Technology in the Industrial Revolution

Technological change is about more than inventions. This concise history of the Industrial Revolution places the eighteenth-century British Industrial Revolution in global context, locating its causes in government protection, global competition, and colonialism. Inventions from spinning jennies to steam engines came to define an age that culminated in the acceleration of the fashion cycle, the intensification in demand and supply of raw materials and the rise of a plantation system that would reconfigure world history in favor of British (and European) global domination. In this accessible analysis of the classic case of rapid and revolutionary technological change, Barbara Hahn takes readers from the north of England to slavery, cotton plantations, the Anglo-Indian trade and beyond – placing technological change at the center of world history.

Barbara Hahn is a prize-winning author in business history and the history of technology. Her publications include Plantation Kingdom: The South and Its Global Commodities (2016), which she co-authored. She is Associate Professor of History at Texas Tech University and was the associate editor of the journal Technology and Culture.
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Barbara Hahn

Texas Tech University
For the British working people
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