



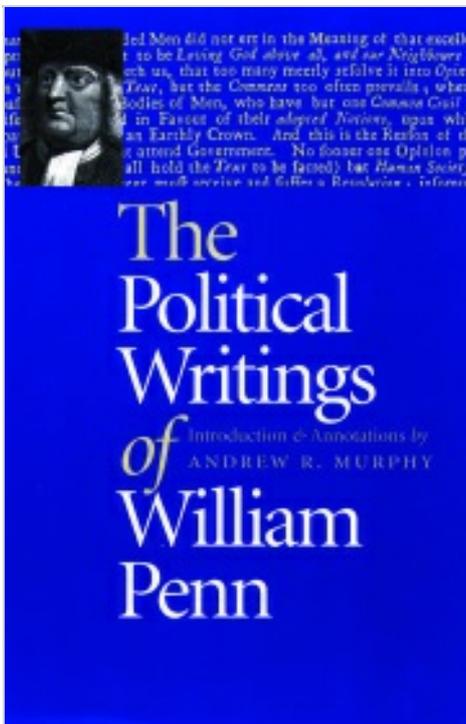
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# The Political Writings of William Penn



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# The Political Writings of William Penn

*William Penn*

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## SUMMARY

William Penn played a crucial role in the articulation of religious liberty as a philosophical and political value during the second half of the seventeenth century and as a core element of the classical liberal tradition in general. Penn was not only one of the most vocal spokesmen for liberty of conscience in Restoration England, but he also oversaw a great colonizing endeavor that attempted to instantiate his tolerationist commitments in practice. His thought has relevance not only for scholars of English political and religious history, but also for those who are interested in the foundations of American religious liberty, political development, and colonial history. This volume illuminates the origins and development of Penn's thought by presenting, for the first



## Table of Contents

### Cover

pp. 1-1

 [Download](#) | [Save](#)

### Title Page, Copyright

pp. 2-7

 [Download](#) | [Save](#)

---

## Contents

pp. vii-viii

 Download | Save

---

## Acknowledgments

pp. ix-x

 Download | Save

---

## Introduction. William Penn: His Life, His Times, and His Work

pp. xi-xxiv

 Download | Save

---

## Notes on Texts and Annotations

pp. xxv-xxvi

 Download | Save

---

## Chronology of Penn's Life and Times

pp. xxvii-xxviii

 Download | Save

---

## Part I. Foundations: The Ancient Constitution and English Liberties

pp. 1-2

---

### 1. The People's Ancient and Just Liberties Asserted (1670)

pp. 3-21

 Download | Save

---

## **2. England's Present Interest Considered (1675)**

pp. 22-76

 Download | Save

---

## **Part II. Penn's Argument for Religious Liberty**

pp. 77-78

---

## **3. The Great Case of Liberty of Conscience (1670)**

pp. 79-119

 Download | Save

---

## **4. One Project for the Good of England (1679)**

pp. 120-136

 Download | Save

---

## **5. An Address to Protestants of All Perswasions (1679)**

pp. 137-271

 Download | Save

---

## **6. A Brief Examination and State of Liberty Spiritual (1681)**

pp. 272-288

## **7. A Perswasive to Moderation to Church-Dissenters (1686)**

pp. 289-329

## **8. Good Advice to the Church of England, Roman-Catholick, and Protestant Dissenter (1687)**

pp. 330-376

### **Part III. General Principles and Specific Events**

pp. 377-378

---

## **9. The Proposed Comprehension Soberly, and Not Unseasonably, Consider'd (1672)**

pp. 379-383

## **10. England's Great Interest, in the Choice of This New Parliament (1679)**

pp. 384-391

## **11. A Letter from a Gentleman in the Country, to His Friends in London, upon the Subject of**

## the Penal Laws and Tests (1687)

pp. 392-398

 Download | Save

---

## Part IV. An Expanding Vision for the Future

pp. 399-400

---

### 12. An Essay towards the Present and Future Peace of Europe (1693)

pp. 401-420

 Download | Save

---

## Index

pp. 421-440

 Download | Save

---

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