

A photograph of the Tower Bridge in London, illuminated at dusk. The bridge's two towers and the connecting walkways are lit up, casting a warm glow. The sky is a mix of dark grey and blue, with some light clouds. The River Thames is visible in the foreground, with a few small boats and a concrete railing. The overall mood is serene and historical.

**Britain in the
XVIII 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)

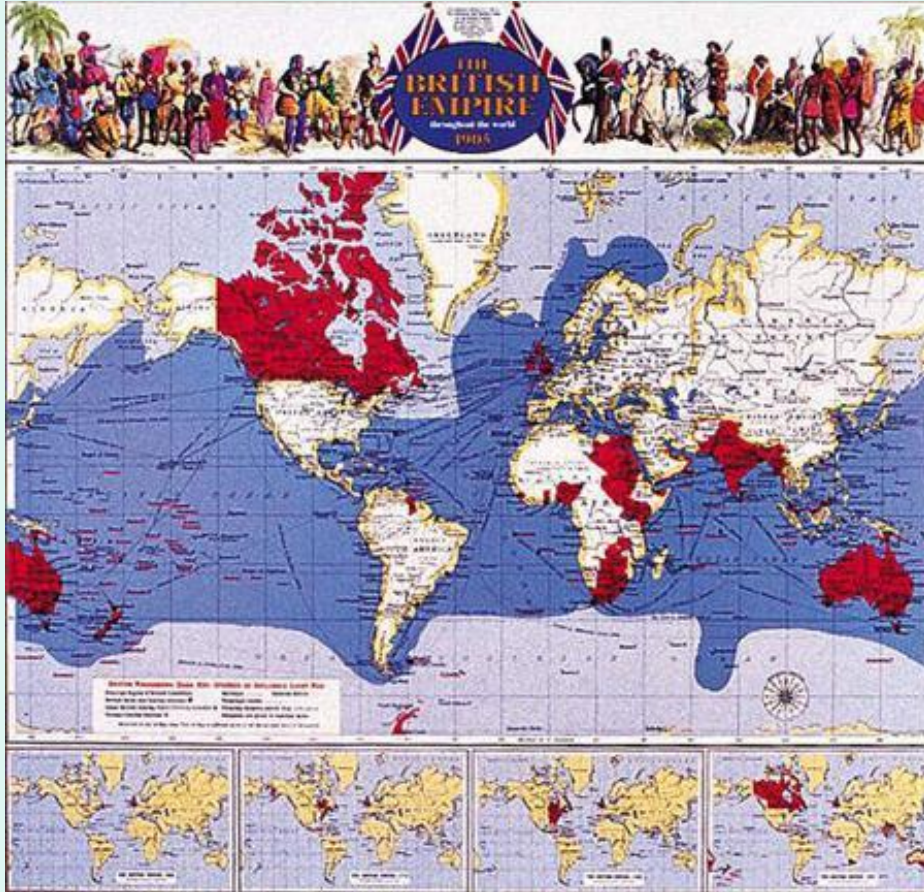
Robert Walpole – the first British Prime Minister



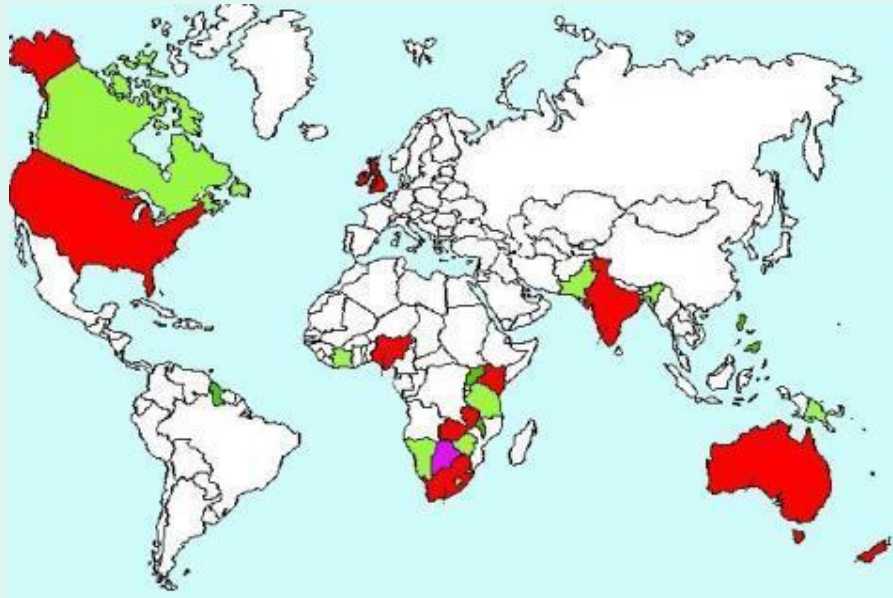


In the XVIII century
England became **the
leading military
power** in Europe.
British victories in the
wars against France
and Spain led to
establishing its
**commercial and
colonial supremacy**
in the world.

The British Empire

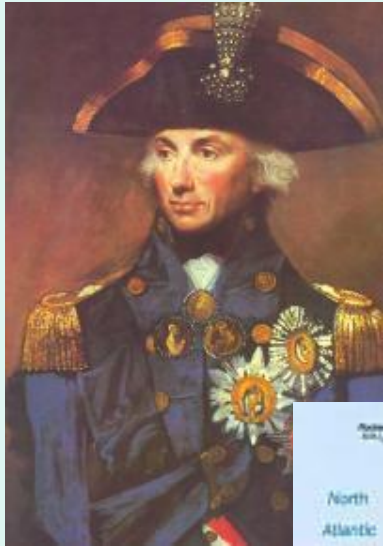


Britain became **the largest empire in history**. It gained large territories in **North America** (including future Canada and the United States), **Asia** (including the whole of India), **Africa** and **Australia**.



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



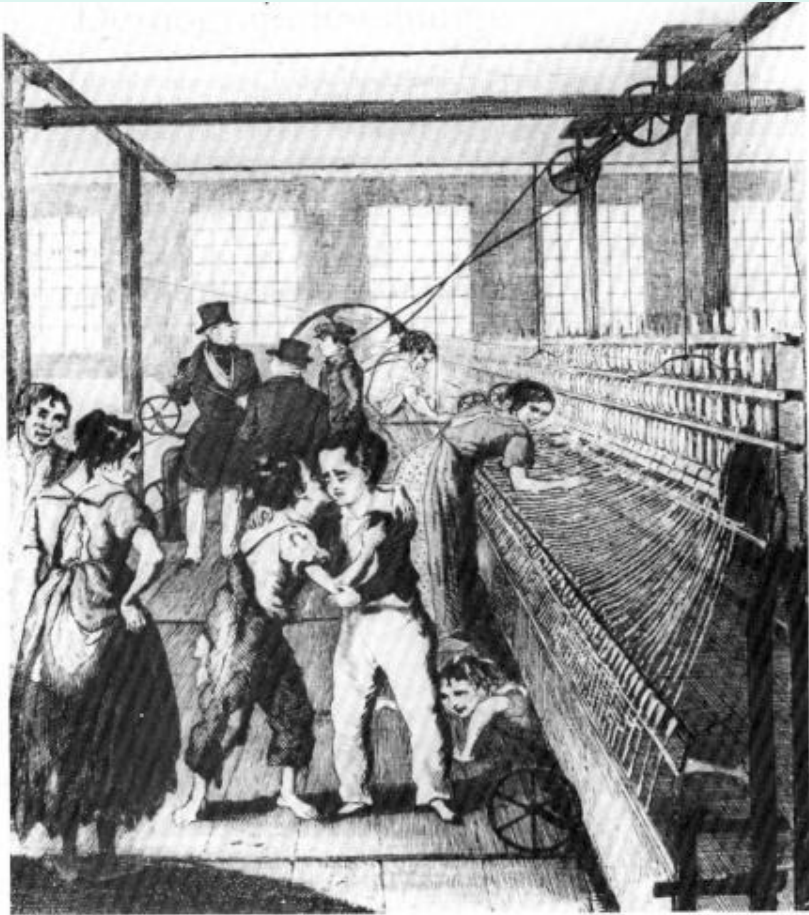
Great Britain rapidly grew into a leading **capitalist country**. It went through **the industrial revolution** in the XVIII century, and became **the richest country** of the world in the XIX century.



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

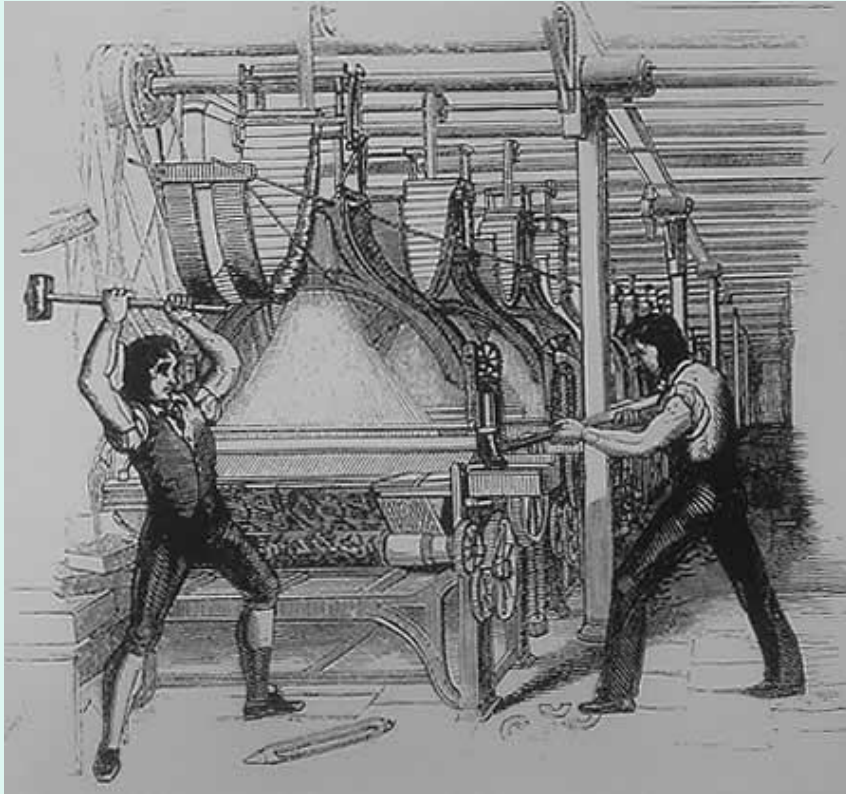


The life of the poor



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

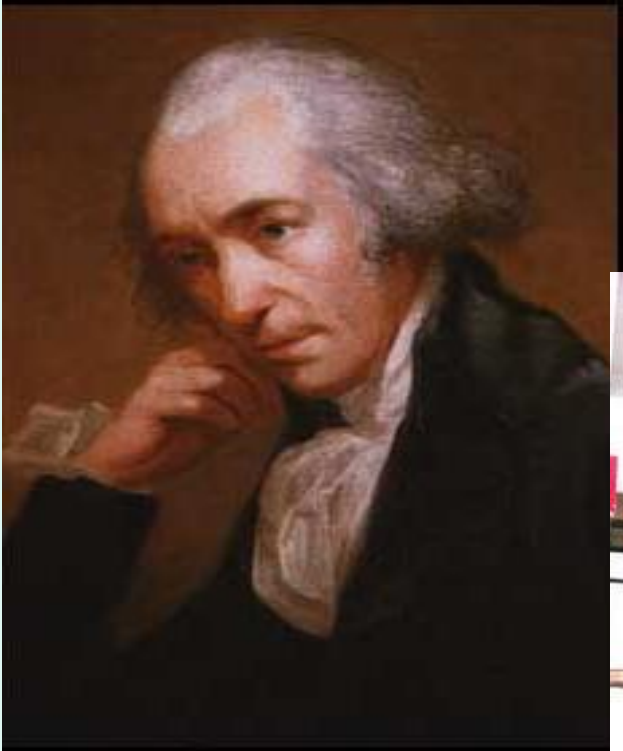


Jonathan Swift



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)

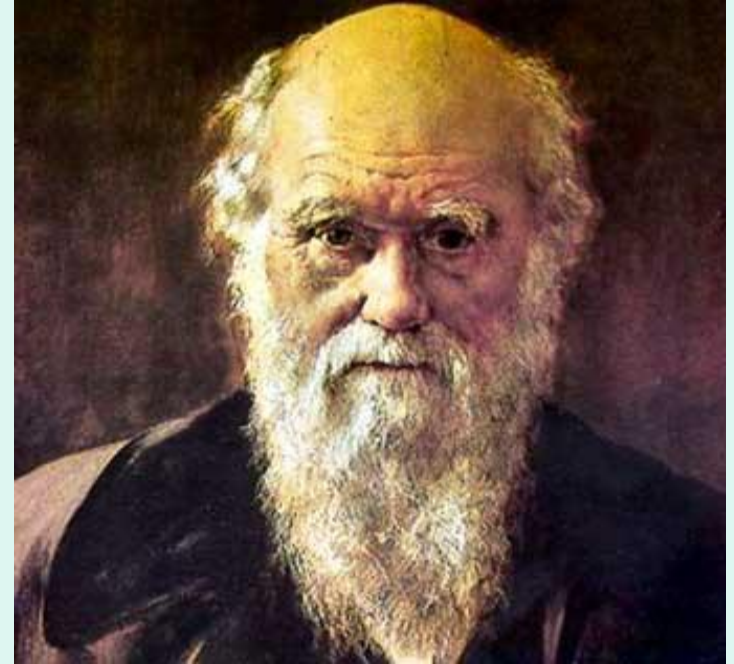


The opening of the first railway line Stockton – Darlington (1825)

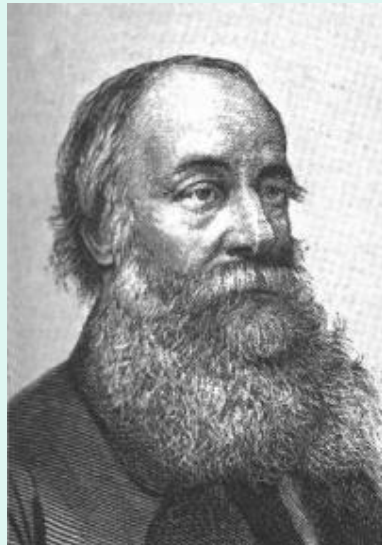
The British science of the XIX century



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

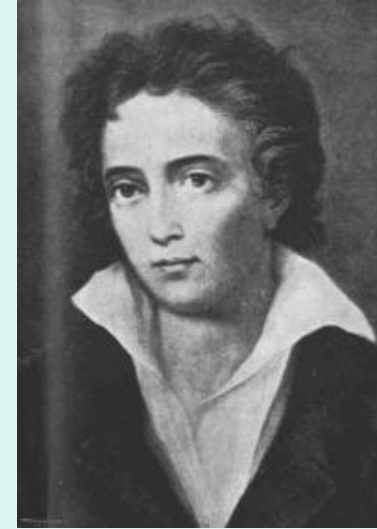
The Age of Romanticism in revolt against the “common sense”



William
Wordsworth



George
Gordon
Byron



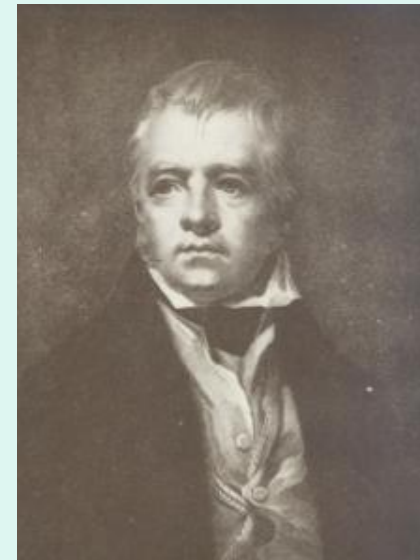
Percy
Bysshe
Shelley



Samuel
Taylor
Coleridge



John
Keats



Walter
Scott

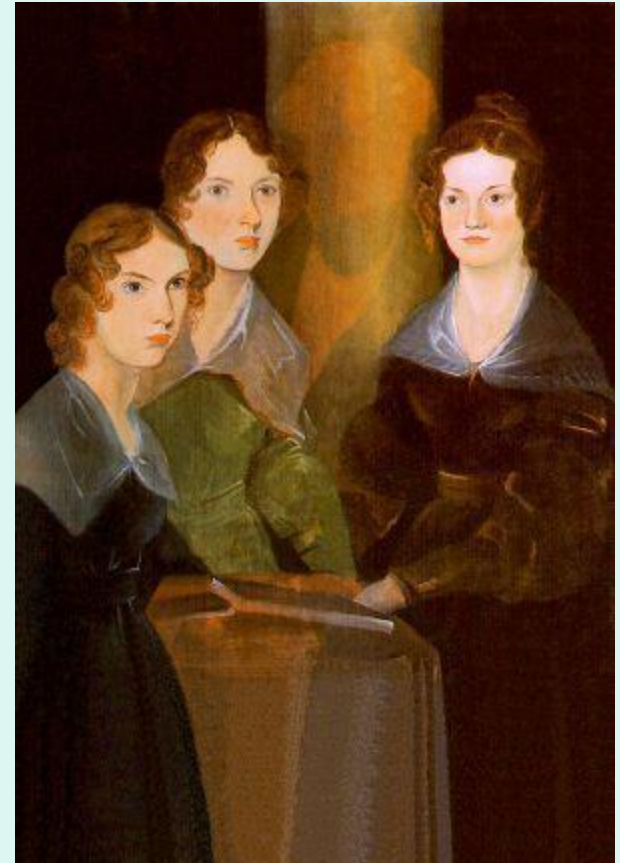
The age of classical realism in literature



**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

