Raine's Schools.
HISTORY HOMEWORKS

Undated   The Whig Ascendancy – Geo I
19.09.38  Untitled, but similar to the above
26.09.38  The Rise of British Naval Power in the Mediterranean
03.10.38  The Rise of the Cabinet System
08.10.38  Foreign Affairs (1713-1740)
15.10.38  The Influence at Work in India and America which made the Seven Years’ War a World-wide Struggle
24.10.38  The Immediate Results of George III’s Accession
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14.11.38  The Effects of the American War upon the Rest of the World
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The Whig ascendancy – Geo I

Act of Settlement
German King – Ministers of State & the Cabinet
Treaty of Utrecht
State of Europe

As by the Act of Settlement, passed towards the close of the reign of Wm III 1701 it was provided that none but a Protestant should succeed to the throne it followed that on the death of Anne 1714, Geo, Elector of Hanover was the next candidate of Royal blood. The Tories, however, favored the Old Pretender who was a Catholic. This put them in the wrong as concerned the Law and made the Whigs the champions of the Law and of the Protestant Succession. To be a Patriot, therefore, one had to be a Whig.

The new monarch was German by birth & training & could not speak English. This gave the statesmen who supported him, viz the Whigs, a very strong position not only in court but in the offices of State, for the King could not govern without their advise. This state of affairs led to Geo absenting himself from the Council. A Chairman became necessary & this led on to the final establishment of a Cabinet with the Prime Minister (a new office) as Chairman.

All this helped to place the Whigs in a very strong position, for any one who wanted to be thought a Patriot, or who wished to gain office either in Church or State, joined their party.

Further although the Tories had negotiated the Treaty of Utrecht 1713, yet under these circumstances, it was the Whigs who had the task of carrying it out. England had gained many commercial advantages, particularly in the Spanish colonial trade, and the Dutch had finally dropped behind in merchantile expansion because, in the late War (Spanish Succession), their recourses had all been reserved for land defence. Therefore, the Whigs gained the credit of the increased business which followed upon the Treaty. One side of this business led to the South Sea Boom which was a sign in the first place of increasing prosperity, for people had money to invest.

On the continent some nations were anxious to keep to the Treaty of Utrecht. Others particularly Spain were anxious to break it. Of course, the Whigs were anxious to keep commercial supremacy so they were pro-Treaty. This enabled them to pose as peacemakers, which helped their cause still further, for in Anne’s reign they had been accused of being warmongers.

Thus with the King on their side, the chief Offices of Church & State in their hands, all Court Patronage coming to their friends & family relations, & the merchant classes in favour of keeping the T of Utrecht the Whigs were in an impregnable position throughout the reign of Geo.I.

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The Whig ascendancy - Sec I.

Act of Settlement:

German King. ministers of state in the cabinet.

Treaty of Utrecht.

State of Europe.

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George I (1714-1727), being a German, was ignorant of English and English politics. He therefore left his political work to his Whig Ministers. These ministers were prominent men, but no one of them was as superior to his colleagues as to be Prime Minister.

Lord Townshend was secretary of State, with Lord Stanhope as his associate. Sir Robert Walpole was Paymaster of Chelsea Hospital, then Paymaster General, and in 1715, First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer. Marlborough was re-appointed captain general, but he was of no political
importance.

Their first move was to take vengeance upon the Tories. Against Bolingbroke and Ormond, Acts of Attainder were passed. Harley was impeached and put in the Tower.

Although there was a Whig majority in Parliament, the Tories might easily have gained power at the next election. Under the Triennial Act no Parliament could last more than three years, so the Whigs took the unusual step of passing the Septennial Act (1716) enabling them to remain in power for seven years.

The European position was far from satisfactory. The Treaty of Utrecht (1713) had left Great Britain isolated and her former
allies indignant. Holland was dissatisfied, the Emperor was angry because Philip was made King of Spain. France might begin a war of revenge, and the Whigs were so dissatisfied that they thought of renewing the war. Wiser counsels prevailed, however, and their policy was based on the Peace of Utrecht.

In 1719 the Peerage Bill was brought forward which was easily passed in the House of Lords, but was met with fierce opposition from the Walpolean Whigs in the House of Commons. The Bill proposed that 6 new English Peers and 25 new Scottish peers should be appointed. They would, of course, all be Whig ministers, thus enabling the Whigs to dig
themselves well in, so that they would keep in power. It would also have strengthened the Lords at the expense of the Commons. The Bill was, of course, rejected.

After the conclusion of peace with Spain, Walpole & Townshend resumed office. The first Whig schism was thus healed and the party once more became reunited. Before the end of 1780, the fall of Stanhope, in consequence of the South Sea Bubble, left Walpole and Townshend at the head of the Government.

This has thus all helped the Whigs to keep in power.
The Rise of British Naval Power in the Mediterranean

1. Cromwell first sent fleet to Mediterranean.
2. Charles II sent Tangiers troops.
3. HMS... too busy. Suffered losses.
4. Anne - Gibraltar.

In the middle of the seventeenth century, pirates made themselves a nuisance in the Mediterranean Sea, and as the British merchants were suffering heavy losses, Cromwell sent a fleet there to subdue them. Here, he was faced with a disadvantage - we had no naval base nearby. So that if a ship needed
repairing or refitting, it had to go to Plymouth, as this was its nearest base.

When Charles II came to the throne, he did not care a scrap about a Mediterranean fleet, but to make himself powerful he fortified Tangiers. Near the end of his reign, soldiers were needed in England so Charles recalled his troops and blew up his fortifications. Britain's naval power was no further established by this, and William III did not help it in any way.

When he came to the throne, he was busy with international affairs to support the fleet in the Mediterranean. Thus the
fleets suffered heavy losses. In 1704, however, Gibraltar was taken with very little resistance, and we then had a naval base. When Spain tried to take it they were easily beaten at the Battle of Cape Passero (1718). We were now a naval power in the Mediterranean.

Thus it took four reigns to establish a naval power in the Mediterranean. Cromwell’s, who could not without a base—Charles’s and William’s, who were too busy—and Anne’s, who finally succeeded.
The rise of the cabinet system

- Responsibility of ministers under the Stuarts
- The cabal
- Whigs and Tories
- William and "Mrs. W."
- Sacheverell
- Sec. 1 alters rule concerning chairman of ministers

Summary: foreigner, woman, foreigner

The cabinet was not a thing that was organised in a day. It grew up very gradually, and took seven reigns in which to be finally established.

James I was intelligent, but not
in the sense that he knew what to do when a political situation arose, so he relied upon Bacon for advice. All the other Stuart sovereigns did likewise, Charles I obtaining his information from Lord and Wentworth, and Charles I from Hyde and Danby.

Charles II, however, did not rely so much upon his ministers as the did upon the babal, mnemonical name formed from the initials of its members: Clifford, Arlington, Buckingham, Ashley, Cooper and Lauderdale. These men had no official standing, but were just favourites of the king. They never met together to discuss business but were asked individually. It was through them that the
Secret Treaty of Dover (1670) was negotiated.

Three years later Titus Oates invented a "Popish Plot", thus turning the public against the Roman Catholics. Shaftesbury (né Ashley-Cooper) used this scare to bring forward an Exclusion Bill, which proposed that nobody who was a Roman Catholic could become king. Charles resisted this because he was a Roman Catholic secretly, and because the heir to the throne, his brother, was a Roman Catholic as well. Thus, two parties were formed, the Whigs and the Tories. The Whigs favoured the Bill, and the Tories opposed it. The Whigs were scattered and the Bill was never passed.
After the Glorious Revolution (1688) so called because there was no blood shed, William III was called upon to rule by both parties. Thus he had to choose one to rely upon, and displease the other. Finally he chose the Whigs, but still had his own ministers: Montague, Russell, Somers and Wharton. Montague looked after the Bank of England; Russell, the Navy; Somers, the law; and Wharton was adviser where the House of Commons was concerned.

Anne kept this policy at home, but abroad she was busy with the War of the Spanish Succession. She left this mainly to Marlborough, however, and as the Tories were friendly towards France being
Jacobites), Marlborough relied upon the Whigs. Thus one party is in power, and the other in opposition. The trial of Dr. Sacheverell (1719) showed Anne that the Whigs were not all powerful, and a general election brought the Tories to power.

George I, being a German, was not able to be chairman of his ministers. Thus, the ministers met with no royal interference, and did as they thought fit. This is what we today call the cabinet.

Through all these reigns, the king has relied upon somebody to advise him, and when two parties were formed, he had to rely upon one party. So, whichever party is
in power, the king relies upon their advise.
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<td>Trade Concession to England ✓</td>
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One clause in the Treaty of Utrecht (1713) stated that one British ship should be allowed to trade with the natives of Spanish America each year for thirty years. It is obvious that this ship made advantage of this, and brought back as much as possible, and it is equally obvious to see that the Spaniards did not agree with this. So after the thirty years were passed (1743) Spain, if strong
enough, would go to war with Britain in order to compensate her losses.

The actual outbreak of war was 1739, and was partly caused by the cutting off of a British seaman's ear. As his name was Jenkins, the war is sometimes alluded to, as the War of Jenkins Ear.

During this century England, or her colonies, became involved in many wars, among which were the War of the Austrian Succession (Austria and England versus Prussia, France and Spain), the Seven Years' War, and the American War of Independence. This denotes that the colonies were becoming important. England and Spain
were at war in the colonies, when Charles VI died (1740). Before he died, he drew up a Pragmatic Sanction which declared that the Austrian dominions should never be broken up, and that his eldest daughter, Maria Theresa, should succeed to all of them. He persuaded nearly all of the European powers to guarantee this, but they nearly all broke it after he died.

The lead was taken by Frederick the Great, who was then King of Prussia, who attacked Austria. George II preferred Austria to Prussia, and so he became allied to Austria. France and Spain joined Prussia. George personally commanded the army.
and won a victory over France at Dettingen (1743). This was followed by the Battle of Fontenoy, which stunned the French for a time, but they countered the blow by starting a Jacobite revolt in Scotland in 1745. This compelled most of the English troops to withdraw.

The capture of forresses then became easy for the French, but at last peace was declared in 1748.

George II’s reign, therefore was not a peaceful one, for even if England herself was not at war, there was trouble in the colonies.
The Influences at Work in India and America which made the Typs Wat a world wide struggle

| India:
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<td>1. C. I. C. O.</td>
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<td>2. James I makes peace with Spain: Swat.</td>
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<td>3. Dutch spoil E. I. Trade.</td>
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<td>4. E. I. C. develops 3 great Centres.</td>
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<td>5. Duplex captures Madras but is restored 2 yrs later.</td>
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<th>America: (N. C.)</th>
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<td>1. Louisburg - Acadie fortified</td>
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<td>2. Captured but restored 3 yrs later.</td>
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<td>3. Halifax made naval base.</td>
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<td>4. F. evacuate Acadie.</td>
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<th>America: (S. C.)</th>
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<td>1. Virginians cross Alleghanies.</td>
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The Seven Years' War took a long time to ripen. To trace the beginning one has to go back to Elizabeth's reign. In 1600 the East India Co. was founded, and although England held the supremacy of the sea, the English were still reaching India by land. The Dutch were also trying to reach India by land, for they were Spain's enemy, and so they could not pass Spain by sea.

In James' reign peace was made with Spain, and James obtained the grant of trade at Surat in Bombay province. The Dutch however, spoiled trade in the East Indian islands, and in
Ambon - a small J. & F. trading post. All the trade manager, called Hoar, in fighting put a
magnificent 1623. We took up arms against them at Ambon, one of the Molucca islands
in the Indian Archipelago.

After this the East India Co. turned to mainland trade, and three great trade centres were
developed; Madras, 1639; Bombay, 1661; and Calcutta, 1690.

In 1746 Madras was captured by Joseph Duplessy, a French leader in India, but it was restored
in 1748 by the Treaty of Aachen.

In America, the French were being harassed by the English and the colonials. So much so, that
they fortified Louisburg in 1720 and the Isthmus of Acadia in 1743. Louis-
burg was captured by the English in 1745, but it was restored in 1748;
the same date that Madras was
restored to the English. In 1749
Halifax was made a naval and
military base by England, so that
supplies and repairs would be
near at hand. After many
warnings the French thought it
fit to evacuate Acadia, and the
English took possession of it.

In the Southern States of
America the Virginians tried
to expand, so they crossed the
Alleghenies, only to find the
French were already there. This
was in 1753, and in the next year
the French built Fort Duquesne,
now called Pittsburgh after Pitt,
to stop them from expanding.
This angered the English, and so
General Braddock, with English
and colonial troops tried to at take
it, but was heavily defeated, 1755.
The immediate results of George III's accession

- George's 'policy', and its disadvantage
- Effects on old Whig families
- King's friends - America - end of war
- John Wilkes

Every king in the Hanoverian succession relied upon his ministers - except George IV. He decided that he was better off without ministers. He was an Englishman, unlike his forefathers, and as such he understood the work of the Government, and did not like the Whigs using his name, patronage and money to control the Commons on his account. So he disbanded the Whigs.
and drove Pitt from office (1761). George now relied upon the advice of his mother, Augusta, Princess of Wales, and of a Scottish nobleman, John, Earl of Bute. Both were ignorant of politics. George was perfectly within his rights to govern, but there was one great drawback. As yet, one person had looked after the navy, somebody else the army, another the colonies, and now George was planning to oversee the whole lot. It was a great effort, but doomed to failure from the start.

The great Whig families who had hitherto been sure of a good sine-cure for their sons were now faced with the proposition of finding jobs for them. The Whigs had dug themselves in to such an extent that unforeseen difficulties like this were never dreamed of. The only
way to find their sons jobs was to
change around the king.

Many people did this and were
successful; and were called the "kings
friends." Their only policy was to agree
to what the king said. They had no
idea of politics, but they backed George
to the last ditch, just to keep jobs.
England looked in a pretty bad
state with Bute as chief minister
and the others all ignorant.

Some good things were done,
however, one being that peace was
agreed to in 1763. The Peace of Paris,
as it is called, gave England a great
deal, but not as much as it expected.
By the treaty, France ceded Canada
and Cape Breton to England, but
was allowed to keep shares in the
Newfoundland fisheries. This was a
foolish move for England, for the French used the fishing as a training school for cadets. The reason they gave for wanting to keep shales was that as they were Roman Catholics they had to eat fish.

The Americans were dissatisfied at the expulsion of the French from Canada, and the result was that the thirteen colonies no longer needed English protection. Things became worse when Grenville passed the Stamp Act, which stated that all legal documents and formal acts were to be written on stamped paper, the proceeds of the duty going to the Imperial Exchequer. The Americans caused such a row over it, that it was repealed altogether. Townsend then made them bitter again, by imposing duties on glass,
3. Colours, paper and tea, exported to America. This infuriated the Americans, and in 1770 these were riots in Boston. Some British soldiers fired into the mob and shot several of them. This was denounced as a bloody massacre and made the colonists very bitter indeed.

At home, one John Wilkes, had perceived the trend of George’s policy, and abused the ministers in his paper “The North Briton.” This was first started as a propaganda against Bute, but when he resigned in 1763, Wilkes continued it against his predecessors. *Suggested*

In no. 43 of the newspaper, Wilkes said, “The ministers put a lie into the mouth of the king,” referring to the king’s speech. This
infuriated George, because he liked
the public to know he made his
own speeches. Wilkes and everybody
concerned, were arrested, but released
later with heavy damages, because
of a false arrest. Later he fled to
France to avoid arrest because of
a filthy poem he (published). It
was never
circulated except in ms. which never
published
The importance of the Wilkes' Case.

1. liberty of the public established
2. saved the King from the responsibility of his own actions.
3. Prevented the House of Commons from making a serious constitutional blunder.

Although John Wilkes had a bad character, he did, indirectly, a lot for the good of the people through his case. Briefly, the facts of the case are that in the 45th issue of his paper, the "North Briton," Wilkes stated that the King's ministers had put a lie into his mouth. George III was
pensive at this statement, not because of the lie, but because he would everybody to think that everything that he did or spoke was his own work. He had a general warrant issued for every body concerned with that rebel, and had them arrested for an indefinite period, because he had not sufficient evidence. An outcry was caused by this, and Wilkes was arrested, heavy damages assessed, and released. Because Wilkes won his case the King was no longer able to exert his general will.

The King having lost his case, everybody now knew that the ministers made his speech, and that the King did what the ministers told him. That,
when we lost America it was not the King's fault, and so none of the responsibilities rested upon him. If they did, he might have met the same fate as Charles in 1669, or James in 1688. So the King, although he did not know it, really had to thank Wilkes for retaining the throne for him.

Before Wilkes' case, the party in power in Commons prevents any new members in opposition from taking their seats. Thus Commons was not the voice of the people. After the case, Wilkes was a candidate for Aylesbury and elected but he was rejected by Commons. There was a re-election, and again Wilkes was elected and rejected. In all, he was rejected.
four times before he was admitted. This ended the House of Commons old policy, and after that it was the voice of the people that was heard.

Wilkes then, is a very important personage in history. Summing up his case, he established public liberty; he saved the king from losing his throne; and he prevented the House of Commons from making a grave constitutional blunder. Besides his case, Wilkes was sheriff of London and Middlesex 1741; Lord Mayor of London 1774, M.P. for Middlesex 1774-90; and city chamberlain until he died in 1797.
The distant causes which made America bitter towards England.

- Colonies founded in discontent.
- No interference from England before 1760.
- Geo. III thought America was a state like Hanover, and tried to rule it such.

Summary

The Declaration of Independence was signed by the members of the congress on July 4th, 1776, but to find the causes of it, one has to trace back to 1607 in James I's reign.

When James made peace with Spain, there were among the population of England, people who...
objected to it. These people then organised an unofficial party and migrated to America. They named the state where they landed Virginia, after Queen Elizabeth.

In 1636 James dissatisfied the Puritans with religious concerns. They migrated and founded New England. Charles I disappointed the Catholics in 1632, and they founded Maryland. And so it went on. More states were founded in discontent.

The people in these states went there to avoid trouble and strife, and they did — until 1760. In 1765 Grenville passed his Stamp Act, and Townshend taxed tea, colours, glass and paper imported in America. Lord North withdrew
these duties except that on tea.
This infuriated the Americans, and when in 1770 there were riots in Boston, their blood was properly up. The Navigation Act was ignored in Chatham's ministry but Geo. III revived it.
Geo. thought that America was Hanover, and he tried to rule it as such, but their different states had different views and could not be ruled over by one person. On July 4th, 1776, The Declaration of Independence was proclaimed.
Geo. III should not be blamed for the loss of America, because from 1607 ten kings reigned; all helped to anger America by one way or the other. The inhabitants of the 13 states came to their respective states to avoid
...stage, and when they received it instead the obvious result was independence.

- New York
- Mass
- New Hampshire
- Rhode Is.
- Connecticut
- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey
- Delaware
- Maryland
- Virginia
- N. Carolina
- S. Carolina
- Georgia
- Florida (Spain)

The 13 original States.
K. Kelsey
14th Nov. 1938

The Effects of the American War upon the rest of the World.

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The American War not only had an effect upon England and America, but upon nearly every country in Europe, and others.

The hardest smitten country was England. The North Ministry was unable to cope with such a struggle, and the Whig opposition was falling to bits, and when Lord North attempted to help...
the Roman Catholics, a series of riots broke out in London (1780); led by the fanatical and half-mad Lord George Gordon they burnt Catholic chapels, opened the prisons, and plundered the town, and were at last put down by the soldiers after a serious loss of life. These religious riots showed that the people were dissatisfied with George’s personal rule.

To add to the trouble in England, Lord North resigned in March 1782. Rockingham put in his place, but he died soon after, and George, who was eager to get rid of the Whigs, appointed Shelburne in his place. His first job was to recognize the independence of America. He also signed the Treaty of Versailles in September 1783.
3. Being a "king's friend", Shelbourne was disliked by both the Tories under North, and the Whigs under Fox. As the two were powerless to do anything singly, the two parties united to drive Shelbourne from office. He did so, and George was forced to accept the ministry that he bitterly hated, but waited for a chance to put them out of office. His opportunity came when Fox's India Bill was passed through the Commons. He exerted an extreme amount of pressure on the House of Lords, and the Bill was stopped. The two combined parties were then put out of office, and the Younger Pitt was made Prime Minister by the King in 1783.

In Ireland, the people there were very bitter. The troops had been
taken away, but seventy thousand civilians took their place. They demanded that they should have a party parliament of their own, and that Catholic gentry should be allowed to sit in it. Pitt agreed to this, so as to make no more trouble, and in 1782 this parliament was formed. As Grattan was the Chief Minister it is known as Grattan’s Parliament.

In France the writings of Voltaire and Rousseau were being felt. Voltaire attacked the religious powers, and Rousseau attacked the social standing of the two. Rousseau was the more powerful, and he brought the people up to a fever pitch by saying that all governments were unlawful and did not rely upon the Sovereign. In 1789 the Revolution broke out.
The Revolution cannot be called an immediate effect of the American War as the American War had been ended six years before the Revolution broke out, and the actual bloodshed did not come until ten years after.

Under North's Enabling Act (1773) the East India Co. was given political power. Warren Hastings was appointed Governor, but the Act broke down. The French took advantage of this to try to regain their influence in India. A French admiral, de Suffren, obtained mastery of the Indian Ocean, but Hastings, after a fierce struggle, regained the British supremacy.

The only country to be at peace after the War was America. She was free to trade with any country and so
became richer. The irony of it was that she bought her manufactured goods from England.

And so you see, that the American War of Independence was not a struggle between America and England but a world-wide struggle, leading to the Gordon Riots, the French Revolution, and other bloodshed.
The course of the Peninsula War.

Campaigns:
1. Vimiero 1808
2. Corunna 1809
3. Talavera 1809
4. Torres Vedras 1810
5. Salamanca, Victoria

Portugal had remained Britain's faithful ally throughout the Napoleonic War, and stood alone in resisting the Continental System. For this reason, Napoleon tried to invade Portugal. As this could not be done by the sea, the French had to march over the Pyrenees through Spain. While they were doing this, the royal family of Portugal was shifted to Brazil, and Sir Arthur Wellesley, of Indian fame, was left in charge.

He beat General Junot at Vimiero.
1808, but he was succeeded by Bussard, a senior officer, who made all fighting cease. The French then undertook negotiations with Bussard, and he agreed to let the French evacuate Portugal and go to France. When this news reached Britain, all officers concerned were recalled, but Wellesley was exonerated from all blame and allowed to return.

The Spaniards did not like the idea of French soldiers feeding on their land, so they joined the British forces. Napoleon, however, crushed them on the field and marched on to Madrid. General Sir John Moore conducted a masterly retreat from Sahagun to Corunna. Here, his troops were to have embarked on British ships and be exported, but when he reached there the ships were not there. Soult and Ney, who were left in charge by Napoleon, here met
him, but were defeated by Moore at the battle of Boniña, though Moore himself fell in the field.

When Wellington returned to Portugal, he drove Soult from Oporto, and marched on to Madrid. At Talavera he defeated the French under Victor and Joseph, in spite of the lack of support from the Spanish troops under Bessière. Soult, however, threatened his rear, and with great difficulty he managed to return to Portugal.

Whitby and Weymouth were sent to head the Welcheven expedition, but it was a failure owing to malicious swindling and lack of promptitude.

To Wellington's relief, Napoleon did not cross the Alps again, but he sent Mestres to drive the British from Portugal. Wellington, although he beat the French at Bucesa, was forced to return to Portugal. At Lisbon, he constructed the triple defence line of
James Invasion. Against this defence, the efforts of Massena were in vain, and were cut short by hunger and disease, and disappointed in the hopes of reinforcements from Soubi in Andalusia. The French returned across the frontier into Spain. Two months later, they suffered a further loss at Guadarrama. Massena was replaced by Marmont, but the conquest of Portugal was a failure, 30,000 lives being lost.

In 1812, Wellington took the offensive and beat Marmont at Talavera. He marched into Madrid, but the French concentrated all their forces, and he was forced to withdraw to Portugal.

In May of the next year, Wellington advanced to Valladolid, and thence to Vitoria, where he defeated Joseph and Joakim. Joseph abandoned the struggle and fled. Napoleon hastily sent about 100,000 men, but it was too late - the great
country had been lost. The Iron Duke pressed the French back, through the Pyrenees, and invaded France. He defeated the French at Orthez and took Toulouse.

Throughout the whole war, it was no easy task for Wellington: he had several difficulties, namely:-

He had insufficient support from Britain: (40,000 men were waited on the Walcheren Expedition).

The Spanish Army did not co-operate such as at Talavera.

All the fortresses were in the hands of the French, and had to be recaptured. And the French outnumbered the British considerably.

Wellington also had many advantages. He was used to rough country, the French generals were jealous of one another, Spain had to be crossed by the French in order to reach Portugal, and the French
often lacked food. And finally, although it was very great asset to the British, Napoleon did not leave one man in complete charge. And so it is seen that the Peninsula War was not won and lost on only fighting.
Henry 7th's ability as the first great English Statesman.

1. He obtained throne by descent, and not conquest.
2. Yorkists deprived of their lands.
3. He joined the two rival houses.
4. He turned his troubles into good fortunes.
5. He married his family into foreign royal families.

The hereditary claim of Henry VII was of the slightest kind. His mother was a descendant of John of Ghent, and his father was a Welsh squire. Yet it was with this line of descent that he claimed the throne of England. He did not claim it by
sight of conquest at Bosworth, because the citizens would be apt to say he had no legal right to the throne. Instead, he made Parliament, who were mainly Lancastrians, proclaim him as the rightful heir to the throne. There was no person living, therefore, who had, according to Parliament, a better claim than Henry. This was Henry's first sign of statesmanship. His next act was to look through all the documents of Edward IV and Richard III. He noted all the Lancastrian Yorkist gentry who had land granted to them, and deprived them of it. He did not exile or execute them, for he would gain nothing by that. He then redistributed the land among the Lancastrians, thus making them anxious to help him.
The next step was to join the rival houses, York and Lancaster, by marrying Elizabeth of York. He was in no hurry about this, in case the public would accuse him of owing the throne to his wife. He made Parliament ask him to graciously fulfil his promise to marry the lady Elizabeth. This he did in 1486.

Elizabeth's aunt, Margaret, the dowager Duchess of Burgundy, was bitter towards Henry, for murdering her brother, Richard, at Bosworth. She was bitter against Elizabeth also, for marrying a murdered. It was for this reason that she was willing to help anybody that would like to usurp Henry. Her first "charge" was Lambert Simnel, a boy of twelve, who alleged he was Edward of Warwick,
the son of the ill-fated Boleyn. Henry soon stopped the plot by taking the real Edward, out of the Tower. The Yorkists, however, landed in England but were easily defeated at Stoke. Simnel was given a job in the royal kitchen. The Irish, who helped the plot, were weakened, and Henry had a firmer grip on them.

Besides Margaret, Henry had an enemy in Charles, King of France. To counter this hostility, Henry made an alliance with Francis of Brittany. In 1488, however, Francis died, leaving one daughter, Anne. The French overran Brittany, and Charles married Anne. Henry levied an army and landed at France, but on being paid a nice sum of money, he returned home. He also gained the expulsion of Perkin Warbeck,
an impostor claiming to be Richard, son of Edward IV.

Warbeck went to Flanders, but Henry counteracted this by stopping the wool trade between the two countries. Maximilian was exceedingly anxious to stop this, and so he expelled Warbeck and signed the Magnus Intercursus by which England's trade was increased.

In years later, 1506, Maximilian's son, Philip, was forced to take refuge in an English port, because of the bad weather. Henry received him cordially but would not let him resume his journey until he signed the treaty known as the Malus Intercursus.

Henry was regarded as a newcomer to the throne of England, and so he had to marry his family into other royal families to make his position stable.