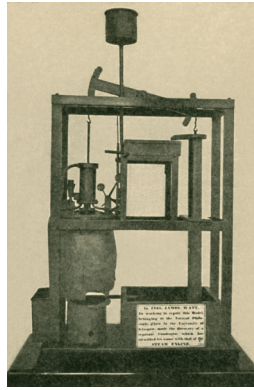


Industrial Revolution



JAMES WATT REPAIRED THIS NEWCOMEN STEAM ENGINE, AND DEVELOPED THE IDEA OF CONDENSING THE STEAM IN A SEPARATE CHAMBER, ALLOWING FOR LESS ENERGY BEING REQUIRED TO RUN THE PUMP. THE FIRST NEWCOMEN ENGINE REPLACED A TEAM OF 500 HORSES THAT WAS USED TO PUMP WATER OUT OF A COAL MINE SHAFT.

The industrial Revolution started in Great Britain in the 1800s, when machines replaced human labor, and steam engines replaced the use of animal and natural forces as power.

Dramatic changes took place in the following areas:

- Clothing production (wool and cotton)
Mechanized cotton and wool looms
- Coal and steam power
Replaced reliance upon wood and running water as power sources
- Greatly increased use of metals (Iron and Steel)

steam engine—powered machines in factories, as well as railroads; the use of the first steam engines to pump water out of coal mines increased the amount of coal available, lowering its price. Cheaper coal made it more economical to use machines (fueled by coal) than pay the relatively higher labor costs in Britain in the 1700s and 1800s, encouraging the invention of more coal-consuming machines.

Industrial Revolution Stats		
Growth of use of power looms in England	Railroad mileage in Britain grew from 95 miles in 1830, to 6,600 in 1850; although Britain saw the first steam railroad in 1830, the US soon caught up, and by 1850, had about 9,000 miles of track.	Production of pig iron in Britain:
1813 2,400		1740 17,350
1833 100,000		1825 581,367
1850 250,000		1852 2,701,000

Creation of a middle-class, as well as mass-production of goods that middle class families could afford.

Inequality?

Although the Industrial Revolution has been often charged with creating a large gap between the wealthy factory owners and the poor workers, the bottom line is that agricultural communities have a much larger gap between poor serfs and slaves, and the large landowners; typically it was only in industrial societies that voting rights were extended to the entire male populace. And so while there was in fact a large disparity between rich and poor, the Industrial Revolution didn't create this, although it most likely created conditions for political empowerment of the lower classes.