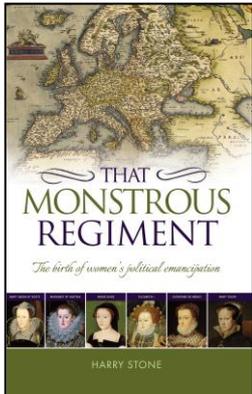


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# THAT MONSTROUS REGIMENT

## THE BIRTH OF WOMEN'S POLITICAL EMANCIPATION

by Harry Stone



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*“John Knox should really have known better when writing about his ‘Monstrous Regiment of Women’. ‘How abominable before GOD’, he thundered, ‘is the Empire or Rule of Wicked Woman, yea, of a traitress and bastard.’ His tirade was politically incorrect even in 1558.”* author, Harry Stone



MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS • MARGARET OF AUSTRIA • MARIE GUISE

During the latter half of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, Europe saw monumental power struggles between Catholicism and Protestantism – and between nations (England, Scotland, France, The Netherlands, Spain and Portugal). Arguably, for the first time in European history, it was largely a small number of influential women who wielded the power. Some were Queens in their own right; had authority through marriage or the position of their families. Some of these women were enemies; some were allies – but, they all had one thing in common. They all wielded power in a man's world.

These extraordinary women proved adept at using their intellect, intuition and marriage – or more particularly engagement – to gain international advantages. Above all, these were the women who stormed the cartel of male rulers and were the first to win respected places on the stage of international politics.



*“Kings happily engineered war on the assumption that they would win and so could claim their victory as proof their rule was favoured by God. The ladies, in contrast, preferred to settle their international problems through marriage or, more precisely, through engagement ...”* author, Harry Stone

ELIZABETH I • CATHERINE DE MEDICI • MARY TUDOR

**This unconventional and potentially controversial history (which will fascinate and intrigue historians, students and those interested in tracing the roots of feminism) ...**

- commences with the birth of Margaret of Austria in 1507
- offers a fresh perspective on (and thoughtful analysis of) the life and actions of Catherine de Medici
- explores the power struggles of the period 1542 (the birth of Mary Queen of Scots) – 1603 (the death of Elizabeth I)
- includes re-examinations of Protestant Elizabeth I and Catholic Mary Tudor and Mary Queen of Scots
- argues that Protestantism might not have taken root without the tacit acceptance of these women

**About the author:** Harry Stone is a retired journalist who has written books on many topics, including the story of the underground press in occupied Europe during WW2; a social history of winter sports; the history of stage effects from Ancient Greece to the present day; and the true life mysteries that were investigated by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes **Media opportunities:** Extracts/serialisation. The author is available for interviews. **Local UK interest:** The author was brought up in **Liphook (Hampshire)**; and lives in **London**.



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