

CM 28 mars : 13h30-15h30 Amphi Cirot

CM 04 Avril :

26 Mars et 02 Avril : 08h30-10h30 séance dissertation

### Demography and industrialization

The landed elite prevailed throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century, controlled 18<sup>th</sup> society until 1846 : repeal of the corn laws, for the landed to protect English corn and to prohibit the import of foreign corn.

The elite of society who derived their from the land they owned.

The money interest : those who derived the revenue from money : corners and industries.

The aristocracy and the gentry.

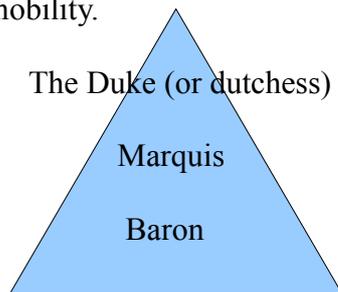
The gentry : a sort of “petite noblesse” in French, gentleman = derived from the word gentry.

Referred to the “petite noblesse”.

The apex of aristocracy = the peers. The house of peers = the House of Lords.

Heirs , only one per aristocratic family, because of the system of primogeniture : only the eldest son inherited the richness.

Several degrees of nobility.



There was a huge difference in the income of the aristocracy and of the poor.

The Duke of Devonshire had an early revenue of £ 1.810.000 whereas a daily labourers

The gentry could have an annual revenue varying from 1000 to 5000 pounds.

Poor members of the aristocracy = aristocrats who had spent all their money gambling, playing games ...

Among the clergy also huge difference between the poor local curate (£50/year) and the bishop (£ 12.000 in 1829) and the rector who was and in between owned property in the Church of England.

For the aristocracy it was a system of primogeniture. Therefore this had consequences = the youngest son had to look for some positions in society.

There would be officers in the army, no poor curate but bishops, some MP.

Not only csqces on property itself but on the whole system, the youngest son controlled the whole society and the clergy, the army and politics in general.

The landed elite was extremely limited because of that system, a number of very rich families, but

the most striking figure : there were so much land owned by so few, of a few aristocratic families. And far from losing ground, the aristocracy remained powerful until 1846. Indeed industry was not even a threat to them because agriculture remained dominant throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Aristocrats even benefited from the industrial revolution, they improved agricultural techniques, new crops introduced, the Royal Agricultural Society was set up, some aristocrats clever enough to invest in a new canals and industrial agriculture.

The Earl of Bridgewater invested in canal, in transport, a few aristocrats thus invested in the new industrial development.

Most of the wealthiest families in the Victorian era actually started their fortune at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

There was hardly any taxation for the aristocrats controlled Parliament so why would they vote any taxation against their own interest ?

Those who paid taxes were the middle-classes, or those who lived in other districts living among poor people.

Not a middle class which could be compared with the 21<sup>st</sup> century middle-class. But an emerged middle-class composed of traders, merchants, shopkeepers, teachers. In those days they were called = the “middling sorts” “middle orders”.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> century those who composed what we today call the middle-class were essentially dissenters. They were not enfranchised, no civil rights, started business, manufactures, involved in trade, those who launched the first manufactures. They were aristocrats but they didn't own land.

- The farmers :  
people in between the aristocrats who owned the land and the one who worked the land, in charge of the farm, those who recruited the daily labours, who decided their wages. They could be quite rich, a sort of go between, between the aristocrats, the poor labours and ... their income could vary between £40/year and £150/year. They were scapegoats.
- The professions :  
The public service of today. People working for the ministries, not dissenters. Lawyers, doctors, teachers, medical professionals. Doctors in those days did not have a real training , some of them no training at all. Quacks (=charlatan, swindler). Teachers : there were no secondary schools, public schools (Eton, Harrow) set up for the aristocracy, the elite, a sort of military training for instance for the youngest sons of the aristocracy. Teachers in local schools, set up in local parishes, paid very little. NO PUBLIC SYSTEM OF EDUCATION. 1817 : Forster Act : compulsory school. All the governesses, the private tutors who cared for the Aristocrats' people, quite well-paid by the aristocrats.
- The commercial interest :  
those who were involved in commerce.  
→ Merchant (= négociants) those who traded with other countries, were really more richer. The manufacturers : some very small workshops, some big manufactures, different sizes, the wealthiest people varied a lot.

The industrial bourgeoisie. Those who were really at the top were usually dissenters hence they were not represented in Parliament although they .. They were those who emancipated, and entered

Parliament in 1822. Most of the sons of aristocracy went into the army, the clergy or politics. Manufactures essentially held by dissenters.

The poor = the majority of the population. There is a difference between the poor and the paupers. The poor were the one who were really destitute, they were disable/ill. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, there were a lot of disables. Quite a lot of paupers. The poor not those who did not work, those who worked on a daily basis = daily labourers = journeymen because recruited on a daily basis. The labouring poor = those who went at work.

A real evolution from the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century until 1832 from a paternalistic attitude to a utilitarian attitude.

Paternalistic = attitude of the benevolent aristocrat who considered it was his duty to help the poor, idea that the old society considered that there was no need for systematic regulation for the poor that the aristocrat were benevolent, charitable.

The old poor laws = some regulation = they date back to Queen Elizabeth I = it depended on a local parish, the parish (religious church of England unit) as long as you had resided or at least 40 days in a parish you were entitled to poor relief. This did not encourage mobility, those poor people did not live next to the Aristocrats, those who paid the taxes were the middle-class, the inhabitants of each parish paid local taxes which were called poor taxes.

Their claim was a factor of impoverishment.

The new system = the new poor laws passed in 1834 influenced by the utilitarian approach = promoted by Jeremy Bentham who was considered as a utilitarian, those people believed that you should make sure that all regulations were useful to society. The New Poor Laws implemented a big change :

[old poor law

outdoor relief = could stay inside your home indoor relief = you had to go to a workhouse (place where poor people were sent) ]

After 1834 it became impossible to obtain poor relief if you did not go to a such workhouse, you could only claim indoor relief.

Derived from ideas such as Malthus' one.

We went to extremes, strong deterrence (dissuasions)

After 1834 you really tried hard to look for any kind of job.

A lot of hands were needed, needed workers, workers at all cost, if you sent people to workhouses, a lot of them would prefer to find a job in new factories.

You could work for 40hours a week, they would prefer to do that rather than go to workhouses.