

meticulous examination of work through a gender-inclusive lens, the book champions the use of new sources and insights to enrich our understanding of the nuanced evolution of both work and society during the early modern period. Beyond merely highlighting the active role women played in early modern economies, it recognizes the intricate dynamics and complexities between work, gender, and society. As we navigate the historical landscape, *The Whole Economy* challenges us to continually refine our perspectives and methodologies, beckoning us toward a more comprehensive and enlightened understanding of the past.

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Sjoerd Levelt, Esther van Raamsdonk, and Michael D. Rose (eds), *Anglo-Dutch Connections in the Early Modern World* (London: Routledge, 2023). 358 pp. ISBN 9780367502331.

DOI: 10.52024/c4frpx59

This self-professed ground-breaking collection navigates the complex relations and networks between early modern England and the Dutch Republic. As Sjoerd Levelt, Esther van Raamsdonk, and Michael D. Rose argue, “Anglo-Dutch relations shaped all aspects of life, with profound implications still relevant today”. This kaleidoscopic compendium, divided into seven parts, comprises of an ambitious twenty-three essays, showcasing work from a diverse range of interdisciplinary scholars who – taken together – offer a series of new explorations into early modern Anglo-Dutch connections. The authors certainly achieve their aim for this collection to be both accessible and innovative.

The subject of Anglo-Dutch rivalries has continued to receive significant scholarly attention, with many previous studies following Douglas Irwin’s school of thought, focusing on the tensions between the British East India and the Dutch East India companies. This book, however, provides a refreshing approach to looking at Anglo-Dutch relations beyond the realm of revolt and rivalries. While the collection is not wholly exhaustive in looking at all aspects of Anglo-Dutch connections, neither is it an overview for a general audience. For those wanting their first foray into Anglo-Dutch relations and cultural exchange, one might be better placed looking at Lisa Jardine’s 2008

*Going Dutch.* This collection, however, builds on some established approaches in the field and provides a remarkably broad, meticulously researched starting place for further study. By using a variety of compact case studies, each focused on a person, group, idea, or event, the collection attempts to explore the wider context of Anglo-Dutch connections and does not confine itself to one area of focus or discipline.

A core strength of the volume is that the contributors come from an array of disciplines – including global history, English, Dutch Studies, philosophy, art history, history, and the digital humanities – and utilize a variety of innovative research methods and interdisciplinary approaches across languages to convey their message. The essays offer a transnational perspective on the study of culture, languages, and other early modern Anglo-Dutch connections. This view is paired with additional themes such as postcolonialism, linguistic borders, and intercultural adaptation. Silke Muylaert, for example, provides an excellent example of Anglo-Dutch connections that emerged out of the necessary need for asylum. Muylaert's contribution focuses on the ecclesiastical experience of the Dutch in English Stranger Churches (a truly fascinating chapter). Similarly, Ulrike Kern, examines the Dutch painter Samuel van Hoogstraten at work in the Royal Society, a relationship that was born from desire rather than necessity. Both chapters complement the broad narrative of the collection, while also speaking to a shared theme of intercultural adaptation and Anglo-Dutch pluralism.

While the above chapters showcase examples of positive collaborative endeavors, the collection also depicts occasions when Anglo-Dutch rivalries were mutually exploitative of other nations outside of Europe. In Part 2, Deborah Hamer's fascinating chapter considers the differing policies of the East India and the Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC, the Dutch East India company) on women in Batavia, Jakarta. Along similar lines, chapters by Su Fang Ng as well as Silvia Espelt-Bombin and Martijn van den Bel, explore Anglo-Dutch interests and colonial rivalries witnessed in the Amboyna massacre in Indonesia and in the continuous colonial presence of English and Dutch forces trading and overseeing tobacco production at the Oyapock River in northeastern South America. While some contributions speak to shared Anglo-Dutch endeavors, others such as those of Jelle van Lottum and Lodewijk Petram, explore why, despite shared political and mercantile interests, there were only very few examples of English seamen in the VOC. In this way, the collection showcases how apparent dichotomies can often reveal mutual dependencies and

vice versa. These dependencies are further explored throughout part 3, which focuses on “News, Letters, and War”, with engaging contributions from the late Gijs Rommelse (to whom this volume is dedicated), Jack Avery, and a particularly enlightening chapter by Yann and Esther van Raamsdonk on “What is ‘Dutch’ in the Stuart State Papers?”.

The theme of communication and language is, unsurprisingly, central to this collection. Time and again, with a certain degree of repetition that is unavoidable with so many contributors, multiple chapters discuss the importance of learning a language to facilitate cultural exchange and cement deeper connections. The chapter by John Gallagher, is particularly excellent at evidencing the mutual relationship between the English and Dutch through the collective desire for multilingualism. Gallagher examines Anglo-Dutch ties – religious, commercial, and dynastic – through the multilingual conversation manual, *Anglo-Belgica* (1677) by Edward Richardson. Richardson himself had moved from Ripon to Rotterdam, and the manual focuses on the shared linguistics between the two nations. Gallagher builds on seminal work by Esther van Raamsdonk and Alan Moss (*The Seventeenth Century*, 2018) as a way to explore shared Anglo-Dutch connections and communications that traverse boundaries and invite cross-cultural transmissions. Gallagher’s contribution opens “Part 1: Travel, Language, and Education”, and is followed by Alan Moss’s own chapter on seventeenth-century Dutch travel manuscripts on England. Similarly, Ineke Huysman discusses the English travels of the Dutch secretary Constanijn Huygens whose own Anglo-Dutch connection goes beyond his seven visits to England but, more significantly, is a third-generation patrilineal consideration, showcasing how seventeenth-century Anglo-Dutch connections became an intergenerational concern. Finally, in this first section, Martine Zoeteman-van Pelt considers Scottish students matriculating at the Protestant Leiden University and the remarkable experiences they shared. The section as a whole establishes the longstanding relationship between the English and Dutch, with a particular emphasis on the frequency of travel between the two countries. These ‘connections’, however, far exceed travel itself, spanning language, art, education, and a shared literary heritage. In this particular vein, one of the volume’s co-editors, Sjoerd Levelt – who has further developed this line of thought in another edited collection with Ad Putter, *North Sea Crossings: The Literary Heritage of Anglo-Dutch Relations 1066-1688* (2021) – continues to explore the collaboration and print culture between the study of Old English and

Old Dutch. Levelt's absorbing chapter analyzes several early modern figures such as John Selden, Franciscus Junius, Thomas Marshall, and Richard Verstegan and their contribution to Anglo-Dutch book production. Another chapter by Hanna de Lange and a particularly fascinating contribution from Martine van Elk further examine Anglo-Dutch exchange through the history of the book, exploring everything from print culture, piracy, and female stationers crossing borders. The exploration of literary exchanges continues with contributions from Alisa van de Haar, Nigel Smith, and Nina Lamal in part 5.

The connection of shared religion is discussed throughout many of the chapters, with part 6 solely dedicated to "Religious Pluralism and Radicalism". As well as being one of the co-editors of this volume, Esther van Raamsdonk, who co-writes the introduction, also co-authors two chapters in this collection. Michael D. Rose's "Plockhoy's Portable Utopia: Bridging Radical Circles in England and the Netherlands", written with Raamsdonk, offers excellent insight into Anglo-Dutch religious radicalism through a case study of the relatively minor figure Pieter Plockhoy. Joining Silke Muylaert, Rose, and Raamsdonk in part 6, Gary K. Waite's case study of "Seventeenth-Century English Writers on Dutch Nonconformists" shines a light on international mobility and Anglo-Dutch contact, which caused new ways of thinking and living to develop.

Part 7 opens with Hentie Louw's investigation into the cultural relations between England and the Dutch Republic through an analysis of classical architectural idioms, while Piet van Cruyningen presents the case of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden by looking at how Dutch water management technology was deployed throughout England. These chapters accompany Ulrike Kern's contribution on Samuel van Hoogstraten (referred to above) in presenting a wide-ranging perspective on Dutch innovation and shared design practices.

The volume is impressive and well written. It showcases some of the best in established and emergent scholarship in Anglo-Dutch relations and spans multiple languages and disciplines. While the volume is ambitious and wide-ranging in focus and scope, it provides a well-framed survey of many different avenues of Anglo-Dutch studies that continue to engage scholars of early modern cultural interactions. Scholars looking for a detailed glimpse of the burgeoning subject of Anglo-Dutch connections need not look any further than this rich and capacious collection.

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