The British Seaborne Empire,

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Abstract

Jeremy Black deliberately titled his book to link it with two classics, works that every maritime historian knows: C. R. Boxer’s The Dutch Seaborne Empire (1965) and J. H. Parry’s The Spanish Seaborne Empire (1966). The planned volume in that series that would have provided an overview of the British Empire was never completed, although nearly twenty years later D. B. Quinn and A. N. Ryan filled the gap for the early phase with their England’s Sea Empire, 1550–1642 (1983). Black’s contribution shows a significantly different approach as well as a much broader and more nuanced view of the general theme.

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