

History of Financial Disasters 1763–1995

General Editor: **Mark Duckenfield**

Volume Editors: **Stefan Altorfer, Benedikt Koehler and Mark Duckenfield**

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Financial disasters have much to teach us both in terms of the societies and times in which they occurred and also their ramifications for our own times. Such sudden and catastrophic losses have always commanded considerable attention and have provided a wide range of fascinating documentary evidence.

This three-volume reset edition looks at the origins and consequences of seminal financial crises throughout history, combining original documents from nineteen financial disasters between 1763 and 1995 with academic interpretations of the major

causes and consequences of each crisis. Rare public and private papers provide both source material on the background of each disaster as well as first-hand accounts of how contemporaries viewed and responded to unfolding events.

These documents contain evaluations of the underlying causes of the various crises including, among many others, the connection between politics and banking in revolutionary France during the Assignat Inflation; the restructuring of the British financial system after the Crisis of 1825; limited liability and the Overend & Gurney scandal; the creation of the US Federal Reserve after the Crisis of 1907; the German inflation of the 1920s; the Great Crash of 1929; and the role of computerised trading in the 1987 New York Stock Market Crash.

The set will appeal to economic, financial and political historians and anyone with an interest in the key economic and financial turning points that have shaped the western world.



Following the Wall Street crash of 1929, the Brooklyn branch of Bank of United States closed its doors, 11 December 1930
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- Includes works and correspondence of many significant political figures and economists such as William Pitt the Elder, Charles F Dunbar, Harold Wilson, Bill Clinton and Barry Eichengreen
- Full editorial apparatus includes a substantial general introduction, introductions to each volume, as well as headnotes to each crisis
- Fully consolidated index for the complete set in the final volume
- Includes newly transcribed unpublished material from major public archives including the Public Record Office and the Bank of England Archives

Editorial board

Mark Duckenfield is at the London School of Economics

Stefan Altorfer is at the London School of Economics

Benedikt Koehler is an independent scholar

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Contemporary sources (selection): Letter by R Wolters to Lord Liverpool (1763) (British Library Manuscript transcription); Memoirs of William Forbes (1803 [1859]); Correspondence of the Earl of Chatham (William Pitt the Elder) (1772–3); Louis Sébastien Mercier, *New Picture of Paris* (1800); François d'Ivernois, *A Cursory View of the Assignats* (1795); A Friendly Monitor, *A Brief Review of the ... Bank of the United States* (1819); Anti-Bullionist, *Inquiry into the Causes of the Present Commercial Embarrassments in the United States* (1820); [Benjamin Disraeli] *An Inquiry into the Plans, Progress, and Policy of the American Mining Companies* (1825); Henry English, *A Complete View of the Joint Stock Companies* (1827); A Citizen of Massachusetts, *The Times: or, The Pressure and its Causes Examined. An Address to the People* (1837); James Wilson, *Capital, Currency and Banking* (1847); Arthur Smith, *The Bubble of the Age* (1848) (excerpts)

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