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Cromwells Major-Generals: Godly Government During the ...
The Rule of the Major-Generals, was a period of direct military
government from August 1655 to January 1657, during Oliver
Cromwell's Protectorate. England and Wales were divided into
eleven regions, each governed by a major-general who answered to
the Lord Protector. The period quickly "became a convenient and
powerful symbol of the military nature of the unpopular
Interregnum state".

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Rule of the Major-Generals - Wikipedia
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Cromwell's Major-Generals: Godly Government During the ...
One has emphasised the spectacular and unique nature of the experiment of Cromwell's government in dividing England and Wales into regional commands supervised by Major-Generals supported by county committees and militias.

Cromwell's Major-Generals: Godly Government during the ...

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Cromwell's Major-Generals: Godly Government During the English Revolution by. Christopher Durston. 4.67 · Rating details · 3 ratings · 1 review Christopher Durston's full-scale study ambitiously documents the history behind what remains today, a powerful symbol of military rule. He explores the motivations behind the decisions to appoint the ...

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Cromwell's Major-Generals: Godly Government During the ...

Cromwell's major-generals. Godly government during the English Revolution. By Christopher Durston. (Politics, Culture and Society in Early Modern Britain.) Pp. x+260 incl. 1 map and 2 tables.

Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2001. £46 (cloth), £15.99 (paper). 0 7190 5187 8; 0 7190 6065 6 - Volume 54 Issue 1 - Stephen K. Roberts

Cromwell's major-generals. Godly government during the ...

The results were the Decimation Tax and the rule of the Major-Generals. Cromwell insisted that 'the sole end of this way of procedure was the security of the peace of the nation, the suppressing of vice and encouragement of virtue, the very end of

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magistracy.’ 54 The Major-Generals were instructed to ‘encourage
and promote godliness and virtue, and discourage and
discountenance all profaneness and ungodliness’.

Oliver Cromwell and the People of God — olivercromwell.org

The Rule of the Major-Generals was a 15-month period of direct military government during Oliver Cromwell's Protectorate. The failure of the First Protectorate Parliament discouraged Cromwell from further attempts to co-operate with civilian politicians, and a series of Royalist conspiracies that culminated in Penruddock's Uprising in the spring of 1655 convinced him that stringent security measures should be enforced.

Rule of the Major-Generals - BCW Project

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Durston attributes the failure of the major generals to their aim in establishing godly rule, which he regards as being impossible given the resources at their disposal, and their failure in this task is why the rule of the major generals collapsed. The failure of the major generals shifted Cromwell's outlook, and his opposition to the Decimation Tax showed that he no longer supported the rule of the major generals.

The Rule of the Major-Generals | The English Civil War ...

5. Old local government and new local government 6. The decimation tax 7. Securing the peace of the Commonwealth 8. The struggle for the Godly Nation 9. The major-generals and the 1656 election 10. Defeat at Westminster and fall from power 11. Conclusion Postscript: The major-generals' later careers

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Cromwell'S Major-Generals : Godly Government During the ...
After a Royalist uprising in March 1655, led by Sir John Penruddock, Cromwell (influenced by Lambert) divided England into military districts ruled by army major generals who answered only to him. The 15 major generals and deputy major generals—called "godly governors"—were central not only to national security , but Cromwell's crusade to reform the nation's morals.

Oliver Cromwell - Wikipedia

The Major-Generals and their regions. Each region was governed by a Major-General who answered to the Lord Protector. Cromwell died in 1658 and within a year the Protectorate. collapsed. In 1660

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The Protectorate - Oliver Cromwell - KS3 History Revision ...

When Oliver Cromwell sent his most trusted lieutenants into the provinces in 1655, the instructions he gave them were wide ranging and the task he set them was enormous. They were to oversee every aspect of local government, prevent conspiracies, remove negligent or scandalous ministers and promote godliness and virtue among the people.

The Religious Motivation of Cromwell's Major-Generals ...

The Major-Generals' efforts to mobilise commissioners who were both godly and influential were fatally hampered by the resentments born of the fratricidal military coups of 1648-49 and 1653. Even so,

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Cromwell was pleased by the rule of the Major-Generals. They had, he told them, 'done their parts well'.

Blair Worden · 'Wondered at as an owl': Cromwell's Bad ...
Buy Cromwell's Major-generals: Godly Government During the English Revolution (Politics, Culture & Society in Early Modern Britain S.) from Kogan.com. This is a study of the rule of Cromwell's major-generals over England and Wales during the 1655 and 1656, a period which had a dramatic impact upon contemporaries and has remained a powerful symbol of military rule down to the 21st century.

Cromwell's Major-generals: Godly Government During the ...
Cromwell insisted that they must accept the "four fundamentals" of

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the new constitution that, he argued, had been approved both by “God and the people of these nations.” The four fundamentals were government by a single person and Parliament; the regular summoning of parliaments, which must not be allowed to perpetuate themselves; the maintenance of “liberty of conscience”; and the division of the control of the armed forces between the protector and Parliament.

Oliver Cromwell - Administration as lord protector ...

4 Abstract This thesis provides a full academic biography of the three northern major-generals appointed by government in 1655 to implement security and reform in the northern cou

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Christopher Durston's full-scale study ambitiously documents the history behind what remains today, a powerful symbol of military rule. He explores the motivations behind the decisions to appoint the major-generals, looking at their careers and personalities.

Durston pays particular attention to the collection of the decimation tax, the attempt to improve the security of the regime, and the struggle to build a godly nation. He concludes with an investigation of the 1656 election and the major-generals' subsequent fall from power.

A document-based sourcebook for the study of the English Revolution. Includes questions and tasks, documentary and visual source material, and practical guidance on historical methodology. Suggested level: senior secondary.

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'A compelling and wry narrative of one of the most intellectually thrilling eras of British history' Guardian. *****

England, 1651. Oliver Cromwell has defeated his royalist opponents in two civil wars, executed the Stuart king Charles I, laid waste to Ireland, and crushed the late king's son and his Scottish allies. He is master of Britain and Ireland. But Parliament, divided between moderates, republicans and Puritans of uncompromisingly millenarian hue, is faction-ridden and disputatious. By the end of 1653, Cromwell has become 'Lord Protector'. Seeking dragons for an elect Protestant nation to slay, he launches an ambitious 'Western Design' against Spain's empire in the New World. When an amphibious assault on the Caribbean island of Hispaniola in 1655 proves a disaster, a shaken Cromwell is convinced that God is

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punishing England for its sinfulness. But the imposition of the rule of the Major-Generals – bureaucrats with a penchant for closing alehouses – backfires spectacularly. Sectarianism and fundamentalism run riot. Radicals and royalists join together in conspiracy. The only way out seems to be a return to a Parliament presided over by a king. But will Cromwell accept the crown? Paul Lay narrates in entertaining but always rigorous fashion the story of England's first and only experiment with republican government: he brings the febrile world of Oliver Cromwell's Protectorate to life, providing vivid portraits of the extraordinary individuals who inhabited it and capturing its dissonant cacophony of political and religious voices. ***** Reviews: 'Briskly paced and elegantly written, Providence Lost provides us with a first-class ticket to this Cromwellian world of achievement, paradox and

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contradiction. Few guides take us so directly, or so sympathetically, into the imaginative worlds of that tumultuous decade' John Adamson, *The Times*. 'Providence Lost is a learned, lucid, wry and compelling narrative of the 1650s as well as a sensitive portrayal of a man unravelled by providence' Jessie Childs, *Guardian*.

In 1655, Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell's Council of State commissioned a group of army officers for the purpose of "securing the peace of the commonwealth." Under the authority of the Instrument of Government, a written constitution not sanctioned by Parliament, the Council sent army major-generals into the counties to raise new horse militias and to support them financially with a tax on Royalists which the army officers would also collect. In counties such as Essex--the focus of this study--the major-generals

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were assisted in their work by small groups of commissioners, mostly local men "well-affected" to the Interregnum government. In addition to their militia and tax duties, the men were instructed to see to the implementation and furtherance of a variety of central government policies. Barely a year after its inception, a bill sanctioning the scheme was voted down in January 1657 by a Parliament unconvinced that the work done by the major-generals was in the best interests of the nation. This thesis examines the development and inception of the major-generals initiative by the Council of State, the work the major-generals and their commissioners engaged in, and the nature and cause of the reaction to their efforts in the shires. In the years and centuries following the Stuart Restoration, the major-generals were frequently portrayed as agents of Cromwellian tyranny, and more recently scholars have

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argued that the officers were primarily concerned with the

promulgation of a godly reformation. This study looks at the aims and work of the major-generals largely through an analysis of state papers and Essex administrative records, and it concludes that the

Council and officers were preoccupied more with threats to order and stability than with morals. Additionally, by examining the court

records and work of the justices of the peace in Essex, this study shows that in regard to improving order the major-generals' work

was unremarkable for its efficacy and but little different than previous law- and statute-enforcement activity traditionally carried

out by local administrators. Based on this assessment of the major-generals' efforts to improve order as both limited and completely un-

revolutionary, this thesis argues that the strongly negative reaction to the major-generals by the parliamentary class was due more to

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the officers' and government's encroachment on gentry power and local privilege than either the abrogation of the liberties of the people or any modest efforts to foist godliness on the shires.

Religion was a major issue during the English Civil Wars, but the demise of one of the Interregnum government's most ambitious attempts to improve security in the localities was rooted not in sectarian distempers but rather in the gentry's preoccupation with keeping central government from meddling in local matters or taxing anyone in their class without parliamentary approval.

Hezekiah Haynes was shaped by the Puritanism of his father's network and experienced emigration to New England as part of a

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Revolution Removing Themselves from Charles I's Laudianism.

Returning to fight in the British Civil Wars, Haynes rose to become Cromwell's ruler of the east of England, tasked with bringing about a godly revolution, and in rising to prominence he became the centre of his own developing political and religious network, which included a kin link to Cromwell himself. As one of Cromwell's Major-Generals Haynes was tasked with security and a reformation of manners, but he was hampered by the limits of the early modern state and Cromwell's own contradictory political and religious ideas. The Restoration saw Haynes imprisoned in the Tower before emerging to return to the community in which he had been raised, and continuing the links with some of those he had worked with for Cromwell and the kin he had left behind in New England in dealing with the norms of early modern life. This book will appeal to

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specialists in the area and students taking courses on early modern English and American history, as well as those with a more general interest in the period.

Oliver Cromwell is one of the most puzzling and controversial figures in English history. In this excellent introduction, Barry Coward uses Cromwell's own words and actions to analyse the life of Oliver Cromwell as a political figure and look at the historical problems associated with his exercise of power.

The Cromwellian Protectorate examines the nature of the first regime ever to have had effective control of the British Isles and the impact that it had on England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, and on Britain's international reputation. Few previous studies of the

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Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell and his son, Richard, have given sufficient emphasis to its achievements. Instead they have characterized it either as "a military dictatorship" or a reactionary regime that after the revolutionary events of 1649 put Britain on a road that led inevitably to the restoration of the monarchy. This book presents an alternative view of the Cromwellian Protectorate.

This book brings together eight of the most influential recent articles on Oliver Cromwell and the Interregnum. Brings together seminal articles on Oliver Cromwell and the Interregnum. Illuminates the personality of Cromwell and his achievements. Includes treatments of Ireland and Scotland alongside discussion of England. Editorial material introduces students to the historiographical issues.

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Philip Skippon was the third-most senior general in parliament's New Model Army during the British Civil Wars. A veteran of European Protestant armies during the period of the Thirty Years' War and long-serving commander of the London Trained Bands, no other high-ranking parliamentarian enjoyed such a long military career as Skippon. He was an author of religious books, an MP and a senior political figure in the republican and Cromwellian regimes. This is the first book to examine Skippon's career, which is used to shed new light on historical debates surrounding the Civil Wars and understand how military events of this period impacted upon broader political, social and cultural themes.

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