

# STUART ENGLAND 1603-1714

## 1: The World of James Stuart





'Lovers and madman have such seething brains,  
Such shaping fantasies, that apprehend  
More than cool reason ever comprehends.  
The lunatic, the lover and the poet  
Are of imagination all compact:

One sees more devils than vast hell could hold,  
That is, the madman: the lover, all as frantic,  
Sees Helen's beauty in a brow of Egypt:  
The poet's eye in a fine frenzy rolling,  
Doth glance from heaven to earth , from heaven to earth,  
And as the imagination bodies forth  
The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen  
Turns and shapes them and gives to airy nothing  
A local habitation and a name.'

- Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1595/96)











A MOST  
Certain, Strange, and true Discovery of a  
**VVITCH.**

Being taken by some of the Parliament Forces, as she was  
standing on a small planck-board and sayling on  
it over the River of *Newbury*;

Together with the strange and true manner of her death, with  
the prophetical words and speeches she vied at the same time.



Printed by John Hammond, 1643.





James VI of Scotland  
and I of England



Anne of  
Denmark



Henry Frederick,  
Prince of Wales



Elizabeth of  
Scotland



Frederick V,  
Elector Palatine



Charles I Louis,  
Elector Palatine



Elisabeth of  
the Palatinate



Prince Rupert  
of the Rhine



Louise  
Hollandine of  
the Palatinate



Edward,  
Count Palatine  
of Simmern



Henriette Marie  
of the Palatinate



Sophia of  
Hanover



Ernest Augustus,  
Duke of Brunswick-  
Lüneburg



George I of  
Great Britain



Charles I  
of England



Henrietta Maria  
of France



Charles II  
of England



Mary, Princess  
Royal & Princess  
of Orange



William II,  
Prince of  
Orange



Anne Hyde,  
Duchess  
of York



James II  
of England



Mary of  
Modena



Princess  
Henrietta  
of England



Philippe I,  
Duke of  
Orléans



William III of Orange,  
William III of England &  
William II of Scotland



Mary II of  
England and  
Scotland



Anne of  
Great Britain



James Francis  
Edward Stuart



Maria Clementina  
Sobieska



Charles  
Edward Stuart





James VI of Scotland  
and I of England



Anne of  
Denmark



Charles I  
of England



Henrietta Maria  
of France



Henriette Marie  
of the Palatinate



Sophia of  
Hanover



Ernest Augustus,  
Duke of Brunswick-  
Lüneburg



George I of  
Great Britain



Charles II  
of England



Mary, Princess  
Royal & Princess  
of Orange



William II,  
Prince of  
Orange



Anne Hyde,  
Duchess  
of York



James II  
of England



William III of Orange,  
William III of England &  
William II of Scotland



Mary II of  
England and  
Scotland



Anne of  
Great Britain

# Introducing Stuart England

*What do you know about the Stuarts?*



# Introducing Stuart England: The Cast

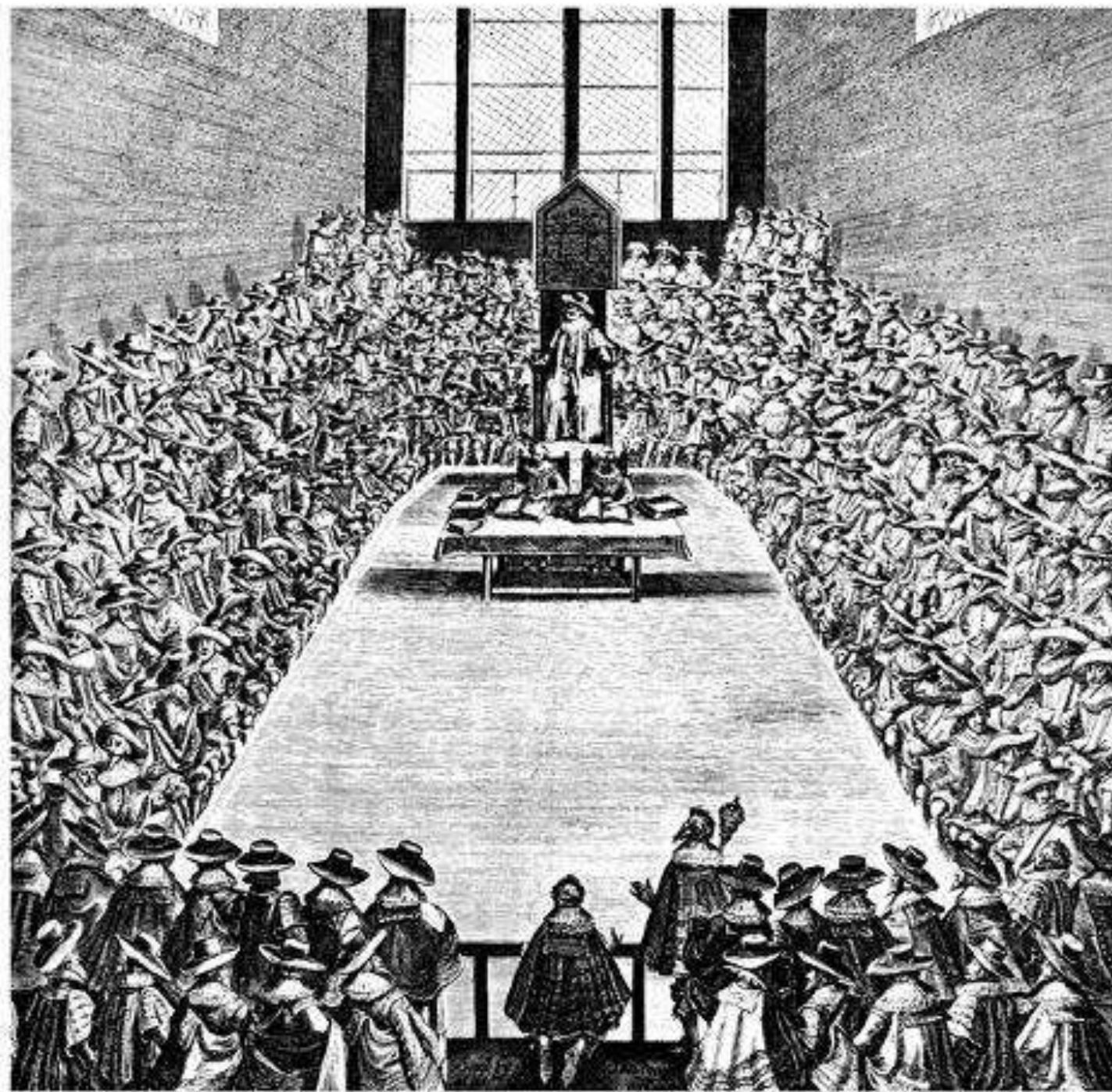
- Mary Queen of Scots
- James VI and I (1603-25)
- Charles I (1625-49)
- Oliver Cromwell
- Charles II (1660-85)
- James VII and II (1685-88)
- Mary II and William III of Orange (1689-94/1702)
- Anne (1702-14)
- George I of Hanover (1714-1727)







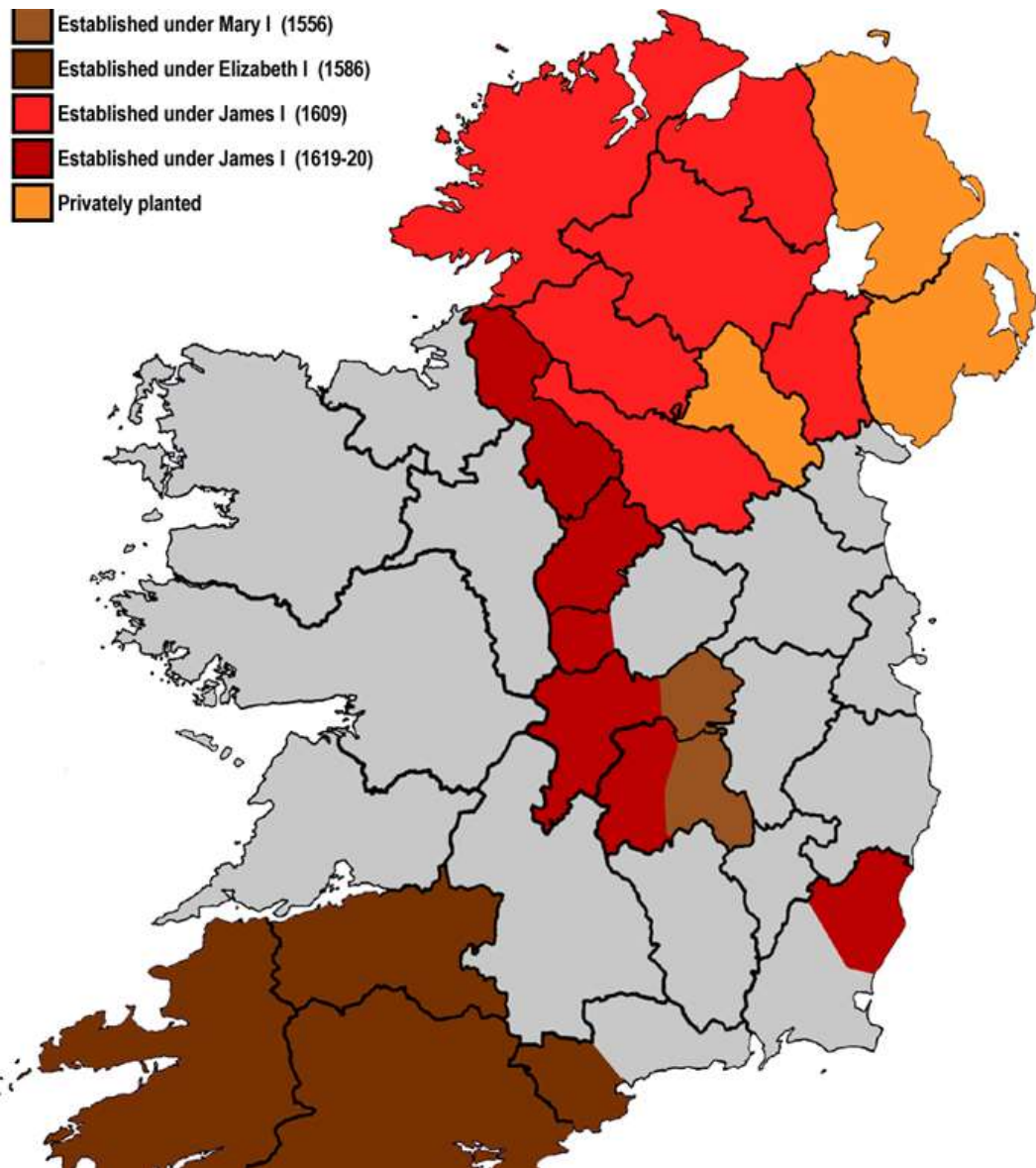










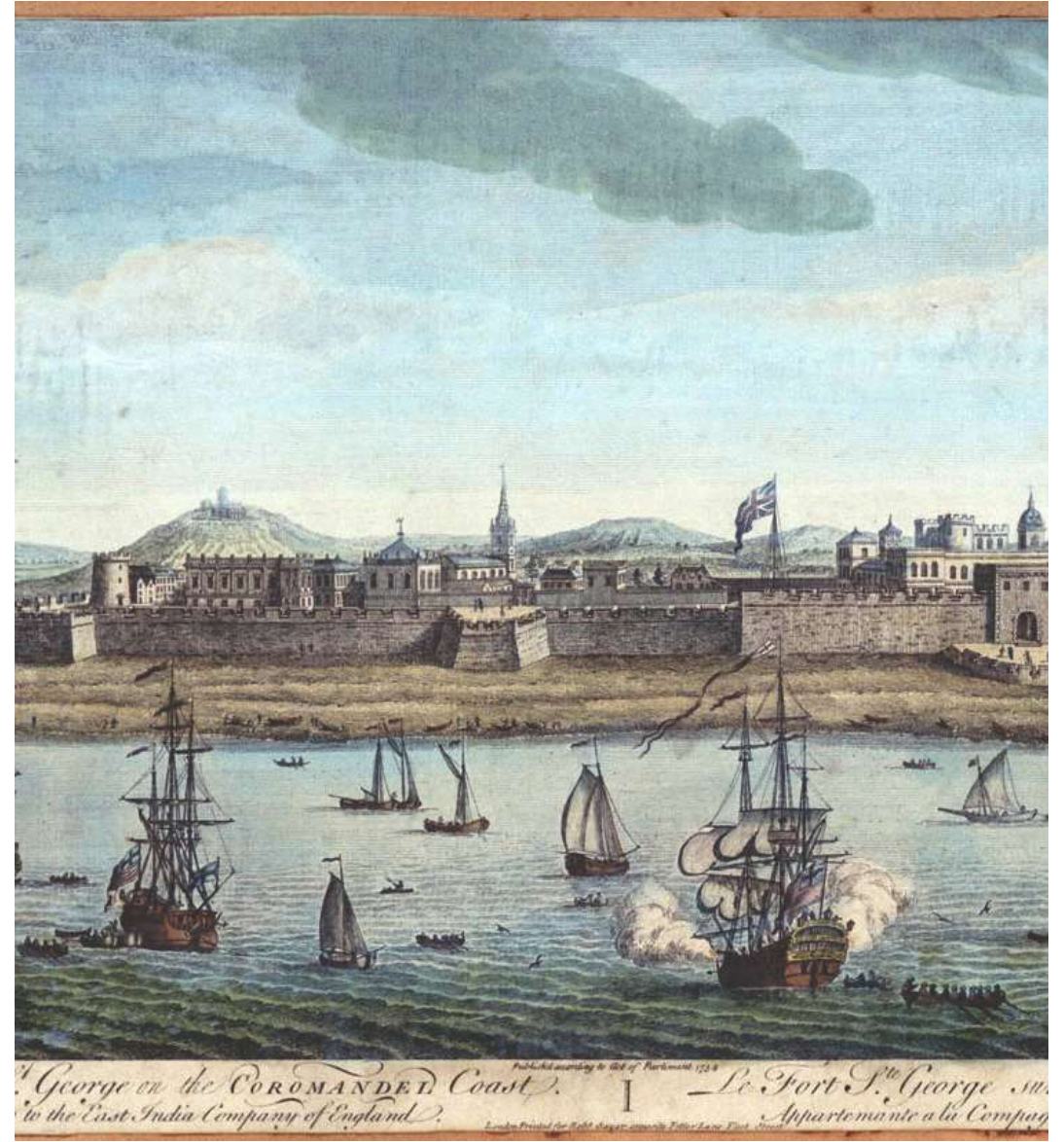




The British Colonies in North America, 1763—1775.



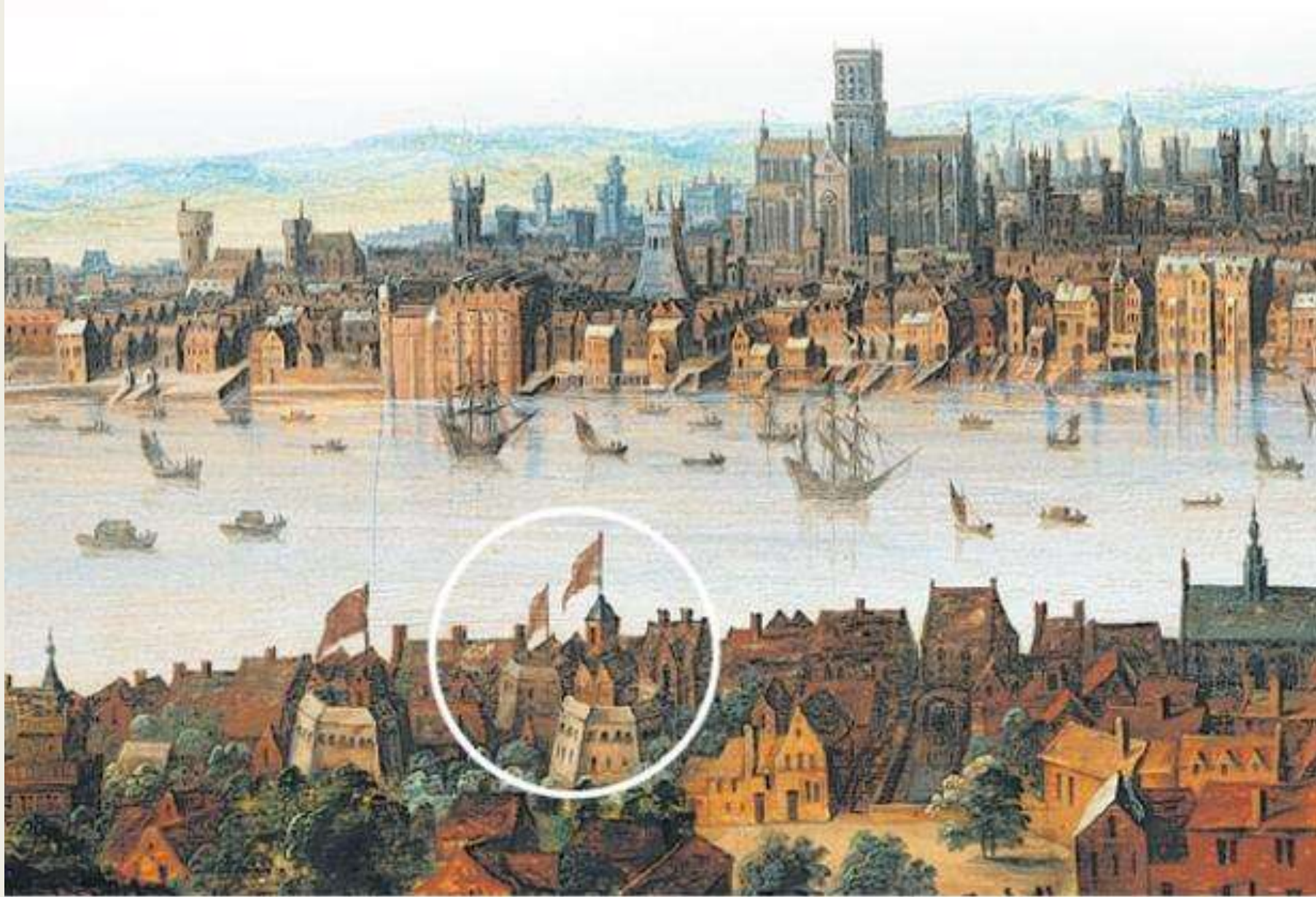












1. View of London from Southwark. Dutch school, (c.1630) 2. View of the Tower, similar period  
Above: View of London from an anonymous Dutch artist, 1600 – Shakespeare's Rose and Globe theatres ringed





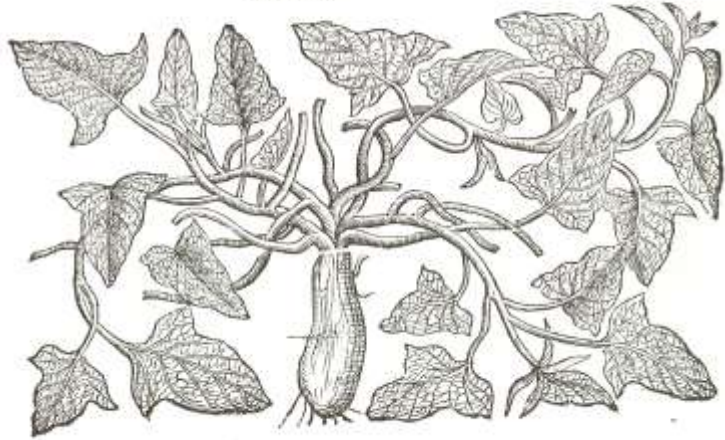






CHAP. 349. Of Potato's.

*Sisyrinchium Peruvianum*, sine Batata Hispanorum.  
Potatus, or Potato's.













- 'The years between 1603 and 1714 were perhaps the most decisive in English history' – Christopher Hill
- Richard Cromwell, born under Charles I and living into the 18<sup>th</sup> century, 'had seen the end of the Middle Ages, the beginnings of the modern world. ... Between his birth and his death the educated person's conception of nature and of man's place in nature had been transformed'



# Stuart England: life in 1603

- King governs alone and by 'divine right', appointing own ministers
- Parliament occasionally summoned to collect taxes
- England and Scotland two separate kingdoms
- Second-class world power, impoverished by recent wars with Spain
- Religious dissent and Catholicism not tolerated, often violently punished
- A largely agricultural society; though wool and cloth production count
- Society divided into the rural poor, the gentry and aristocracy
- Some urbanisation, near-exclusively in London; buildings largely timber
- East India Company formed 1601, some initial colonisation in America



# End of Stuart England: life in 1714

- King George I appointed at the discretion of Parliament
- Parliament in continuous session, controlling government, foreign policy & tax
- The United Kingdom of Great Britain (and Ireland)
- The major world power, with an empire in America, Africa and Asia
- Religious dissent now tolerated, Jews return, but not Catholicism
- Increasingly urban, industrialising society; most rural land now enclosed
- Tea, coffee, sugar, tobacco and potatoes, gin and port
- Pottery and glass replace pewter and wood in eating; linen and silk replace leather in clothing
- Scientific Revolution: from Bacon to Newton and the Royal Society



# Stuart England: key dates

1603 – James I of England

1605 – Gunpowder Plot

1625 – Charles I

1629 – Charles dissolves Parliament and rules for 11 years

1641 – Civil War

1649 – Charles I executed; Commonwealth established

1660 – Charles II proclaimed king by Parliament

1666 – Great Fire of London; decline of plague

1685 – James II

1688 – William of Orange lands in England; 'Glorious Revolution'

1702 – Queen Anne

1707 – Act of Union between England and Scotland

1713 – Treaty of Utrecht: Great Britain now Europe's major power



# Introducing Stuart England

*What would you like to get out of the course?*







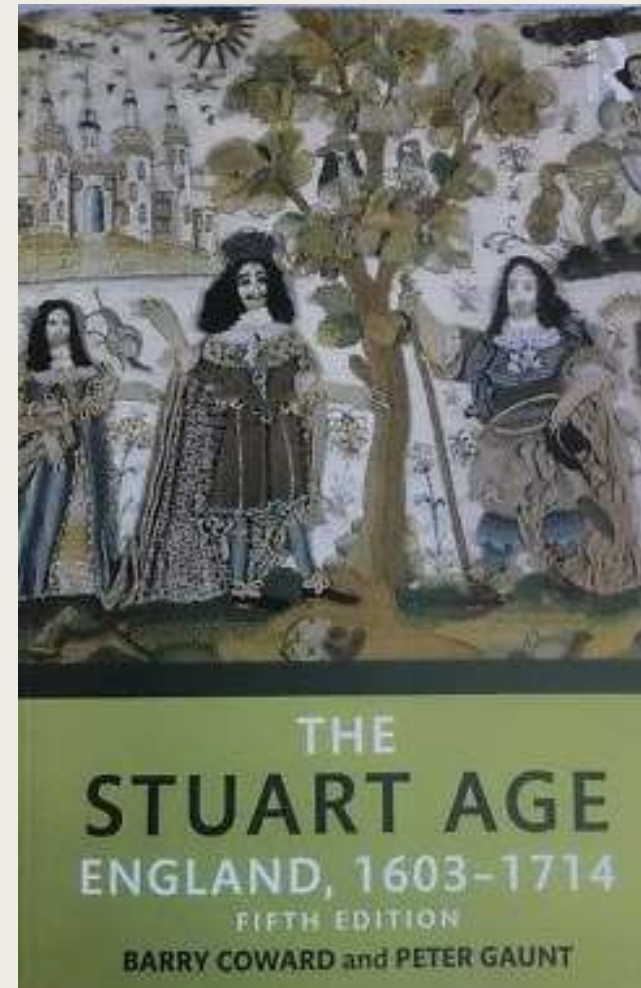
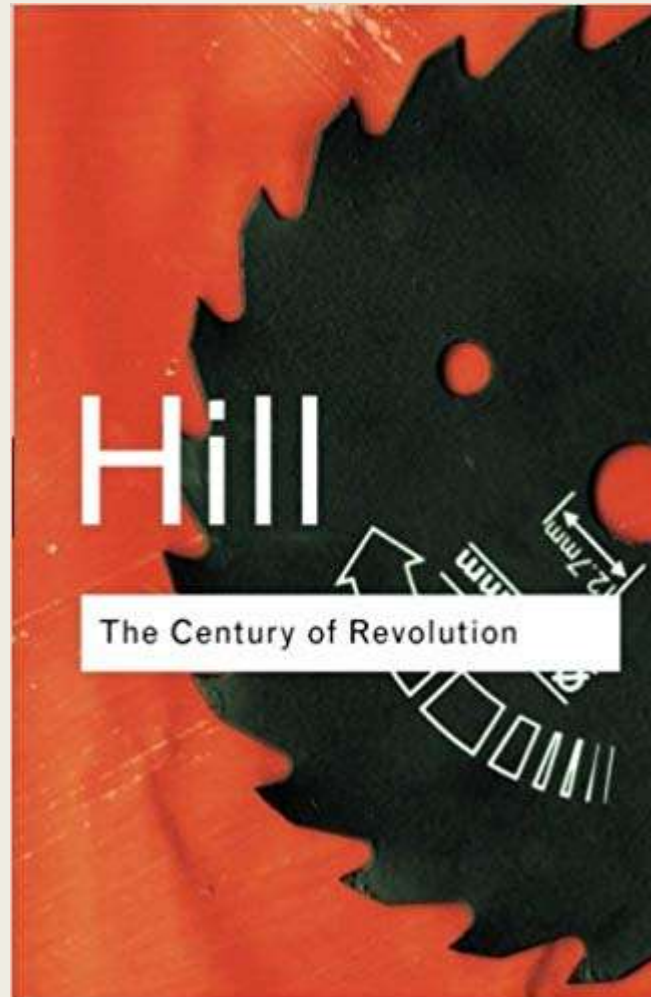








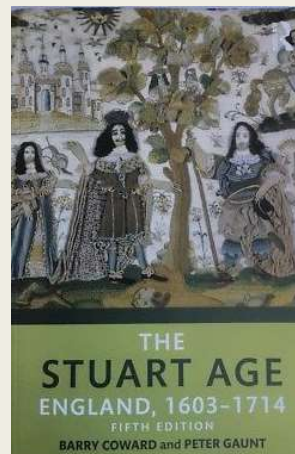
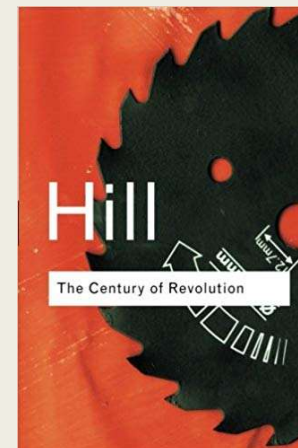
# What you'll need





# What you'll need

- Read one of the set chapters for each class
- Ask me questions along the way: [dan.taylor@lawrence.edu](mailto:dan.taylor@lawrence.edu)
- Keep an ear out for what fascinates you





# Assessment

1. London journal entry (10%) – 500 word account of your impressions of Stuart London, using three primary sources
2. Midterm (30%) – write a 1000 word essay on a topic and question of your choice, based on the content of the first half of the course.
3. Paper (30%) – research and write a 500 word critical account of a primary source on Stuart England e.g. art, music, architecture
4. Final (30%) – write either a 1000 word essay on a question of your choice, based on the content of the second half of the course.







# James VI and I in a nutshell

- First king to rule the kingdoms of Scotland (1567-1625) and England (1603-25)
- Rule largely defined by peace, though faces the Gunpowder Plot at home
- Talented scholar and patron of the arts; sponsors the King James Bible
- Begins colonisation of Ireland and America
- Believer in the 'divine right' of kings, often ruling without parliament
- Lavish spender, selling crown lands and honours to cover debts







# Succession

- King of Scotland aged 1 (1567), after his mother, Mary Queen of Scots, and a Catholic, abdicated
- That same year, his father was murdered and mother executed
- After rule by regents, James took the throne, marrying Anne of Denmark in 1589 and having eight children, including two sons
- Then Elizabeth I of England, childless, dies in 1603...
- James was a good candidate: related via Henry VIII's sister Margaret, but brought up Protestant, with scholarly leanings
- Smooth succession. James was popular, but inherited a country £400,000 in debt through wars with Spain and Ireland...





# Divine right

Take a look at the excerpt and discuss:

- What characterises James' philosophy of government?
- What potential conflicts could arise from such a view?



‘The state of monarchy is the supremist thing upon earth; for kings are not only God’s lieutenants upon earth, and sit upon God’s throne, but even by God himself they are called Gods. ... **Kings are justly called gods for they exercise a manner or resemblance of divine power upon earth**, for if you will consider the attributes to God you shall see how they agree in the person of a king. God hath power to create or destroy, make or unmake, at his pleasure; to give life or send death, to judge all and be judged not accountable to none; to raise low things and to make high things low at his pleasure; and to God are both soul and body due. And the like power have kings.’ – James I to Parliament, 21 March 1610





# Divided kingdoms: religion

- In 1603, England was a largely Protestant, Calvinist country, ever since Henry VIII changed the national religion and headed the new Church of England
- But there remained powerful internal critics: Puritans, who believed the national church had not gone far enough, and wanted the abolition of bishops...
- More importantly, a powerful internal opposition of Catholics
- While James was a relatively tolerant king, one of his first steps was to clamp down on Catholicism – increasing punishments for those who didn't pay recusancy fees (you were fined for not attending CofE services)
- While peace with Spain, though unpopular, signalled to Catholics that Spanish military support was now lacking. In desperation, plotters gathered...

CONCILIVM SEPTEM NOBILIVM ANGLORVM CONIVRANTIVM IN NECEM IACOBI ·I·  
MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ REGIS TOTIVSQ ANGLICI CONVOCATI PARLEMENTI ·



Vides Spectator humanissime .hic expressas effigies septem Anglorum .qui Regem suum cum principibus Status Anglici Præcibus ad Parlamentum .ut vocant conuocatis .pulvere tormentario simul horrendo modo in ipsa domo Parlamentis euertere valuerunt . Cuius Coniurationis nefandæ Auctores fuere imprimis Robertus Catesby . & Thomas Percy . qui sibi deinde adiungere alios . videlicet . Thomam & Robertum Winter . Guidonem Faukes . Iohannem & Christopherum Wright quibus denum accessit Bates Roberti Catesby Famulus . Sed conuocatione hac Diuina providentia & clementia decem antea . horumque futurum Cessatione Parlamenti detecta . & Coniuratis persecutus ex ijs Robertus Catesby & Thomas Percy iclu scilicet petri perire & eorum Capita domui Parliamenti in perpetuum rei memoriam impigra cæteri . cum multis alijs . qui eandem in rem conspirarunt adhuc captiui detinentur . dignam facinoræ sententiam expectantes .

Icy se voient les effigies des sept Seigneurs Anglois lesquels de façon nouvelle et fort Horrible on attente contre le Roy et son estat ains entrepris p mines et quantité de poudre de faire Saillir sa Maies te avec les premiers Du Royaume et principaux officiers estans en parlement a Westminster les premiers auteurs de la dñte conspiration . Sont . Robert Catesby et Thomas Percy . auxquels depuis adjoindit Thomas et Robert Winter . Guido Faukes Jean et Christophe Wright . et depuis encor le Seruiteur dudit Catesby appelle Bates Mais estante la dñte Conspiration decouuerte p la grace et providence de Dieu . enuon des heures deuant l'assemblée et assiette dudit parlement et les dñstes Conspirateurs poursuuis lesdñs premiers auteurs Catesby et Percy sont es le attains et tues de Harquebuzade leurs testes coupées et portées a Westminster et posées la maison du parlement en memoire de l'acte de ces Fable Restans avec plusieurs autres trouues Couppables dudit fait sont encor prisonniers . attendans l'arrest du Parlement condigne a leurs merites .

Hie habt ihr gunstiger Leser . etliche nemlich . der furnemsten Engellander . Welche ohnlangst ihren König samt dem gantzen Parlament mit Buchsen . pulser schrocklicher Weis zuvertilgen surgenommen nach dem leben abgebildet . vnd sind diese : Robert Catesby . vnd Thomas Percy . so noch andere hernach zusehen gezogen . nemlich Thomas vnd Robert Winter . Guido Faukes . Iohn vnd Christopher Wright . neben Bates Catesbys Diener . nachdem aber die Verrathery entdeckt . sind Ro . Catesby vnd Percy vonden so sie verfolgt erschossen . vnd ihre Haupter auff das Parlaments hauss gesetzt worden : die andere aber so noch gefähe . habē nach ihrē verdienst lohn zuerwarten



# The Gunpowder Plot (1605)

- Disaffected English Catholics, led by Robert Catesby, planned to blow up the House of Lords during the state opening of parliament, killing James I, most of the governing Privy Council and bishops
- They would then kidnap James I's daughter Elizabeth and place her on the throne as a puppet ruler, re-establishing Catholicism...
- Anonymous tip-off – authorities search the cellars, finding Guy Fawkes guarding 36 barrels of gunpowder...
- Plotters fled, making a last stand. Survivors tortured and executed
- = Punitive anti-Catholic legislation and popular hostility, though a state conspiracy ?







# Rex pacifica

Take a look at the next excerpt now, where James outlines another part of his philosophy of government

- What characterises the method of this self-styled 'king of peace'?
- How does it sit alongside the more dogmatic king of 'divine right'?
- What might the benefits be of pursuing this kind of policy?



*Israel ex. Cum Priuileg. Reg.*

*A la fin ces Voleurs infames et perdus ,  
Comme fruits malheureux a cet arbre pendus*

*Monstrent bien que le crime (horrible et noire engeance)  
Est luy mesme instrument de honte et de vengeance ,*

*Et que cest le Destin des hommes vicieux  
Desprouuer tost ou tard la iustice des Cieux . 1)*





# The three kingdoms under James I

- James' early government ran fairly smoothly, retaining experienced Elizabethan ministers like Robert Cecil
- Achievements: peace with Spain (1604) and non-involvement in the Thirty Years' War (1618-48) = economic recovery
- James' ambition: unite the kingdoms of England and Scotland into one, Great Britain, but the English parliament refused
- Anti-Scottish prejudices: James' appointed lots of Scottish nobles to high positions, in particular Robert Carr, and Henry Howard
- Soon his household costs spiralled out of control...





# Politics and government

- By 1610, James struggling to borrow enough to pay for his household costs, while inflation and economic mismanagement soared
- His Treasurer, Thomas Egerton, came up with 'The Great Contract':
- Parliament would give the king £200k per year to live on, in exchange for giving up some of his feudal rights
- Eventually refused, fearing loss of power over the nobles
- Thereafter he attempted to govern without Parliament, disastrously
- As his debts soared, James sold honours like 'baronets' and earldoms to the highest bidder, as well as crown lands and monopolies
- = further economic decline, with courtiers siphoning off most cash

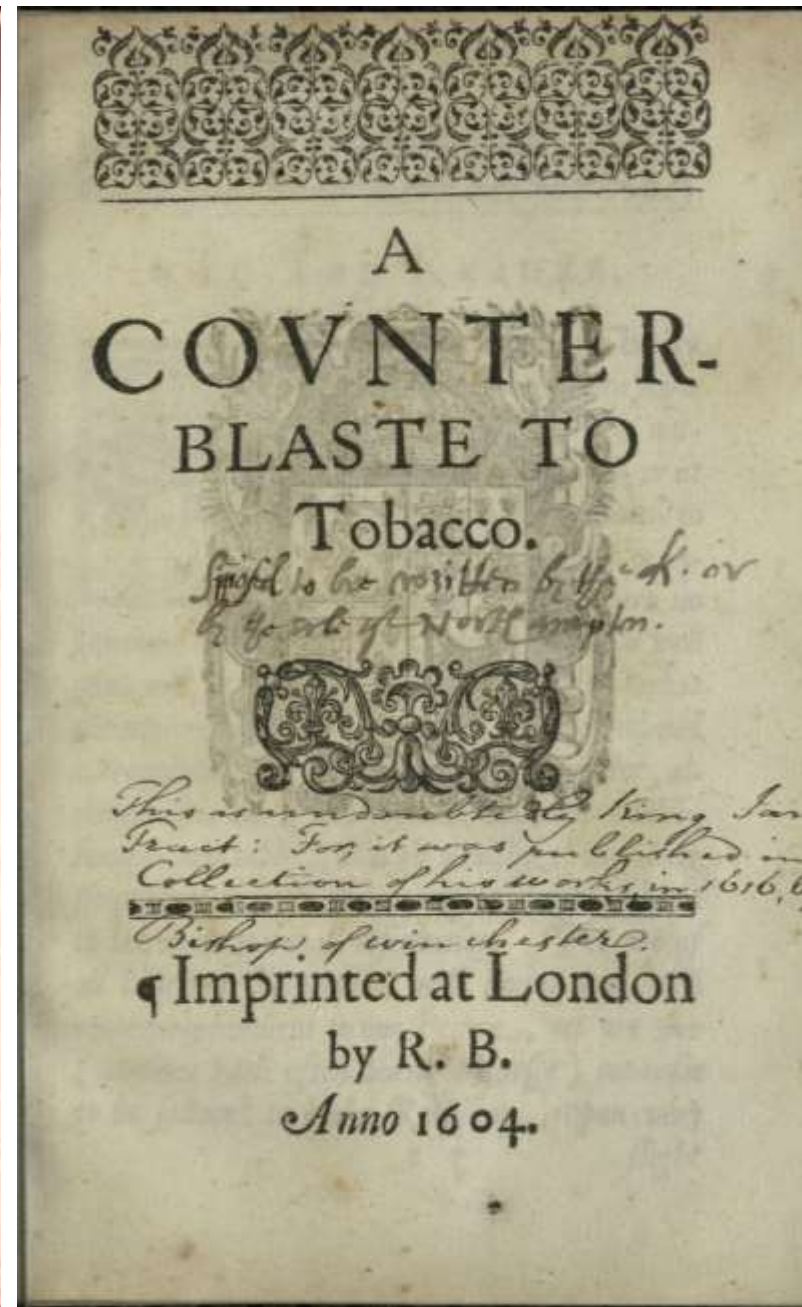
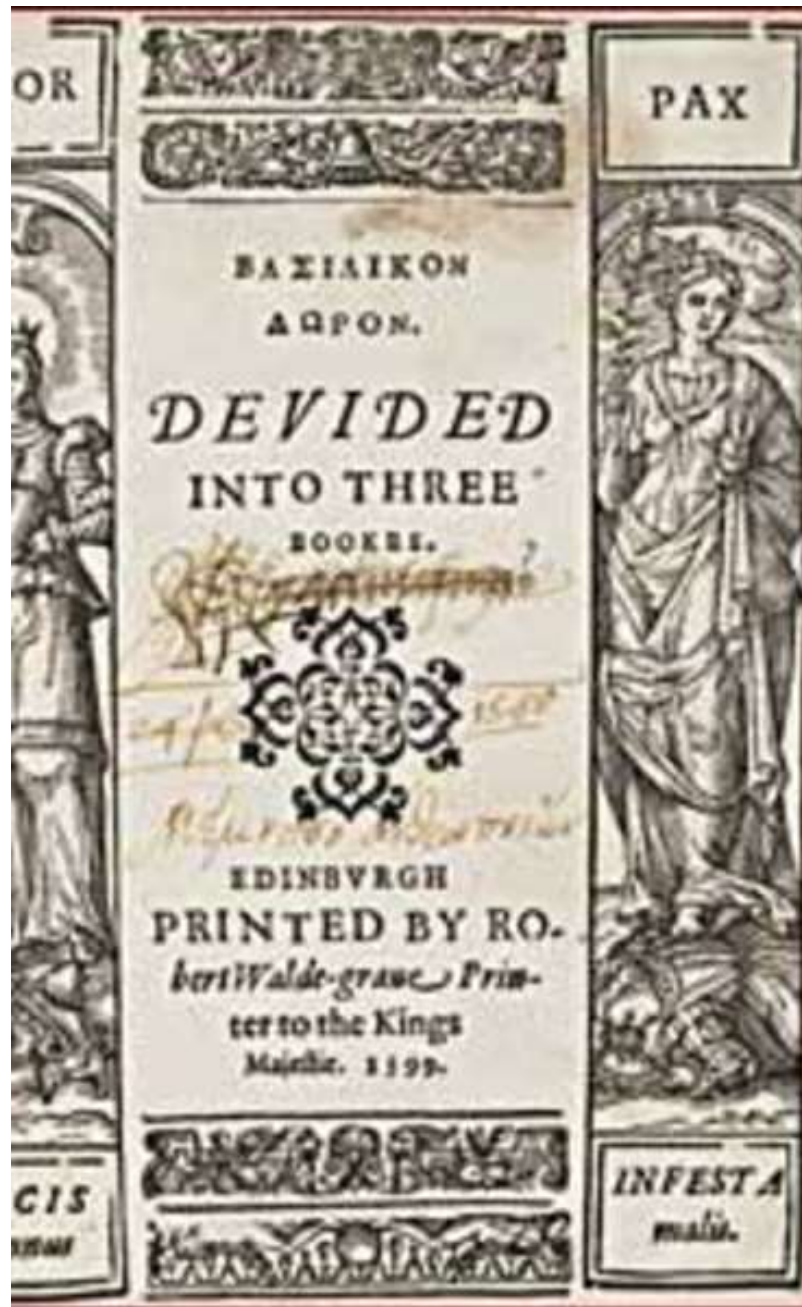
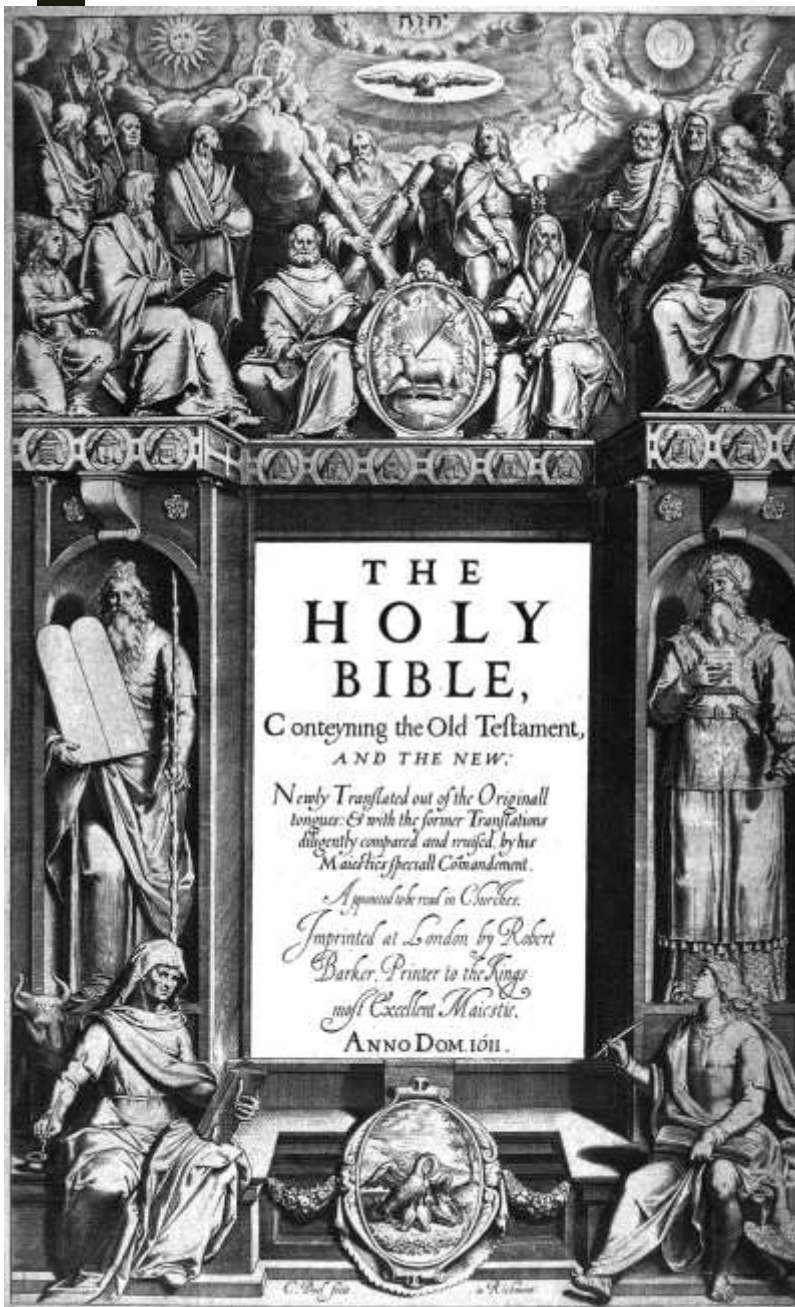




# The Thomas Overbury scandal

- Later years: growing unpopularity
- Robert Carr, had allied with the Howard faction. In 1613, he married the newly-divorced Frances Howard in dubious circumstances...
- His friend Thomas Overbury was opposed to the marriage, and died in mysterious circumstances in the Tower in 1613
- 1615: poisoning was revealed, led by the Howards and Carr
- James was directly implicated, and the scandal harmed his reputation
- His final years were marked by senility and further corruption under a new personal favourite, George Villiers Earl of Buckingham
- His failure to secure his son's marriage to the Spanish Infanta led to a new outbreak of war with Spain in 1625...





# Scholar and patron

- *The Essayes of a Prentise in the Divine Art of Poesie* (1584)
- *Daemonologie* (1597)
- *Basilikon Doron* (1599)
- *A Counterblaste to Tobacco* (1604)
- King James Bible (1611)
- Patron of painters like Anthony van Dyck and Daniel Mytens, and fond of the theatre
- Shakespeare renamed his company 'The King's Men' in his honour
- Ben Jonson, John Donne and Francis Bacon also flourish





# Evaluating James I

‘The wisest fool in Christendom’? Take a look at the two excerpts and the two images and discuss in pairs:

- How effective was James I as a monarch?
- What were his successes? How did he style himself?
- What problems might he have stored up for his son, Charles I?



# Wednesday: National Portrait Gallery

- Field trip! Meet at the entrance of the National Portrait Gallery this Wednesday (8<sup>th</sup> January) at **13:45**
- We'll explore the art of James I and that of the Stuarts
- I'll also introduce you to some of the wider cast of Stuart England
- In advance, please visit the library and finish a couple of the readings on the syllabus
- If you're running late etc, give me a text: 07784 084754

