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Edited by David Armitage

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BRITISH POLITICAL THOUGHT IN HISTORY, LITERATURE AND THEORY, 1500–1800

The history of British political thought has been one of the most fertile fields of Anglo-American historical writing in the last half-century. David Armitage brings together an interdisciplinary and international team of authors to consider the impact of this scholarship on the study of early modern British history, English literature and political theory. Leading historians survey the impact of the history of political thought on the 'new' histories of Britain and Ireland; eminent literary scholars offer novel critical methods attentive to literary form, genre and language; and distinguished political theorists treat the conceptual and material relationships between history and theory. The outstanding examples of critical practice collected here will encourage the emergence of new research on the historical, critical and theoretical study of the English-speaking world in the period *c.* 1500–1800. This volume celebrates the contribution of the Folger Institute to British studies over many years.

DAVID ARMITAGE is Professor of History at Harvard University. He is the author of *The Ideological Origins of the British Empire* (2000), *Greater Britain, 1516–1776: Essays in Atlantic History* (2004), and *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History* (2006), and editor of *Bolingbroke: Political Writings* for Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought (1997), *Theories of Empire, 1450–1800* (1998), and *Hugo Grotius: The Free Sea* (2004). He is also co-editor of *Milton and Republicanism* (with Armand Himy and Quentin Skinner, 1995) and *The British Atlantic World, 1500–1800* (with Michael J. Braddick, 2002).

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EDITED BY

DAVID ARMITAGE

Department of History, Harvard University

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Notes on Contributors

DAVID ARMITAGE is Professor of History at Harvard University. Among his publications are *Milton and Republicanism* (co-editor, 1995), *The Ideological Origins of the British Empire* (2000) and *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History* (2006). He is now working on a study of the foundations of modern international thought and editing John Locke's colonial writings.

NICHOLAS CANNY, MRIA, FBA, is Professor of History and Director of the Research Institute in the Humanities and Social Studies at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Among his publications are *The Elizabethan Conquest of Ireland: A Pattern Established, 1565–1576* (1976), *The Oxford History of the British Empire*, volume 1: *The Origins of Empire* (editor, 1998) and *Making Ireland British, 1580–1650* (2001). He is currently working on a study of Europe and its expanding world, 1450–1700, and editing Edmund Spenser's *View of the Present State of Ireland*.

RICHARD E. FLATHMAN is George Armstrong Kelly Professor of Political Science at The Johns Hopkins University. Among his publications are *Thomas Hobbes: Skepticism, Individuality, and Chastened Politics* (2nd edition, 2003), *Reflections of a Would-be Anarchist* (1998) and *Pluralism and Liberal Democracy* (2005).

ANDREW HADFIELD is Professor of English at the University of Sussex. Among his publications are *Shakespeare, Spenser and the Matter of Britain* (2003), *Shakespeare and Republicanism* (2005) and *The Oxford History of the Irish Book*, Vol. 3: *The Irish Book in English, 1550–1800* (co-editor, 2005). He is now working on a biography of Edmund Spenser.

TIM HARRIS is Monro–Goodwin–Wilkinson Professor in European History at Brown University. Among his publications are *Politics under*

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the Later Stuarts (1993), *Restoration: Charles II and His Kingdoms, 1660–1685* (2005) and *Revolution: The Great Crisis of the British Monarchy, 1685–1720* (2006). He is now working on a ‘prequel’ to *Restoration* and *Revolution* and on a study of prejudice in early-modern England.

JEAN E. HOWARD is William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. Among her publications are *Shakespeare’s Art of Orchestration* (1984), *The Stage and Social Struggle in Early Modern England* (1994) and *Engendering a Nation: A Feminist Account of Shakespeare’s English Histories* (co-author, 1997). Her next book will be a study of the relationship of London comedies to the changing nature of the city, 1598–1642.

DUNCAN IVISON is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto and of Philosophy at the University of Sydney. Among his publications are *The Self at Liberty: Political Argument and the Arts of Government* (1997), *Political Theory and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (co-editor, 2000) and *Postcolonial Liberalism* (2002).

COLIN KIDD is Professor of Modern History at the University of Glasgow and Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. He is the author of *Subverting Scotland’s Past* (1993), *British Identities before Nationalism* (1999) and *The Forging of Races: Race and Scripture in the Protestant Atlantic World, 1600–2000* (2006).

KIRSTIE M. MCCLURE is Associate Professor of Political Science and English at the University of California Los Angeles. Among her publications are *Judging Rights: Lockean Politics and the Limits of Consent* (1996) and *Feminist Perspectives on John Locke* (co-editor, forthcoming).

JOHN MORRILL, FBA, is Professor of British and Irish History at the University of Cambridge. Among his publications are *The Nature of the English Revolution* (1993), *The British Problem, c. 1534–1707* (co-editor, 1996) and ‘*Uneasy Lies the Head that Wears a Crown: Dynastic Crises in Tudor and Stewart Britain and Ireland, 1504–1746*’ (2005). He is now working on a study to be entitled *Living with Revolution in Seventeenth-century Britain and Ireland*.

KAREN O’BRIEN is Professor of English Literature at the University of Warwick. Among her publications are *Narratives of Enlightenment: Cosmopolitan History from Voltaire to Gibbon* (1997), ‘Poetry against

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J. G. A. POCKOCK is Harry C. Black Professor of History Emeritus at The Johns Hopkins University. Among his publications are *The Varieties of British Political Thought, 1500-1800* (co-editor, 1993), *The Discovery of Islands: Essays in British History* (2005) and *Barbarism and Religion*, 4 volumes to date (1999-2006).

GORDON SCHOCHET is Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University. Among his publications are *Patriarchalism in Political Thought* (1975), *Proceedings of the Folger Institute Center for the History of British Political Thought*, 6 volumes (co-editor, 1999-2003) and *Rights in Context* (forthcoming). He is now working on political Hebraism in early-modern Europe.

LOIS G. SCHWOERER is Elmer Louis Kayser Professor of History Emeritus at The George Washington University. Among her publications are *The Declaration of Rights, 1689* (1981), *The Revolution of 1688-1689: Changing Perspectives* (editor, 1992) and *The Ingenious Mr. Henry Care: Restoration Publicist* (2002). She is now working on a study of guns and civilians in Tudor-Stuart England.

QUENTIN SKINNER, FBA, is the Regius Professor of Modern History at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge. Among his publications are *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought*, 2 volumes (1978), *Reason and Rhetoric in the Philosophy of Hobbes* (1996) and *Visions of Politics*, 3 volumes (2002).

JOANNE H. WRIGHT is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of New Brunswick. She is the author of *Origin Stories in Political Thought: Discourses on Gender, Power and Citizenship* (2004). She is now working on a study of John Locke's midwifery notes.

STEVEN N. ZWICKER is Stanley Elkin Professor in the Humanities at Washington University. Among his publications are *Lines of Authority: Politics and English Literary Culture, 1649-1689* (1993), *Reading, Society and Politics in Early Modern England* (co-editor, 2003) and *The Cambridge Companion to John Dryden* (editor, 2004).