

the thralldom of the Stuarts. Wearied at last, however, with the dissolute court of Charles the Second, the people and the nobles of England in 1688 made James the Second fly the country and, with William of Orange, welcomed a free Parliament and a free State.

At last in 1710 in the union of Scotland and England, the British people found their supremacy, which has lasted ever since.

In the last half of the eighteenth century, came the struggle between the people and the aristocracy in France. Louis the Sixteenth, and Marie Antoinette, who in 1774 young and in their prime, heard the joyous shout of a glad people, in 1792 expiated on the scaffold, near the garden of the Tuileries, the sins of their Bourbon ancestors.

The great feudal system that had held the people in chains, the long serfdom of centuries, that had made them believe their Kings and Queens to be divine, all these were broken into fragments, and the French people in their savage joy, steeped themselves in the blood of their oppressors.

The shattered hulk of feudalism struck its flag and sank in those revolutionary seas of 1649, 1688 and 1792, never to rise again.

At this time in the last half of the eighteenth century, a new force was come to the world, and was to create the third period, which I have mentioned.

James Watt, watching his mother's tea kettle, saw in the steam rising therefrom, the power that was soon to make England great. Arkwright and Hargreaves by their inventive aids to cotton spinning, laid the foundation of a giant industry. England stood in the centre, dominating Europe, and, by the concessions of the treaty of 1763, controlled in the East the valuable trade of India, and became a mother to that great nation of the west, which afterwards added to her expanding commerce.

The people of France in the beginning of the nineteenth century had virtually freed themselves of feudalism and monarchy, and democracy was triumphant. Aristocracy walked in wooden shoes, and it was often known to don the "bonnet rouge" and also to appear proud to be called "Citizen Philip Égalité," instead of the "Duc'd' Orleans.

Over the prostrate bodies of the nobles, democracy reared its head and aimed at riches. The inventions of the eighteenth century made this easy, and out of the middle class sprang hosts of people, who rapidly controlled great wealth.

The era of prosperity that came especially to Great Britain in 1750 to 1800, due to inventions and to the monopolies thereby created, and also due to the ever increasing trade with India and America, laid the foundation of that plutocracy, which the people now find much harder to contend