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The Capital and the Colonies

Between 1660 and 1700 London established itself as the capital and commercial hub of a thriving Atlantic empire, accounting for three-quarters of the nation's colonial trade, and playing a vital coordinating role in an increasingly coherent Atlantic system. Nuala Zahedieh's unique study provides the first detailed picture of how that mercantile system was made to work. By identifying the leading colonial merchants, she shows through their collective experiences how London developed the capabilities to compete with its continental rivals and ensure compliance with the Navigation Acts. Zahedieh shows that in making mercantilism work Londoners helped to create the conditions which underpinned the long period of structural change and economic growth which culminated in the Industrial Revolution.

NUALA ZAHEDIEH is a senior lecturer in economic and social history at the University of Edinburgh. She has previously contributed to various journals and edited books of essays including *The Oxford History of the British Empire*, volume I (1998).

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107406353

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First published 2010
First paperback edition 2012

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication Data
Zahedieh, Nuala.
The capital and the colonies : London and the Atlantic economy,
1660–1700 / Nuala Zahedieh.
p. cm.
ISBN 978-0-521-51423-1 (Hardback)
1. Great Britain–Colonies–Commerce–History–17th century. 2. London (Eng.)–
Commerce–History–17th century. 3. Mercantile system–Great Britain–History–17th
century. I. Title.
HF3093.Z35 2010
330.9171′24105–dc22 2009053749

ISBN 978-0-521-51423-1 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-107-40635-3 Paperback

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To Sophie, Miranda, and Thomas

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Acknowledgements

My greatest debt is to Peter Earle who supported the portbook project which underpins this book and the Leverhulme Trust which provided the necessary funding. I am also grateful to the London School of Economics for housing the project, their computer support department for helping with the design of the database, and Dwyryd Jones for invaluable advice and price data from his own earlier work on commercial life in seventeenth-century London. Thanks go to Tim Wales, Duncan Ross, and Kelly Boyd for assistance with entering the data and Sophie Zahedieh for help with the tedious task of cleaning it up.

The subsequent work of filling out the bare picture provided by the portbooks was greatly assisted by funding from the British Academy, the University of Edinburgh, Harvard University, the John Carter Brown Library, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the Pasold Fund, which allowed me to tap rich sources in North American and Caribbean archives. All was much appreciated as was the help of staff at the many archives and libraries cited in the book.

I have been greatly helped in processing the research findings by the opportunities offered for discussion in a large number of seminars and conferences and, above all, extended stays at Harvard, Lagos, Madrid, Milan, Prato, and at Oxford in preparation of the *Oxford History of the British Empire*. I am very grateful to the organizers of all these events for my inclusion. Larry Epstein (who sadly died in 2007), Negley Harte, David Ormrod, Patrick Wallis, Paul Warde, and other regular participants in the Premodern World seminar at the Institute of Historical Research have provided repeated inspiration, insight, and steady support. Guillaume Daudin, Perry Gauci, Regina Grafe, David Hancock, David Mitchell, and Jack Price have offered valuable advice from the perspective of their own work on commerce. I thank them all. I am especially grateful to Peter Earle and Norris Nash for their kind and careful reading of earlier entire drafts and the anonymous referees for Cambridge University Press for their constructive comments. Finally, I

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want to thank Paul Laxton for producing the high-quality maps; Andrew Buurman and Serge Krouglikoff for valuable assistance with the pictures; and Hilary Scannell for help with editing, Michael Watson, and other staff at Cambridge University Press for their help and support in the production of the book.

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Abbreviations

APS	American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia
BA	Archives of Barbados, Cave Hill
BEA	Bank of England Archive
BHR	*Business History Review*
BL	British Library, London
BLO	Bodleian Library, Oxford
CMH	Centre for Metropolitan History
CSPC	*Calendar of State Papers, Colonial, America and West Indies*
CSB	*Common Serjeants' Book*
CTB	*Calendar of Treasury Books*
CLRO	Corporation of London Records Office
CUL	Cambridge University Library
EcHR	*Economic History Review*
EHR	*English Historical Review*
GL	Guildhall Library, London
HJ	*Historical Journal*
HMC	Historical Manuscripts Commission
HSP	Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
JA	Jamaica Archives, Spanish Town, Jamaica
JBMHS	*Journal of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society*
JEH	*Journal of Economic History*
JEEH	*Journal of European Economic History*
JIH	*Journal of Interdisciplinary History*
JICH	*Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*
JHR	*Jamaican Historical Review*
JHSET	*Jewish Historical Society of England Transactions*
MCD	Mayor's Court Depositions, Corporation of London Records Office
MHS	Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston

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NLJ	National Library of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica
NMM	National Maritime Museum, Greenwich
NYHS	New York Historical Society, New York
ODNB	*Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford, 2004)
PCC	Prerogative Court of Canterbury
PCSM	*Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts*
PRO	Public Record Office, London
SRO	Somerset Record Office, Taunton
TRHS	*Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*
VCH	*Victoria County History*
VMHB	*Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*
WAM	Westminster Abbey Muniments
WMQ	*William and Mary Quarterly*

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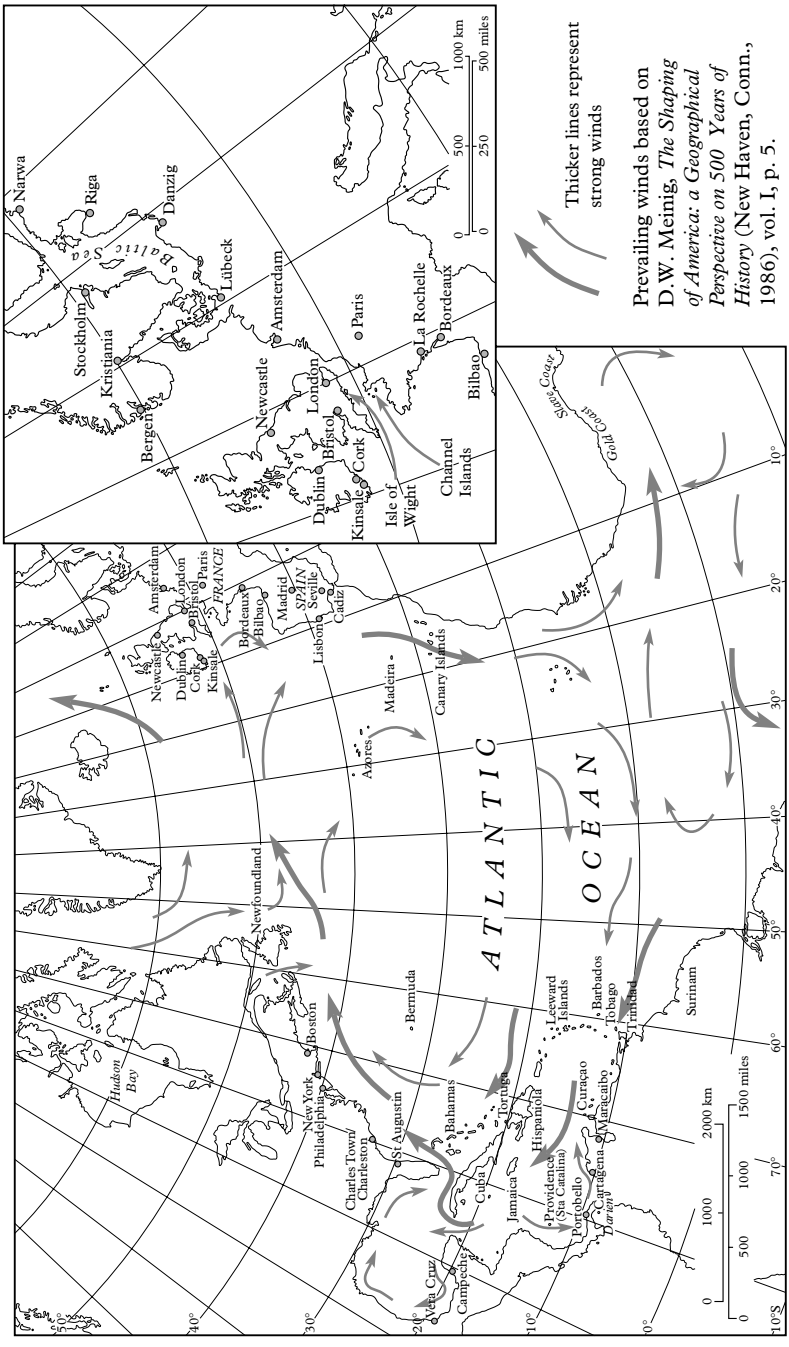

Map 1. The North Atlantic world in the late seventeenth century

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