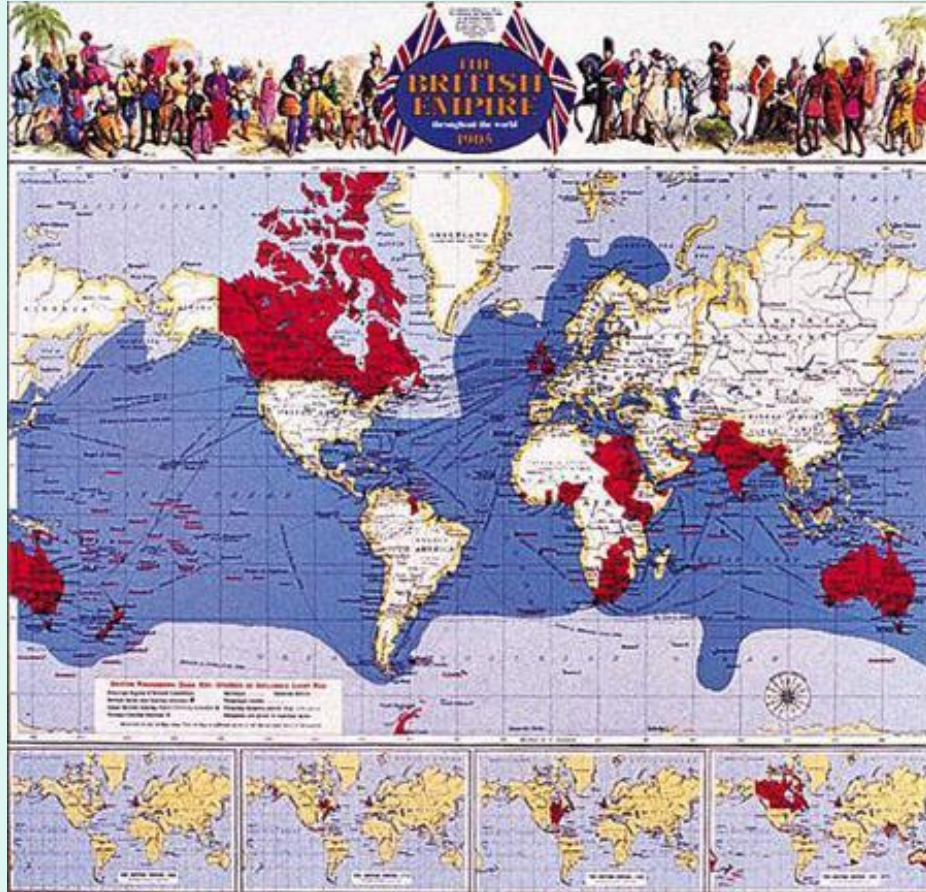


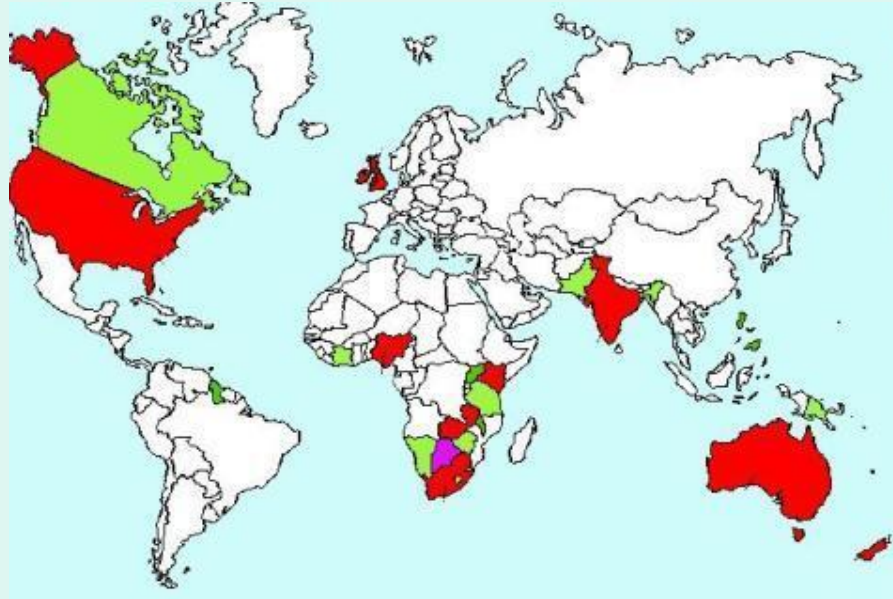
In the XVIII century  
England became **the  
leading military  
power** in Europe.  
British victories in the  
wars against France  
and Spain led to  
establishing its  
**commercial and  
colonial supremacy**  
in the world.



# The British Empire

Britain became **the largest empire in history**. It gained large territories in **North America** (including future Canada and the United States), **Asia** (including the whole of India), **Africa** and **Australia**.





As the British population grew rapidly, it naturally led to the increase of **emigration to colonies**. Many Englishmen settled in America, Asia, Australia and Africa. It was then that **the English language** began to acquire its international status.



# Britain in the Napoleonic Wars



Horatio Nelson  
(1758 – 1805)



In **1805** one of the greatest sea victories in English history took place at **Trafalgar**, when **Admiral Nelson** defeated a combined French and Spanish fleet near Gibraltar

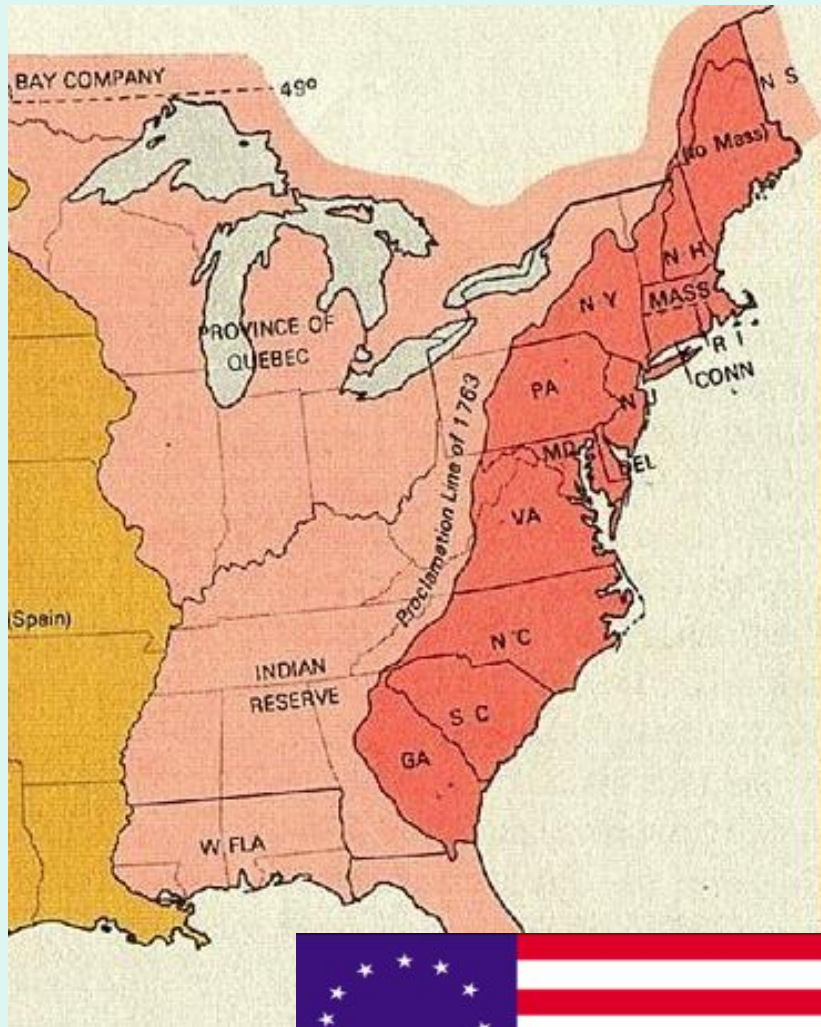


Trafalgar  
Square,  
London

# Britain in the Napoleonic Wars



**Duke of Wellington** became the leading British general after he defeated Napoleon at the **Battle of Waterloo** in **1815**



The most serious military defeat came to Britain in the war with its **thirteen American colonies** in the 1770s. After several years of war Britain had to acknowledge **the independence of the United States.**



# The Industrial Revolution



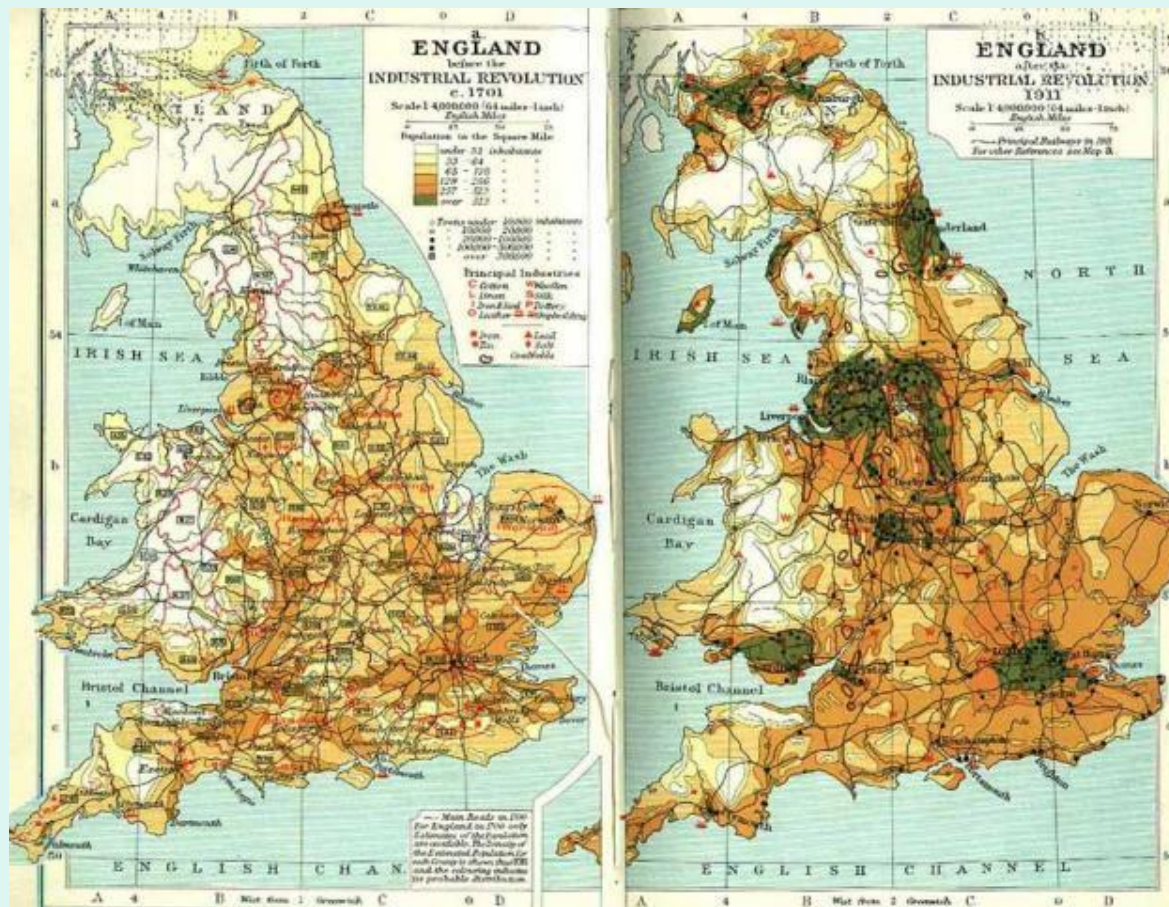
Great Britain rapidly grew into a leading **capitalist country**. It went through **the industrial revolution** in the XVIII century, and became **the richest country** of the world in the XIX century.



**Coal mining** and  
**iron**  
**manufacturing**  
were the most  
important branches  
of industry in the  
XIX century



# The growth of industrial towns



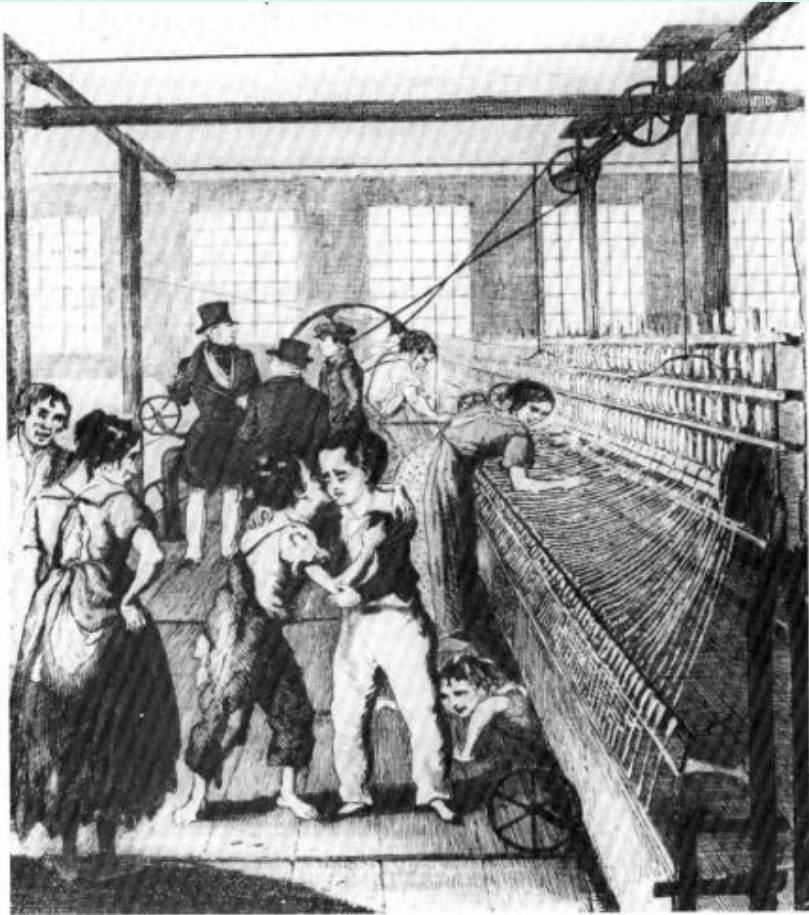
1701

# 1901

The British population shifted **from the countryside to towns** where work was available

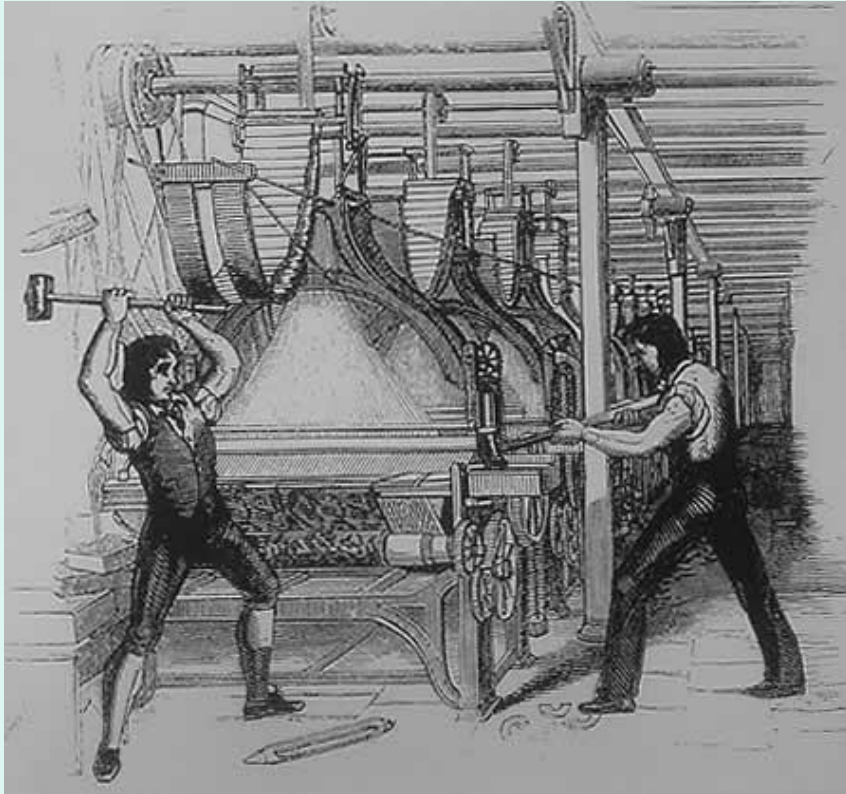


# The life of the poor



Great wealth and power was in the hands of **the financial bourgeoisie** and **landed aristocracy**. At the same time **the working class** lived in terrible poverty. **Demonstrations** and **strikes** became common in the XIX century

# Luddites – destroyers of the looms



Some workers blamed their poor life on the introduction of **machines** and started destroying them. The movement became known as **Luddism** (named after the leader of the Luddites **Ned Lud**)

# The Enlightenment Era



The XVIII century is known in European history as **the Enlightenment epoch**.

The Enlighteners believed in **the common sense** and **education** as the means to enlighten people, to help them see the roots of evil and the way of social reformation.



# British literature of the Enlightenment Age

**The Enlighteners** spread their ideas through literature. The leading genre of the period was **a novel**, realistic and moralizing.



**Daniel Defoe**

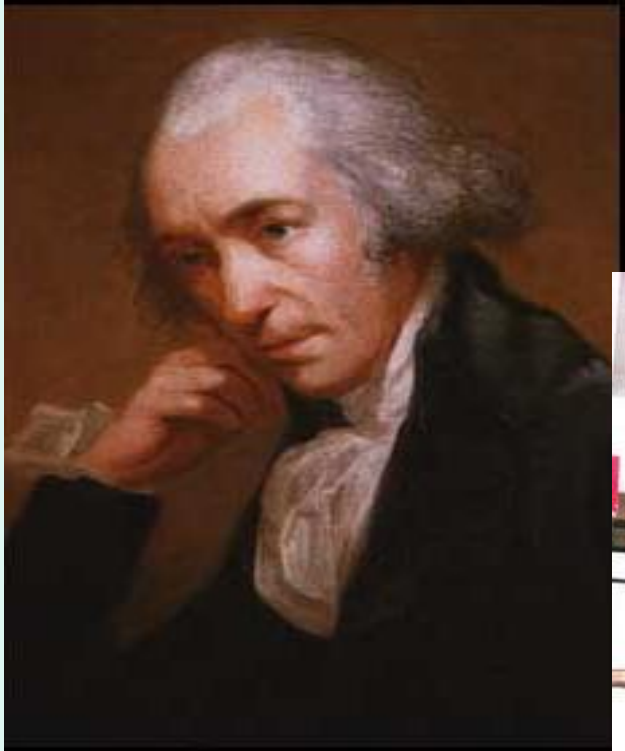


**Jonathan Swift**



**Henry Fielding**

# The age of science and technology



**In 1765**  
**James**  
**Watt**  
**produced**  
**the steam**  
**engine**

# The First British Railway



**The first railway locomotive, constructed by George Stephenson (1814)**



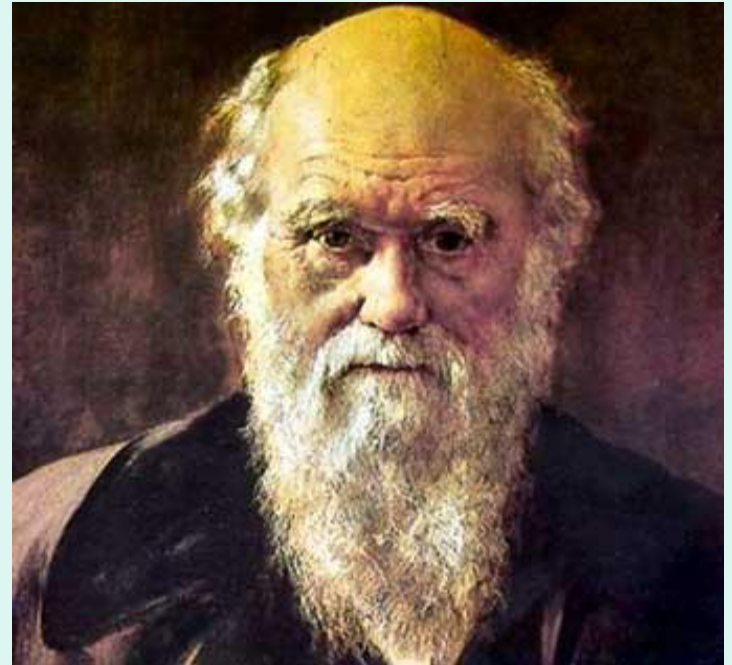
**The opening of the first railway line Stockton – Darlington (1825)**



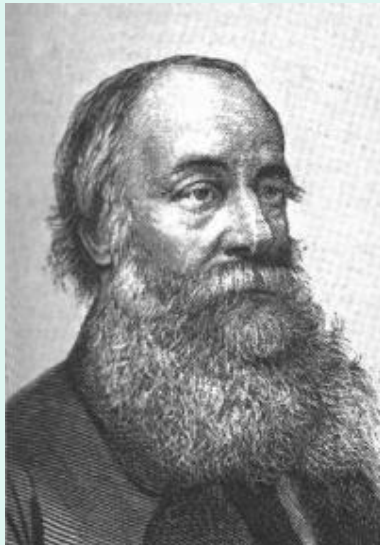
# The British science of the XIX century



**Michael Faraday**, the founder of the electromagnetism theory



**Charles Darwin**, the discoverer of the principle of natural selection and theory of evolution



**James Joule**, a physicist who studied the problems of electricity

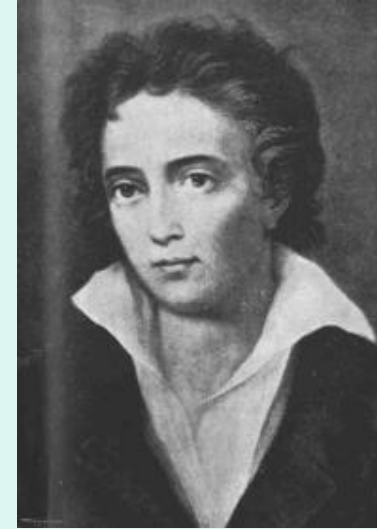
# The Age of Romanticism in revolt against the “common sense”



William  
Wordsworth



George  
Gordon  
Byron



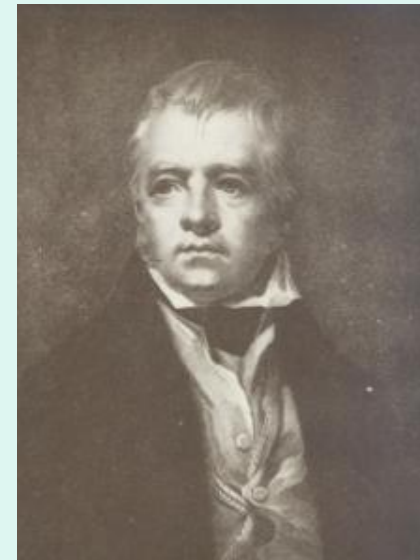
Percy  
Bysshe  
Shelley



Samuel  
Taylor  
Coleridge



John  
Keats



Walter  
Scott

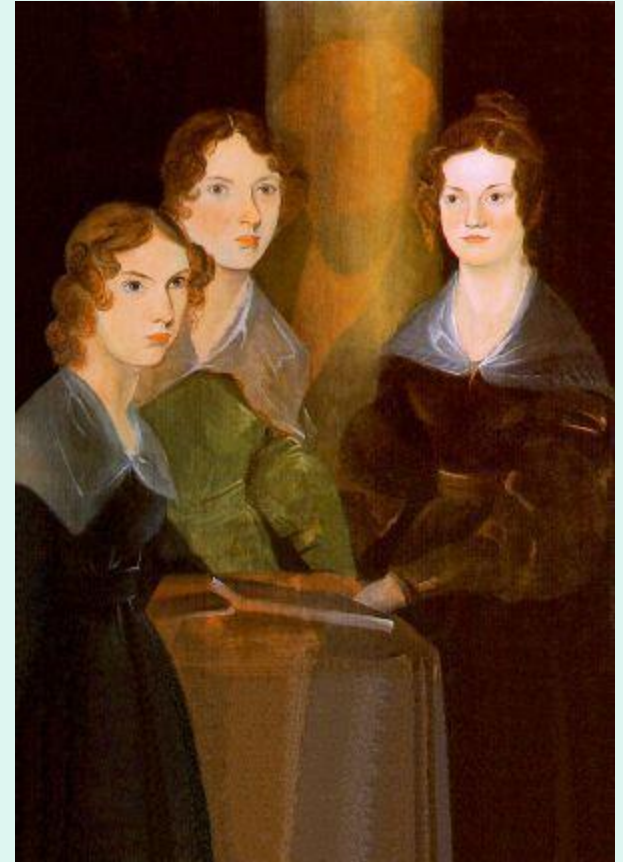
# The age of classical realism in literature



**Charles  
Dickens**



**William  
Makepeace  
Thackeray**



**The Bronte  
Sisters**



# Robert Adam and his neoclassical architecture



Old College,  
Edinburgh



Charlotte Square, Edinburgh

# John Nash and his architecture



Royal  
Pavilion,  
Brighton



All Souls, London



Terrace in Regent's Park, London

# Westminster Palace in neo-Gothic style





# The British Painting



In the XVIII century a distinctive **British style of painting** began to appear. In **1768 the Academy of Fine Arts** appeared in London.

# William Hogarth. Self-Portrait



# William Hogarth. A Distressed Poet





# W.Hogarth. Falstaff Examining His Recruits



# William Hogarth. The Bench



# Joshua Reynolds. Self-Portrait





# J.Reynolds. Portrait of Mrs. Stanhope



# J.Reynolds. Portrait of Mrs. Beresford



# J.Reynolds. Lady Sunderlin





# Thomas Gainsborough. Self-Portrait



# T. Gainsborough. Portrait of a Lady in Blue

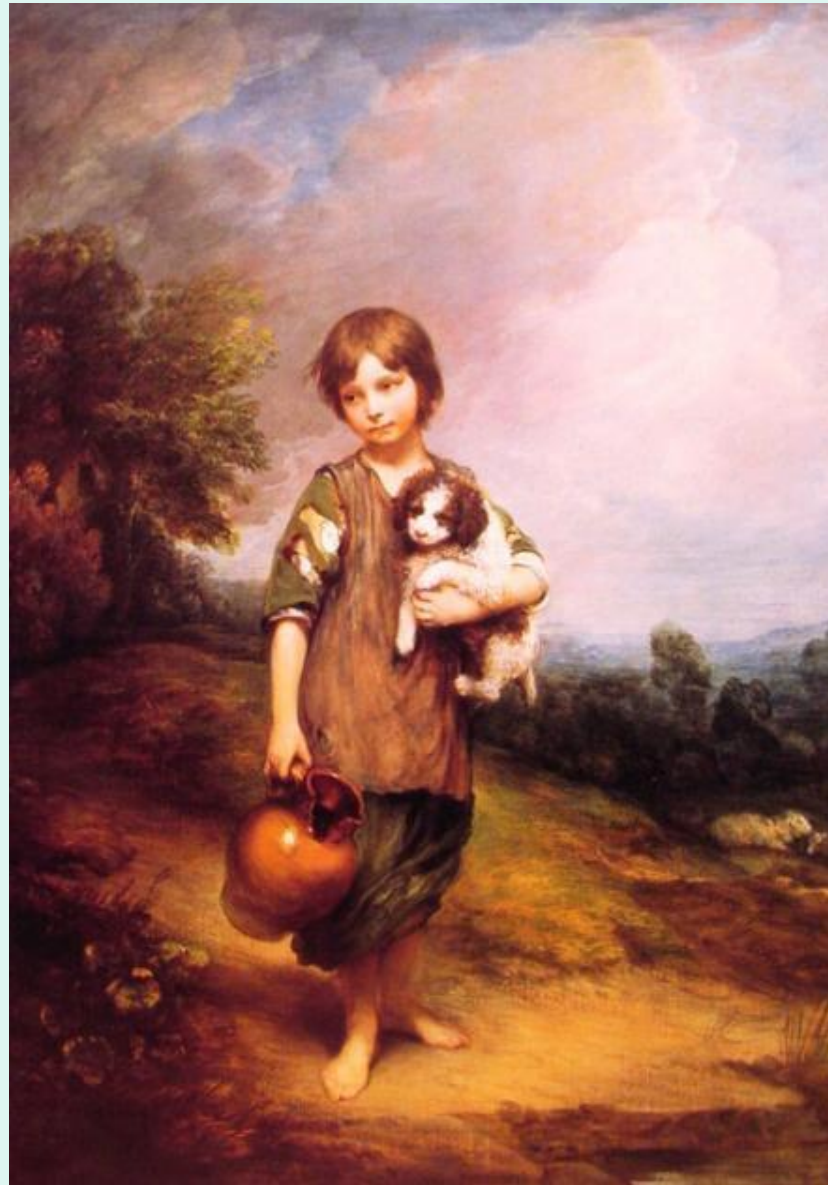


# T. Gainsborough. Conversation in a Park





# T. Gainsborough. Cottage Girl with Dog and Pitcher



# Portrait of Sarah Siddons

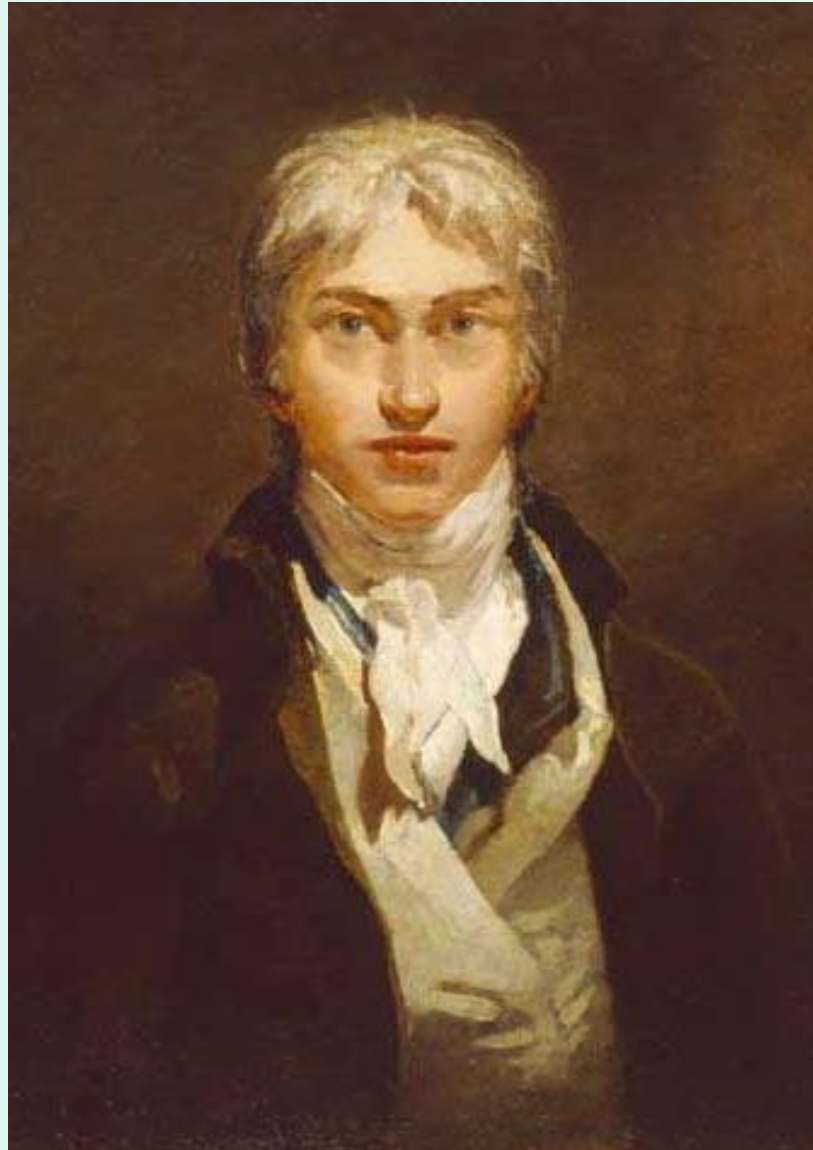
by Joshua Reynolds



by Thomas Gainsborough



# Joseph Turner. Self-Portrait



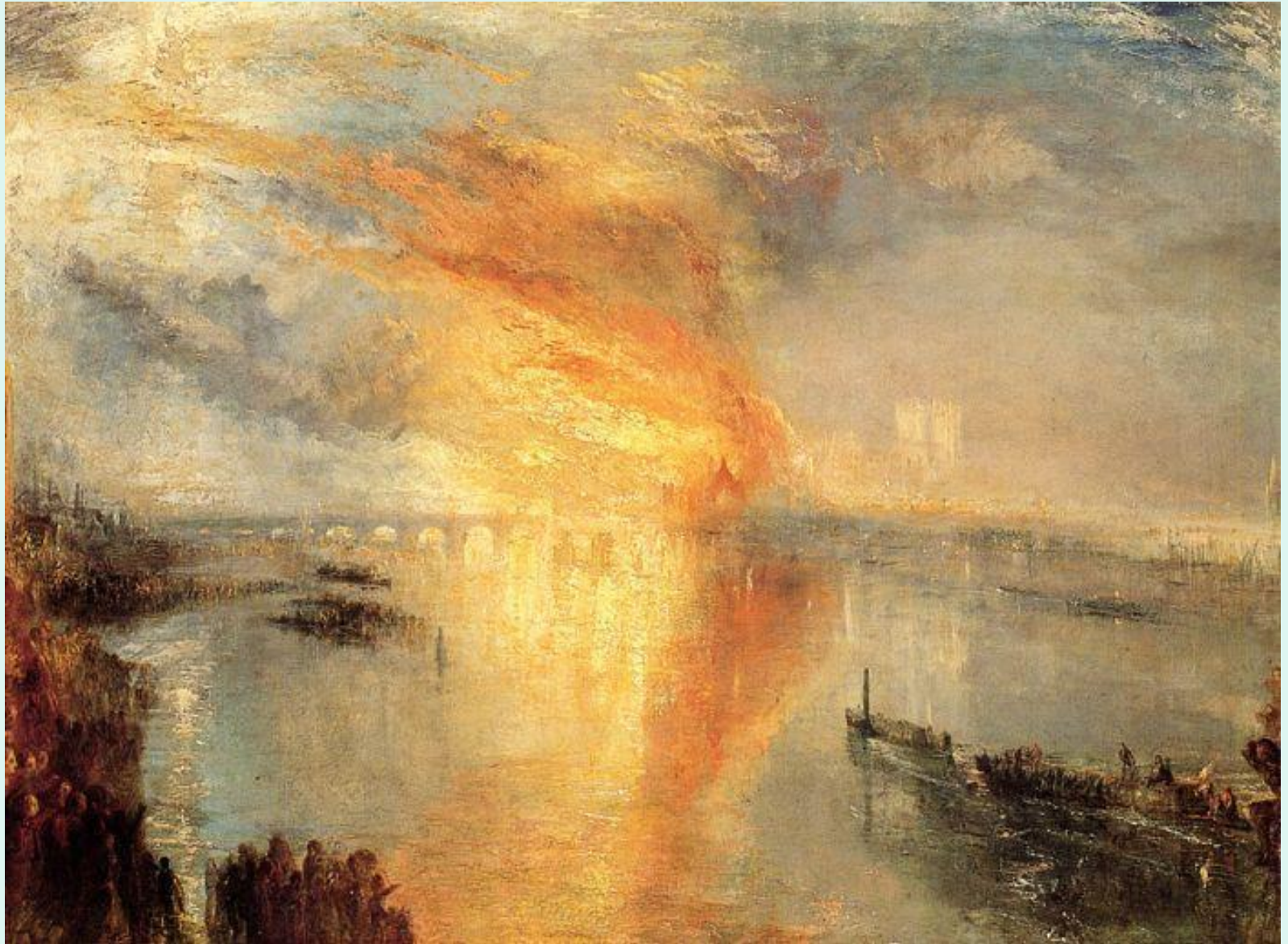


## J. Turner. Fishing boats entering Calais harbour





# J. Turner. The burning of the Houses of Parliament



# J. Turner. Wreckers. Coast of Nothumberland





# John Constable. Self-Portrait



# J. Constable. The Hay Wain





# J. Constable. Stratford Mill





# J. Constable. Dedham Vale Morning

