

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE

ON THE COST OF WARS FROM 1688 TO THE PRESENT DAY.

THE figures in the following table down to 1869 are extracted from the tables given in Appendix 13 of the important return relating to public income and expenditure published in 1869, and so often quoted in these pages. The totals are computed on the method adopted by Sir John Sinclair and also used by me in the isolated computations of the preceding chapters. No account is, of course, taken of the increased debt charges involved in each struggle, and this is fair enough where the object is to exhibit—not the total burdens thrown upon a people by strifes, but the cash outlay involved in carrying them on. In dealing with the figures subsequent to 1869, which I have placed in one sum at the end of the table, I have included the *Alabama* award, the votes of credit on account of the wars in Europe in 1871 and 1878, the Ashantee War, the South African War, and the whole of the £5,000,000 granted to India in aid of the cost of the war in Afghanistan. These figures are easily ascertained, and may be taken to represent fairly all the extra expenses we have been put to on account of wars and rumours of

wars in recent years, with the exception, perhaps, of about £3,000,000 extra spent on our army and navy in 1879 over and above the normal amounts, and a small additional charge for the war in Abyssinia. Taking the excesses of this nature unenumerated at £3,000,000, I get the sum given at the foot of the official return, which ends at 1868, as the total cost to England of all strifes in which she or her neighbours have been involved between 1869 and 1881.

COST OF EACH WAR FROM 1688-1881.

GREAT BRITAIN.

1688-1697.—War in Ireland and against France, etc.—

Total Naval and Military Expenditure in the nine years . . .	£36,876,203
Arrears outstanding . . .	5,684,112
	<hr/>
	£42,560,315

Average Naval and Military Peace Expenditure, 1685 - 1687 = £1,101,839 per annum.

For nine years . . .	9,916,551	
Total Cost of War, 1688-1697 . . .	<hr/>	£32,643,764

Of this amount the cost to the British Exchequer of the Reduction of Ireland was officially reported to King William's Parliament as amounting to £3,851,655.

1702-1713.—War of Spanish Succession:—

Total Naval and Military Expenditure in twelve years . . .	£64,817,654	
	<hr/>	
Carry forward . . .	£64,817,654	£32,643,764

Brought forward	£64,817,654	£32,643,764
Arrears outstanding	1,461,638	
	<hr/>	
	£66,279,292	
Average Naval and Military Peace Expenditure, 1698 - 1700 =		
£1,299,528 per annum.		
For twelve years	15,594,336	
Total Cost of War, 1702-1713	<hr/>	50,684,956
1718-1721.—War with Spain :—		
Total Naval and Military Expendi- ture in four years	£9,223,806	
Arrears outstanding	2,175,518	
	<hr/>	
	£11,399,324	
Average Naval and Military Peace Expenditure, 1715 - 1717 =		
£1,713,000 per annum.		
For four years	6,852,000	
Total Cost of War, 1718-1721	<hr/>	4,547,324
1739-1748.—War with Spain (Right of Search) and of Austrian Succes- sion :—		
Total Naval and Military Expendi- ture in ten years	£55,875,668	
Arrears outstanding	6,201,974	
	<hr/>	
	£62,077,642	
Average Naval and Military Peace Establishment, 1736-1738 =		
£1,842,245 per annum.		
For ten years	18,422,450	
Total Cost of War, 1739-1748	<hr/>	43,655,192
1756-1763.—Seven Years' War (war expenditure continued to 1766) :—		
Total Naval and Military Expendi- ture in eleven years	£104,611,374	
Average Naval and Military Peace		
	<hr/>	
Carry forward	£104,611,374	£131,531,236

Brought forward . . .	£104,611,374	£131,531,236
Establishment, 1753 - 1755 =		
£1,998,876 per annum.		
For eleven years . . .	21,987,636	
Total Cost of War, 1756-1763 . . .	_____	82,623,738
1776-1785.—American War (war expenditure continued to 1786):—		
Total Naval and Military Expenditure in eleven years . . .	£139,521,035	
Average Naval and Military Peace Establishment, 1773 - 1775 =		
£3,811,049 per annum.		
For eleven years . . .	41,921,539	
Total Cost of American War, 1776-85 . . .	_____	97,599,496

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

1793-1815.—War with France (war expenditure continued to 1817):—		
Total Naval and Military Expenditure in twenty-five years . . .	£989,636,449	
Average Naval and Military Peace Establishment, 1790 - 1792 =		
£6,259,000 per annum.		
For twenty-five years . . .	158,190,000	
Total Cost of War with France, 1793-1815 . . .	_____	831,446,449
1838-1843.—Insurrection in Canada,		
Total Votes of Credit, . . .		2,096,046
1840-1843.—First China War . . .		2,201,028
1848-1853.—Kaffir War . . .		2,060,000
1854-5, 1855-6.—Russian War (expenditure continued to 1856-7):—		
Total Naval and Military Expenditure in three years . . .	£116,053,151	
Average Naval and Military Peace Establishment, 1851 - 1853 =		
£15,591,819 per annum.		
For three years . . .	46,775,457	
Total Cost of Russian War, 1854-5, 1855-6 . . .	_____	69,277,694
Carry forward . . .		£1,218,655,687

Brought forward . . .	£1,218,655,687
1856-7, 1860-1.—Second China War, Total Votes of Credit . . .	6,640,693
1856-7.—Persian Expenditure . . .	900,000
1864-5.—New Zealand War . . .	764,829
1866-7, 1867-8.—Abyssinian Expedition	8,600,000
Non-official estimate of the cost of all subsequent wars and precautionary expenditure on account of wars, as explained, down to 1881 . . .	23,120,000
Grand Total (in round thousands) . . .	<u>£1,258,681,000</u>

This total may safely be accepted as the minimum outlay of this kind, even on the narrowest basis of computation. For the French revolutionary wars the extra expenditure of 1817 is included above, and hence the total exceeds that given in the text; but in other cases, especially in that of the American War of Independence, the official estimates are less than I, following Sir John Sinclair, have given. Take the above total, however, as representing the facts, and it surely tells a sad story. For nigh two centuries we have been fighting all the world over, and the bills of these wars come to an amount that, could we conceive it hoarded and invested at 3 per cent for the public good, would provide an annuity of some five guineas a year for every family of five persons in the United Kingdom. In one sense that is an absurd way of stating the case, but it may suffice to bring home to the reader the prodigious meaning of the figures. Instead of wealth for the masses of the people, these figures mean poverty, and have meant it for many generations.

Now Publishing, in Crown 8vo., Price 3s. 6d. each.

The English Citizen:

A SERIES OF SHORT BOOKS ON

HIS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

EDITED BY HENRY CRAIK, M.A. (OXON.), LL.D. (GLASGOW).

THIS series is intended to meet the demand for accessible information on the ordinary conditions and the current terms of our political life. The affairs of business, contact with other men, the reading of newspapers, the hearing of political speeches, may give a partial acquaintance with such matters, or at least stimulate curiosity as to special points. But such partial acquaintance with the most important facts of life is not satisfactory, although it is all that the majority of men find within their reach.

The series will deal with the details of the machinery whereby our Constitution works and the broad lines upon which it has been constructed. The volumes in it will treat of the course of legislation; of the agencies by which civil and criminal justice are administered, whether imperial or local; of the relations between the greater system of the imperial Government and the subdivision by which local self-government is preserved alongside of it; of the electoral body, and its functions and constitution and development; of the great scheme of national income and its disbursement; of State interference with the citizen in his training, in his labour, in his trafficking, and in his home; and of the dealings of the State with that part of property which is, perforce, political—the land; of the relation between State and Church which bulks so largely in our history, and is entwined so closely with our present organisation; and lastly, of those relations of the State that are other than domestic.

The books are not intended to interpret disputed points in Acts of Parliament, nor to refer in detail to clauses or sections of these Acts; but to select and sum up the salient features of any branch of legislation, so as to place the ordinary citizen in possession of the main points of the law.

The following are the titles of the volumes:—

1. **CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.** H. D. TRAILL, D.C.L., late
Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford. [Ready.]

"Mr. Traill gives a chapter to executive government under the constitutional system, another to the cabinet, and then one apiece to the great offices of state. . . . This scheme Mr. Traill has carried out with a great deal of knowledge and in an excellent manner. . . . A clear, straightforward style enables him to put his knowledge in a way at once concise and lucid."—*Saturday Review*.

2. **THE ELECTORATE AND THE LEGISLATURE.** SPENCER
WALPOLE, Author of "The History of England from 1815." [Ready.]

"Mr. Walpole traces the growth of the power of Parliament through all those stages with which we are now familiar, and he does so very clearly and succinctly."—*St. James's Gazette*.

3. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT.** M. D. CHALMERS. [Ready.]

"If people always read for the purpose of acquiring really useful information, Mr. Chalmers' contribution to *The English Citizen* Series should go rapidly through many editions. It is packed full of facts about our local government, all worthy to be known."—*Saturday Review*.

4. **JUSTICE AND POLICE.** F. W. MAITLAND. [Ready.]

5. **THE NATIONAL BUDGET: THE NATIONAL DEBT,
TAXES, AND RATES.** A. J. WILSON. [Ready.]

"We have, ere now, had occasion to warmly commend *The English Citizen* Series. Not one of these works have better deserved the highest encomiums than Mr. Wilson's book. . . . It is calculated to do much in the way of enlightenment."—*The Citizen*.

6. **THE STATE AND EDUCATION.** HENRY CRAIK, M.A.,
LL.D. [Ready.]

"An excellent digest of the progress of our National Education during the present century."—*Academy*.

7. **THE POOR LAW.** Rev. T. W. FOWLE, M.A. [Ready.]

"Mr. Fowle's is indeed an admirable epitome not only of the present state of our poor laws, but also of the earliest institutions which they have superseded. . . . His work is a remarkably concise statement on the whole question in its bearings on the rights and responsibilities of English citizens."—*Athenæum*.

"Mr. Fowle's treatise is a valuable little summary. . . . It is worthy of a wide circulation."—*Academy*.

MACMILLAN & CO., LONDON.

8. **THE STATE IN ITS RELATION TO TRADE.** Sir T. H.

FARRER, Bart.

[Ready.]

"The subject is one on which Sir T. H. Farrer, from his official position, speaks with a fulness of knowledge such as few possess, and this knowledge he has the faculty of conveying to others in a vigorous and attractive way."—*The Economist*.

9. **THE STATE IN RELATION TO LABOUR.** W. STANLEY

JEVONS, LL.D., M.A., F.R.S.

[Ready.]

"This little book is full of useful information, well and thoughtfully digested. The facts are conveniently grouped, either to illustrate principles which the author desires to inculcate, or in accordance with the particular branch of law to which they relate."—*Law Times*.

10. **THE LAND LAWS.** F. POLLOCK, late Fellow of Trinity

College, Cambridge. Professor of Jurisprudence in the University of Oxford.

[Ready.]

"The book as a whole can be spoken of with the heartiest praise. For its patient collection and clear statement of facts on a great and confused subject . . . the excellence of the book as a survey of its subject can hardly be too well spoken of."—*Saturday Review*.

11. **THE STATE AND THE CHURCH.** Hon. ARTHUR ELLIOT,

M.P.

[Ready.]

"This is an excellent work—judicious, candid, and impartial."—*North British Daily Mail*.

12. **FOREIGN RELATIONS.** SPENCER WALPOLE, Author of

"The History of England from 1815."

[Ready.]

"A work which every student of public affairs should almost know by heart."—*Glasgow News*.

13. (1) **INDIA.** J. S. COTTON, late Fellow of Queen's College,

Oxford.

[Ready.]

(2) **COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.** E. J. PAYNE,

Fellow of University College, Oxford.

[Ready.]

"One of the most interesting of this valuable series."—*The Statist*.

14. **THE PENAL SYSTEM.** By Sir EDMUND DU CANE, C.B.

[In the press.]

15. **THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.** By Lieutenant-Colonel

MAURICE, R.A.

[In preparation.]

MACMILLAN & CO., LONDON.

Now Publishing in Crown 8vo., Price 2s. 6d. each.

English Men of Letters.

EDITED BY JOHN MORLEY.

JOHNSON.

By LESLIE STEPHEN.

SCOTT.

By R. H. HUTTON.

GIBBON.

By J. C. MORISON.

SHELLEY.

J. A. SYMONDS.

HUME.

By Prof. HUXLEY, P.R.S.

GOLDSMITH.

By WILLIAM BLACK.

DEFOE.

By W. MINTO.

BURNS.

By Principal SHAIRP.

SPENSER.

By the Very Rev. the DEAN
OF ST. PAUL'S.

THACKERAY.

By ANTHONY TROLLOPE.

BURKE.

By JOHN MORLEY.

BUNYAN.

By JAMES A. FROUDE.

SOUTHEY.

By Prof. DOWDEN.

HAWTHORNE.

By HENRY JAMES.

MILTON.

By MARK PATTISON.

MACAULAY.

By J. C. MORISON.

STERNE.

By H. D. TRAILL.

SWIFT.

By LESLIE STEPHEN.

GRAY.

By EDMUND GOSSE.

DICKENS.

By A. W. WARD.

BENTLEY.

By Prof. R. C. JEBB.

CHARLES LAMB.

By Rev. ALFRED AINGER.

DE QUINCEY.

By Prof. MASSON.

LANDOR.

By Prof. SIDNEY COLVIN.

DRYDEN.

By G. SAINTSBURY.

WORDSWORTH.

By F. W. H. MYERS.

LOCKE.

By Prof. FOWLER.

BYRON.

By Prof. NICOL.

POPE.

By LESLIE STEPHEN.

COWPER.

By GOLDWIN SMITH.

CHAUCER.

By Prof. A. W. WARD.

FIELDING.

By AUSTIN DOBSON.

SHERIDAN.

By Mrs. OLIPHANT.

ADDISON.

By W. J. COURTHOPE.

BACON.

By the Very Rev. the DEAN
OF ST. PAUL'S.

COLERIDGE.

By H. D. TRAILL.

*** Other Volumes to follow.*

MACMILLAN & CO., LONDON