
In this his third full-length monograph, Dr. Ward asserts that the pre-1763 attempts at colonial cooperation and union were the true origins of American federalism. In essence this is the thesis of Ward's earlier study on The United Colonies of New England — 1643-90 (1961), and the present volume is a natural companion to the earlier work, carrying the story, as it does, up to the beginning of the Revolutionary period.

This thesis, interesting and plausible as it may be, is not convincingly substantiated in this book. Instead of a thesis well-presented and defended, the author has written a reasonably complete narrative on the numerous attempts at cooperative action during the entire colonial period. Thus under one cover we have historically useful descriptions of such cooperative endeavors as the New England Confederation (really a distillation of Ward's first book) and the crown-imposed and extremely unpopular Dominion of New England. In addition, there are brief discussions of proposals for united action by such diverse imperial and colonial leaders as William Penn, John Usher, Sir Charles D'Avenant, Colonel Caleb Heathcote, Robert Livingston, and Archibald Kennedy. Finally, Dr. Ward adroitly evaluates the conflicting claims of authorship of the so-called Albany Plan of 1754 and credits Benjamin Franklin, not Thomas Hutchinson, with having the greatest influence on this famous document of union.

Although the main thesis is suspect, the author makes several minor assertions of historical merit. His contention that the catalyst for cooperative action, whether seventeenth or eighteenth century, was fear of either foreign powers (usually France) or restive Indian tribes is sound and well-documented. Likewise the observation that before 1763 "the colonies were not ready for union but unconsciously were being thrust towards it" (p. 255) is both insightful and helpful in explaining the apparent anomaly of repeated failures to effect workable unions before 1763 and almost instant success thereafter. Thus this volume represents an interesting, edifying, and accessible compilation of both colonial attempts at united action and proposals made to effect closer cooperation.

However, the author's compulsion to restate his main thesis at every opportunity detracts from his presentation. Also, although obviously conversant with the primary sources dealing with his general
topic, Dr. Ward all-too-frequently resorts to summarizing historical material already well known and readily available in secondary sources. Finally, awkwardly written sentences suggest the need for more careful editing and errors in transcription (e.g., "Stephen Berndley" for Stephen Bordley — p. 225n) suggest a degree of carelessness.

Nevertheless, an exhaustive forty-six-page bibliography and voluminous footnotes (placed at the end of each chapter) enhance the value of this book for the scholar and superficial coverage chronologically of most of the colonial period makes it useful for the layman.

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It is well known that the Industrial Revolution began in England in the second half of the eighteenth century, subsequently spread to the continent and to the United States, and by mid-twentieth century occupied much of the world. The consequences — both good and bad — are well known, too, and Jonathan Hughes, professor of economics at Northwestern University, is telling us little that is new in Industrialization and Economic History: Theses and Conjectures. This volume is primarily a text, interestingly told for the most part, sketching the "main outlines," as Professor Hughes sees them, "of industrial development and the world it has helped to create in the modern era."

Due to centuries of developments, including "change, conquests, violent revolutions, accident, and good luck," England by mid-eighteenth century seemed "a logical place for industry to bloom." By that time, Hughes writes, the people of the British Isles had freed themselves of feudal obligations in kind, resulting in a generally free movement of labor which was essential to industrial development. British nationalism, coming much earlier than it did on the continent, British law (with which "capitalism made an easy and natural alliance"), her commerce and Empire, all operated in such a manner that when the Industrial Revolution came to England, "it came to ground well-prepared."

Although England often tried to keep its new system at home, during the course of the nineteenth century and up to World War I,