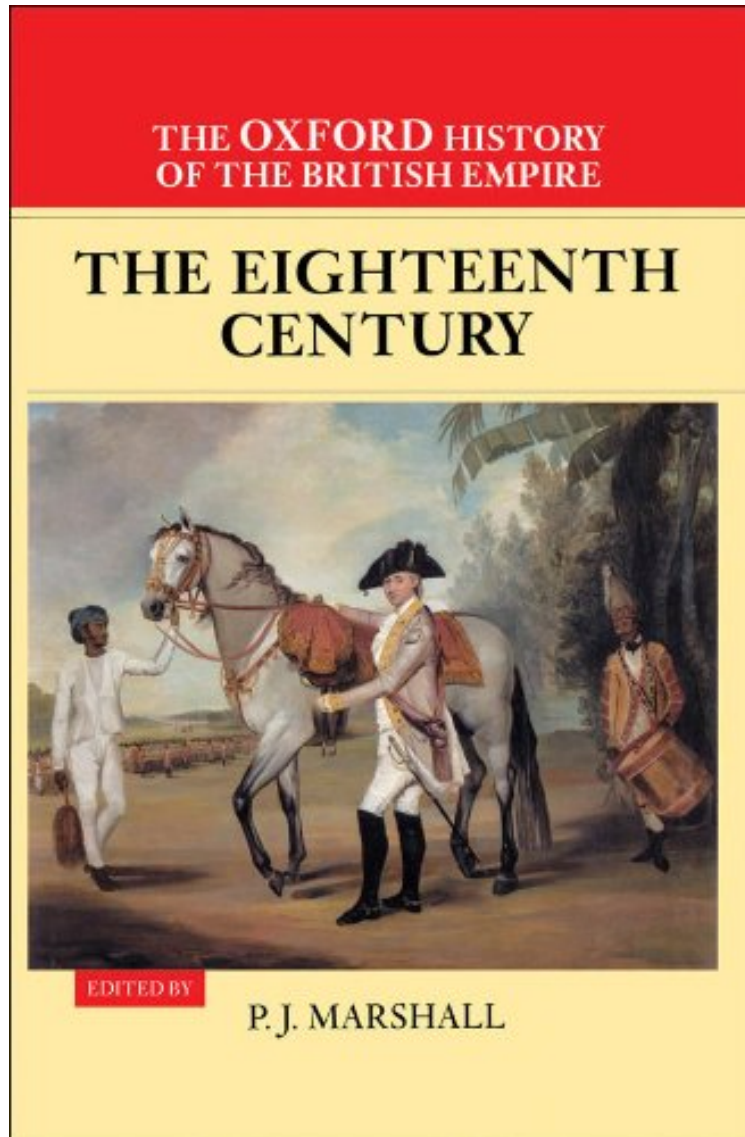


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From OUP Oxford : The Oxford History of the British Empire: Volume II: The Eighteenth Century: 2 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Oxford History of the British Empire: Volume II: The Eighteenth Century: 2:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good overview, but spotty coverageBy CustomerFor a relatively long book, the overview here is surprisingly high-level. Having gone through it, there are still important events and facets of the expanding empire that I feel I barely know anything about. A lot of this is due to the format of the book:

it's a collection of essays by various experts on different aspects of the Empire. The topics are chosen so as to give reasonably comprehensive coverage of the different areas and time periods covered, but naturally there are still plenty of gaps, as well as a few topics that get quite detailed coverage. The intended audience of the essays also plays a role: while they seem to aim at a generalist reader, they nevertheless often assume a working knowledge of the historical events that are being discussed. So you will see, e.g., Lord Clive, the revolution in Saint-Domingue, or Blenheim referred to in passing as if you certainly know what they are and why they matter. This is not a narrative history or a comprehensive introduction to the period, but you will come away knowing a fair bit about some of the aspects of the 18th-century empire.¹ of 1 people found the following review helpful. A fundamental work on the 'Long 18th Century' By Stephen Wolfrum This is an anthology of academic essays that give the reader a very insightful, hard hitting overview of the change and continuity associated with the development of England/Great Britain in the 1700's. The authors agree with the 'long 18th Century model' of European history, that is the 18th Century dates from 1688-1815. There is a very broad spectrum of essays, social, economic, military and international affairs are all examined. This is a work for an academic audience written by academics, so it is heavy reading. I noted indications that the authors were of the Atlantic Community school of thought, not nostalgic for the British Empire or American exceptionalists. The bibliographies are included at the end of every essay and provide a rich resource for students of the period, and every essay is heavily footnoted throughout. This book represents an excellent foundation for any student of history interested in this era.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent addition to a noteworthy series By Lehigh History Student The Oxford History of the British Empire fills the crucial years between the Glorious Revolution (1688) and the fall of Napoleon (1815) and how that affected and grew the various parts of the Empire. Arguably one of the most important points in British Imperial history occurred during this time period in the form of the Seven Years war which saw the addition of Canada, India and large swaths of islands added to the imperial map. This is the era when the sun came to never set on the Empire. It also was the era where the empire lost the largest amount of territory until the Post World War II decolonization movements. The book studies not only chronologically but geographically the development of empire. While there are some general chapters on trade, economies, and population shifts it really is an area study focus. From Canada and the United States, to the Caribbean to the Orient the areas are covered in detail and looked at in a variety of ways. Each of these areas is given four to five chapters and looked at from the macro perspective of the government down to the micro perspective of the people living there and their day to day interactions be they with natives or with colonial traders. Overall it is a great addition to the series and for those who are true students of the British Empire it is a must have.

Volume II of the Oxford History of the British Empire examines the history of British worldwide expansion from the Glorious Revolution of 1689 to the end of the Napoleonic Wars, a crucial phase in the creation of the modern British Empire. This is the age of General Wolfe, Clive of India, and Captain Cook. The international team of experts deploy the latest scholarly research to trace and analyse development and expansion over more than a century. They show how trade, warfare, and migration created an Empire, at first overwhelmingly in the Americas but later increasingly in Asia. Although the Empire was ruptured by the American Revolution, it survived and grew into the British Empire that was to dominate the world during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. series blurb The Oxford History of the British Empire is a major new assessment of the Empire in the light of recent scholarship and the progressive opening of historical records. It deals with the interaction of British and non-western societies from the Elizabethan era to the late twentieth century, aiming to provide a balanced treatment of the ruled as well as the rulers, and to take into account the significance of the Empire for the peoples of the British Isles. It explores economic and social trends as well as political.

"The Oxford History of the British Empire: The Eighteenth Century, vol. 2, provides a good overview of the British empire in the eighteenth century. It would be a welcome addition to any upper-level class on the history of the British empire."--Sixteenth Century Journal "It must be said immediately that its first two volumes get The Oxford History of the British Empire off to a strong start. Both books consist of essays that break new ground and do so with a confidence based on extensive research and with refreshing lucidity and frankness... These two books are likely to shock some of their readers. For example, the sentimentalized and idealized version of American history, which luxuriates in popular works and is more subtly present in much academic history, finds no favor with the contributors to these volumes." -Conor Cruise O'Brien in The New York of Books "The first two volumes of this five-volume history of the British Empire establish a very high standard of scholarship.... Recommended for all libraries."--Library Journal "Magisterial design and craftsmanship in the detail"--Daily's Telegraph (London) "Magnificent... Taken together, these books constitute an extraordinary feat of organization and scholarship, and they provide the authoritative history of the British Empire for our generation, and the essential starting point of the re-writing of that history which will take place in the next generation. Opinions differ about the British Empire; there can be no disagreement about this superb history of it." --David Cannadine in The Times Literary Supplement About the Author P. J. Marshall is Emeritus

Professor of Imperial History at the University of London.