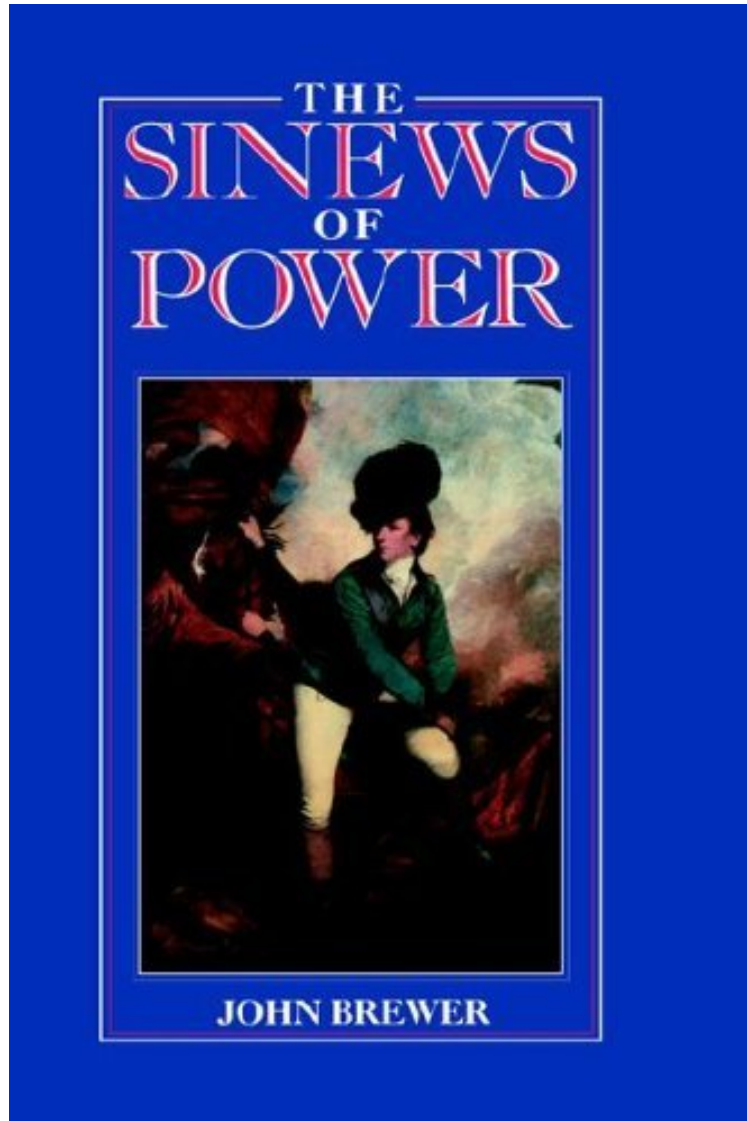


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The Sinews of Power: War, Money and the English State 1688-1783

Von John Brewer

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Von John Brewer : The Sinews of Power: War, Money and the English State 1688-1783 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sinews of Power: War, Money and the English State 1688-1783:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A true work of real genius!Von James B. DeLong"From its modest beginnings as... a minor, infrequent almost inconsequential participant in the great wars that ravaged sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Europe... Britain emerged in the late

seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries as the military Wunderkind of the age.... [B]y the reign of George III Britain had become one of the heaviest weights in the balance of power in Europe [and]... was on the threshold of becoming a transcontinental power..."The above quote is the opening of *War, Money, and the English State*. There have been many histories of Britain's military successes in the century after the expulsion of James II Stuart--biographies of the first Duke of Marlborough, histories of the British navy, narratives of the Seven Years' War, and so forth. There have been many histories of Britain's economic growth--and even attempts to explain why Britain saw such mercantile and then industrial success in the eighteenth century. But the connection? John Brewer takes on the task of filling in the gap: how was Britain's economic success translated into massive military power? This question is especially interesting because Britain appeared to successfully mobilize its resources for eighteenth century wars in a manner very different from the continental "absolutist" powers. The apparatuses of royal secret police, *lits de justice*, the co-optation of the middle nobility in the centralization of power and authority, and the ideology of a king "freed from the duty of observing the laws" are in large part absent from British military mobilization. It followed a different pattern--one that may have had decisive consequences for human history...John Brewer handles his topic superbly, making *The Sinews of Power* one of the best books I read in 1991, and making it one of the best books I read in 1995, when I re-read it.

Kurzbeschreibung First published in 1989. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis, an informa company.
Pressestimmen Brewer poses another question of great importance...how did a small island, of no great population, and which had, for the most part, played an insignificant role in seventeenth-century Europe, transform itself, in the space of sixty years, into a great naval power with an immense empire? Brewer is to be congratulated [on] here identifying a major theme and pursuing it with great skill.--John Cannon "Times Literary Supplement" "What Brewer does is to link the work of other historians with his own research into the workings of the bureaucratic machine, and to draw some wider conclusions about the nature of British society in general.--Jonathan Clark "Sunday Times" "Brewer has countered the traditional image of Britain as a lightly administered society by showing the degree to which the ideology of liberty was founded on a highly organized bureaucracy.--David Simpson "New York Times Book"
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