Civil War, England under Cromwell, and the Glorious Revolution

* The civil war consisted of two phases, which were as follows:
* King vs. Parliament (1642 – 1646) → the king quickly raised an army of mercenaries, while Parliament allowed Cromwell to take over and form the New Model Army, which won.
* Parliament vs. Parliament’s Army (1646 – 1649) → Cromwell splits from most of the Parliament since he is an Independent (believes in freedom of religions) and they are strictly Puritans. So, everyone joins against Cromwell, but he still wins.

**I. England Under Cromwell**

* Cromwell executed the king in 1649, saying he was not to be trusted, and then purged Parliament of all dissenters (600 → 60 people, called Romp Parliament) which got him firmly in control.
* Cromwell soon became a military dictator, and he divided England into 12 military districts that were ruled by martial law. However, he was unable to make any lasting changes.
* He was far ahead of his time in his religious but did not believe in democratic rule.
* Levellers: faction that wanted all people to vote.
* Diggers: faction that wanted all people to vote and wanted to share all the wealth equally.
* Cromwell disagreed with both the levellers and the diggers.
* After Cromwell died, his son Richard was unable to maintain power so Charles II was summoned back from France and the monarchy was restored.

**II. Charles II**

* Nicknamed “The Merry Monarch” Charles II was very easygoing and had no problem with compromising with Parliament.

-After the interregnum both parties were eager to compromise.

* The Treaty of Dover: in 1670, Charles II secretly signed the treaty with France

-The treaty stated that, in exchange for military support (against the Dutch) and $, Charles would try to convert England back to Catholicism and to convert back to Catholicism himself.

* The Declaration of Indulgence: in 1672, w/out consulting Parliament, Charles issued a Declaration of Indulgence, in which he promised not to enforce the laws against Catholics and the non-Conformists

-Parliament saw through the trick, however, and demanded that the king retract the declaration, which he did.

* Test Act: in response, Parliament passed the Test Act in 1673
* prohibited anyone who had not had an Anglican communion from entering into the army or public service
* The law was aimed at excluding Catholics. Charles allowed the law to be passed, but his used his powers of dispensation to sneak some Catholics into public service anyhow.

**III. James II**

* Before James became king, a rebellion caused by the Popish Plot called the Monmouth Rebellion occurred, which was easily put down.

-Public opinion of James was still high, though James’ brutal handling of the rebels after they were caught somewhat angered and worried the public.

* The first thing James II did was to immediately declare that he was a Catholic and that he was going to try to convert the country back to Catholicism

-He also revealed the details of the Treaty of Dover

* Next, he tried to romanize (convert back to Catholicism) Oxford and Cambridge, as well as the army.

-He romanized the army using his powers of dispensation, and he did so because he felt that the only real source of power was the army, and in order to control the army, he knew he needed to have Catholic, not Protestant, officers.

* Finally, he passed a Declaration of Indulgence that was ignored, so he passed another law forcing every bishop to read it in church.

-Seven bishops, however, refused to obey, and they were put on trial, and found not guilty (to the king’s astonishment and anger).

* Still, after all James’ stupidity, Parliament was still reluctant to revolt since they remembered what had happened last time and did not want to repeat the same mistake.

-Also, since James was getting old and his three daughters were Protestants, they figured that he would die soon and England would once again have a Protestant ruler.

* However, James’ wife became pregnant, which was a miracle at her age, and actually gave birth to a healthy baby boy – something that totally changed the scene for Parliament

-Parliament asked William of Orange (married to Mary, daughter of James) to invade and take over, which he did.

-The king fled w/out a fight as his top general, John Churchill, deserted him the night before the battle and joined the other side.

**IV. The Glorious Revolution**

* 1688: William and Mary take over as comonarchs

-William of Orange, the leader of the Dutch who is fighting the French, was so thankful to be able to take over England because of its military strength that he did not mind being a limited monarch.

* Then, Parliament passes the Bill of Rights a statement that, once and for all, establishes Parliament’s supremacy.
* Parliament then passed the Act of Toleration (for religion)