Going Dutch: How England Plundered Holland's Glory





The Dutch Golden Age

The Dutch Golden Age was a period of immense prosperity for the Netherlands that lasted from the late 16th century to the mid-17th century. During this time, the Dutch Republic became a major economic and maritime power, and its cities were centers of trade, culture, and learning.

The Dutch Golden Age was fueled by a number of factors, including the country's favorable geographic location, its strong navy, and its skilled workforce. The Dutch also benefited from a period of relative peace and stability in Europe.

During the Dutch Golden Age, the Netherlands became a major center of trade and commerce. The Dutch East India Company was one of the most powerful trading companies in the world, and it established a vast network of trading posts throughout Asia. The Dutch also played a major role in the development of the transatlantic slave trade.

The Dutch Golden Age was also a time of great cultural achievement. The Dutch produced some of the most famous painters of the era, including Rembrandt van Rijn and Johannes Vermeer. The Dutch also made significant contributions to science, mathematics, and philosophy.

England's Plunder of the Dutch Golden Age

England's plunder of the Dutch Golden Age began in the mid-17th century. The English were jealous of the Dutch Republic's wealth and power, and they were determined to undermine it.

In 1652, England declared war on the Netherlands. The war lasted for seven years, and it ended with the Treaty of Westminster in 1654. The treaty gave England control of the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam, which was renamed New York.

The Treaty of Westminster also gave England a number of other concessions from the Netherlands. The Dutch were forced to pay reparations to England, and they were also forced to give up their claims to certain territories in the East Indies.

England's plunder of the Dutch Golden Age continued throughout the 18th century. The English fought a series of wars against the Netherlands, and they gradually gained control of more and more of the Dutch Empire.

By the end of the 18th century, England had become the dominant power in the world. The Dutch Golden Age was over, and the Netherlands had been reduced to a second-rate power.

The Legacy of England's Plunder

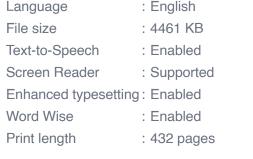
England's plunder of the Dutch Golden Age had a profound impact on the development of the modern world. England's victory over the Netherlands paved the way for its rise to global dominance, and it also helped to shape the course of European history.

The legacy of England's plunder is still felt today. The Netherlands remains a prosperous and developed country, but it is no longer the global superpower that it once was. England, on the other hand, is now one of the world's leading economic and military powers.

The history of England's plunder of the Dutch Golden Age is a reminder of the dangers of imperialism and the importance of international cooperation.



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by Lisa Jardine

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