

Social History in Perspective

General Editor: Jeremy Black

Social History in Perspective is a new series of in-depth studies of the many topics in social, cultural and religious history for students. They will give the student clear surveys of the subject and present the most recent research in an accessible way.

PUBLISHED

- John Belchem *Popular Radicalism in Nineteenth-Century Britain*
Simon Dentith *Culture and Society in Nineteenth-Century England*
Harry Goulbourne *Race Relations in Britain since 1945*
Tim Hitchcock *English Sexualities, 1700–1800*
Sybil Jack *Towns in Tudor and Stuart Britain*
Helen Jewell *Education in Early Modern England*
Christopher Marsh *Popular Religion in the Sixteenth Century*
Hugh McLeod *Religion and Society in England, 1850–1914*
Michael A. Mullett *Catholics in Britain and Ireland, 1558–1829*
John Spurr *English Puritanism, 1603–1689*
W. B. Stephens *Education in Britain, 1750–1914*
David Taylor *Crime, Policing and Punishment in England, 1750–1914*
N. L. Tranter *British Population in the Twentieth Century*
Ian D. Whyte *Scotland's Society and Economy in Transition, c.1500–c.1760*

FORTHCOMING

- Eric Acheson *Late Medieval Economy and Society*
Ian Archer *Rebellion and Riot in England, 1360–1660*
Jonathan Barry *Religion and Society in England, 1603–1760*
A. L. Beier *Early Modern London*
Sue Bruley *Women's Century of Change*
Andrew Charlesworth *Popular Protest in Britain and Ireland, 1650–1870*
Richard Connors *The Growth of Welfare in Hanoverian England, 1723–1793*
Geoffrey Crossick *A History of London from 1800–1939*
Alistair Davies *Culture and Society, 1900–1995*
Martin Durham *The Permissive Society*
Peter Fleming *Medieval Family and Household in England*
David Fowler *Youth Culture in the Twentieth Century*
Malcolm Gaskill *Witchcraft in England, 1560–1760*

Titles continued overleaf

List continued from previous page

- Peter Gosden *Education in the Twentieth Century*
S. J. D. Green *Religion and the Decline in Christianity in
Modern Britain, 1880–1980*
Paul Griffiths *English Social Structure and the Social Order, 1500–1750*
Anne Hardy *Health and Medicine since 1860*
Steve Hindle *The Poorer Sort of People in Seventeenth-Century England*
David Hirst *Welfare and Society, 1832–1939*
Anne Kettle *Social Structure in the Middle Ages*
Alan Kidd *The State and the Poor, 1834–1914*
Peter Kirby and S. A. King *British Living Standards, 1700–1870*
Arthur J. McIvor *Working in Britain, 1880–1950*
Anthony Milton *Church and Religion in England, 1603–1642*
Christine Peters *Women in Early Modern Britain, 1690–1800*
Barry Reay *Rural Workers, 1830–1930*
Richard Rex *Heresy and Dissent in England, 1360–1560*
John Rule *Labour and the State, 1700–1875*
Pamela Sharpe *British Population in the Long Eighteenth Century, 1680–1900*
Malcolm Smuts *Culture and Power in England*
Heather Swanson *Medieval British Towns*
Benjamin Thompson *Feudalism or Lordship and Politics in Medieval England*
R. E. Tyson *Population in Pre-Industrial Britain, 1500–1750*
Garthine Walker *Crime, Law and Society in Early Modern England*
Andy Wood *The Crowd and Popular Politics in Early Modern England*

Please note that a sister series, *British History in Perspective*, is available which covers all the key topics in British political history.

CRIME, POLICING AND
PUNISHMENT IN ENGLAND,
1750–1914

David Taylor
Principal Lecturer in History
University of Huddersfield



© David Taylor 1998

All right reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission.

No paragraph of this publication may be reproduced, copied or transmitted save with written permission or in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, or under the terms of any licence permitting limited copying issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9HE.

Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

The author has asserted his right to be identified as the author of this work in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.



First published in 1998 by
MACMILLAN PRESS LTD
Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS
and London
Companies and representatives throughout the world

ISBN 978-0-333-64199-6 ISBN 978-1-349-27105-4 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-27105-4

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00 99 98

Typeset by Aarontype Limited, Easton, Bristol, Great Britain



Published in the United States of America 1998 by
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS INC.,
Scholarly and Reference Division
175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

ISBN 978-0-312-21396-1

*To Thelma and the memories
of holidays in Spain and Tunisia*

CONTENTS

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Introduction	1
1 Crime and Crime Statistics	7
2 The Pattern of Crime	27
3 The Criminal: Myth and Reality	48
4 The Origins and Impact of the New Police	71
5 The Creation of a Professional Force, 1856–1914	88
6 Courts, Prosecutors and Verdicts	106
7 Capital Punishment in Theory and Practice	124
8 Secondary Punishments	141
Conclusion	167
<i>Notes and References</i>	170
<i>Bibliography</i>	190
<i>Index</i>	202

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In writing this book I have become indebted to many people. As will be clear from the Notes and References section, I owe a great deal to a wide range of scholars upon whose works I have drawn. I trust I have represented them accurately and treated them fairly. I am particularly grateful to those colleagues and former students who have listened to my strange views and sought to keep me from straying too far into error. Dr Richard Lewis of Teesside University provided much useful comment and encouragement at a critical time, Dr Bertrand Taithe of the University of Huddersfield ensured that certain sections did not become Foucault-free zones, while Dr Philip Woodfine, also of the University of Huddersfield, not only commented in great detail on an earlier draft but also provided perceptive observations on the overall structure and argument. The book is better for their contributions. Errors of fact and questionable interpretations are my responsibility. My thanks also go to the various libraries and record offices in which I have worked. In particular, I would like to thank the staff of Huddersfield University library, who have been cheerful and efficient throughout.

Finally, my warmest thanks go to my wife, Thelma, who has contributed greatly to the book's evolution, having read and commented on every draft, and offered much advice and encouragement, as well as injecting a sense of realism into the whole venture. The book is dedicated to her as a small token of my gratitude.

DAVID TAYLOR