

Research & Writing Ch. 18

The story England would have been very different had France invaded England after seizing control over the English Channel after the Battle of Beachy Head. Which took place between Admiral Anne, Count of Tourville, representing the French fleet and crown, and Admiral Arthur, Earl of Torrington. According to the Britannica website, Tourville rested his ships in Le Havre, France, yet he had seventy-seven ships which incurred no losses after the battle against the alliances fifty, having sustained the loss of seven ships. Had he capitalized and occupied England.

First, the British government having recently signed the "Bill of Rights" in 1689 which created a co-monarchy predicated on a legal contract with Parliament. Which limited the power of the king to what was authorized by the laws. Formed by the cultural frame of England at the time which was fueled by the minds of John Locke and Sir Isaac Newton whose ideas are already have a significant influence on not only the ideas of equality, unfortunately only focused on all "men," but also religion due to the influence of new scientific discoveries. It doesn't seem that it would be very easy for the French, Catholic crown to quell these ideals. King Louis XIV, approaching the height of the Divine Right, unfortunately, the strength of this monarchy would be short-lived as Louis XV's infidelities would result in the reduced social validity of his ability to rule. With Enlightenment already permeating throughout England because of their established social practices of free speech thanks to freedom of the press and privatized printing technology. The working class which exists, at the time of this proposed new time line of events, would have already sped up the dissatisfaction society feels toward the monarchy both in France and England. With an outcome possibly being that of a Revolution on two fronts.

As for the British colonies around the world, and especially America, unfortunately, the British presence would have been obliterated before any of the revolutions could have taken place. The French and Indian war may not have even lasted as long, if it would have happened at all, because once the French took control of Britain in 1690, that would mean that they would have also had the British fleet. During which time it was most likely the most formidable global force, also making it a significant global influence. With British rule in America quelled earlier in the infancy of its colonies an uprising there would be questionable. One thing is certain, France would have most likely dominated global trade providing the almost unlimited financing to any of it's endeavors of conquest. As a way to scale just how powerful they would have been, according to National Library of France website, "France was the third most active power involved in the transatlantic Slave Trade." Second only to Portugal and Great Britain, thereby potentially making France the global leader in almost every facet of trade.

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