<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1603-1625</td>
<td>Reign of James I, king of England</td>
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<td>1604</td>
<td>Publication of Cervantes' <em>Don Quixote</em></td>
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<td>1607</td>
<td>Monteverdi's opera <em>Orfeo</em></td>
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<td>1610</td>
<td>Assassination of Henry IV, king of France</td>
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<td>1610-1643</td>
<td>Reign of Louis XIII, king of France</td>
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<td>1613</td>
<td>Galileo's <em>Letters on the Solar Spots</em></td>
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<td>1613-1645</td>
<td>Reign of Michael Romanov, tsar of Russia</td>
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<td>1618</td>
<td>Outbreak of the Thirty Years' War</td>
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<td>1620</td>
<td>Francis Bacon's <em>Novum organum</em></td>
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<td>1621</td>
<td>&quot;Great Protestation&quot; of the English Commons</td>
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<tr>
<td>1624</td>
<td>Richelieu comes to power</td>
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<td>1625</td>
<td>Grotius' <em>De jure belli ac pacis</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1625-1649</td>
<td>Reign of Charles I, king of England</td>
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<td>1628</td>
<td>Petition of Right; siege of La Rochelle; Bernini's tomb of Pope Urban VIII; Harvey's <em>Exercitatio anatomica</em></td>
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<td>1629</td>
<td>Edict of Restitution</td>
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<td>1629-1640</td>
<td>Personal government of Charles I</td>
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<td>1631</td>
<td>Battle of Breitenfeld</td>
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<td>1632</td>
<td>Battle of Lützen</td>
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<td>1635</td>
<td>Academie française founded</td>
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<td>1637</td>
<td>Descartes' <em>Discours sur la méthode</em>; Milton's <em>Comus</em></td>
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The Age of Power

1640–1688 Reign of Frederick William, the Great Elector of Brandenburg
1642–1648 English civil wars
1643–1715 Reign of Louis XIV, king of France
1648 Peace of Westphalia
1649 Execution of Charles I, establishment of the Commonwealth
1651 Hobbes's Leviathan
1653 Establishment of the Protectorate; the Instrument of Government
1658 Death of Oliver Cromwell
1659 Treaty of the Pyrenees
1660 Restoration of the Stuart monarchy; Royal Society founded
1660–1685 Charles II, king of England
1661 Death of Mazarin, personal government of Louis XIV begins
1666 Molière's Le Misanthrope
1667 Milton's Paradise Lost
1668–1669 Rembrandt's "The Return of the Prodigal Son"
1670 Pascal's Pensées
1672–1678 Dutch War, ended by the Treaty of Nimwegen
1674 Boileau's L'Art poétique
1677 Racine's Phèdre
1678 Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress
1683 Siege of Vienna
1685 Revocation of the Edict of Nantes
1685–1688 Reign of James II, king of England
1687 Newton's Philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica
1688–1697 War of the League of Augsburg, ended by the Treaty of Ryswick
1688 The Glorious Revolution in England
1689 Declaration of Rights
1689 Purcell's Dido and Aeneas
Chronological Summary

1689–1702  William and Mary, king and queen of England
1689–1725  Peter I, tsar of Russia
1690      Locke's *An Essay concerning Human Understanding* and *Two Treatises of Civil Government*
1700–1721  The Great Northern War, ended by the Treaty of Nystadt
1701–1714  War of the Spanish Succession
1702–1714  Reign of Anne, queen of England
1707      Union of England and Scotland
1713      Peace of Utrecht
1714      Leibniz' *Monadology*
Suggestions for Further Reading


The intense intellectual activity of the age has been treated in several excellent and stimulating volumes, some of which are happily available in inexpensive editions. Foremost among these is the late Alfred North Whitehead's brilliant Science and the Modern World (Mentor ed.; New York, 1952). Paul Hazard's The European Mind, 1680–1715 (New Haven, 1952) is basic for the period. Basil Willey's The Seventeenth Century Background (Anchor ed.; Garden City, N.Y., 1953) attempts a synthesis of the intellectual and religious currents of the age in a manner very different from that of the present volume. A collection of excerpts from the philosophical writings of the age, with brief introductory essays, has been compiled by Stuart Hampshire in The Age of Reason (Mentor ed.; New York, 1959).

The literary aspect of seventeenth-century thought is developed effectively in Hershel Baker's The Wars of Truth (Cambridge, Mass., 1952), but the theme is the decline of Christian humanism rather than the baroque spirit and power; its emphasis is on England. The most interesting recent study of English revolutionary thought is by Perez Zagorin, A History of Political Thought in the English Revolution (London, 1954).

For the history of science, the relevant portions of Herbert Butterfield's The Origins of Modern Science (London, 1950) are recommended for a treatment that is at once sound and lucid. A. Wolf's A History of Science, Technology and Philosophy in the 16th and 17th Centuries (New York, 1935; Harper Torchbooks series, New York, 1959) deals with the material in an encyclopedic fashion. J. B. Conant's On Understanding Science: An Historical Approach (New Haven, 1947) is valuable both for the seventeenth century and for the modern study of this important field. The political implications of scientific and philosophical developments are persuasively sketched by J. E. King in his Science and Rationalism in the Government of Louis XIV, 1661–83 (Johns Hopkins Studies in History and Political Science, LXVI, no. 2; Baltimore, 1949).
Further Reading


For France, in addition to the volume by King mentioned above, David Ogg’s *Louis XIV* (London, 1933) and J. R. Boullenger’s *The Seventeenth Century* (London, 1920), a volume in *The National History of France* edited by Funck-Brentano, are good, if somewhat pedestrian. Aldous Huxley’s study of Father Joseph, *Gray Eminence* (New York, 1941), is stimulating and beautifully written. C. W. Cole’s *French Mercantilist Doctrines before Colbert* (New York, 1931), *Colbert and a
Century of French Mercantilism (New York, 1939), and French Mercantilism 1683–1700 (New York, 1943) are useful primarily for the sheer amount of information they contain. Hillaire Belloc's biography Richelieu (Philadelphia, 1929) is rather old fashioned and questionable as history, but still highly entertaining. On the whole, Maurice Ashley's Louis XIV and the Greatness of France (London 1948) is probably the best general work in English.

Surprisingly little of value has been written in English about central and eastern Europe during this period. Two striking exceptions are C. V. Wedgewood's The Thirty Years' War (New Haven, 1939) and Ferdinand Schevill's The Great Elector (Chicago, 1947), both of which are highly recommended for their intrinsic interest, their sound scholarship, and their literary merit. There are many general histories of Russia in English, those of George Vernadsky and Sir Bernard Pares being among the best; V. O. Kluchevsky's monumental A History of Russia (London, 1911–1931), although gracelessly translated, is still the classic treatment.
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