

*Baker Street Elementary*

Presents  
"The Life and Times in Victorian London"



*Baker Street Elementary*

*& AboutBritain.com*

*The Life and Times in Victorian London*  
*# AB013 - The Victorian Era -- February, 2022*



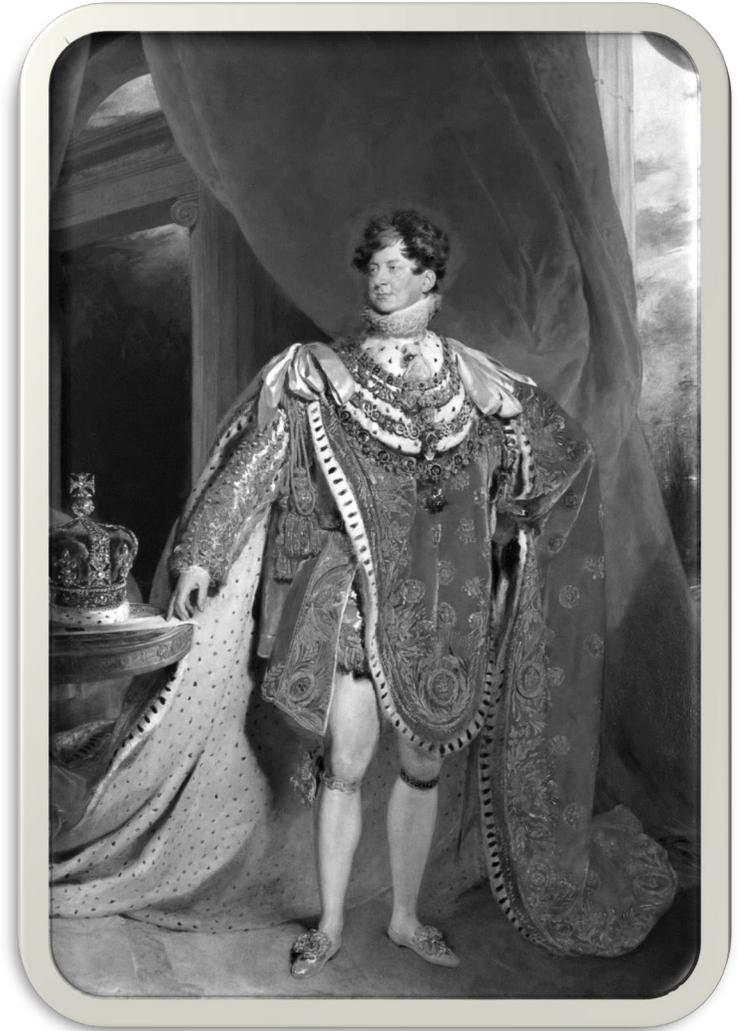
Welcome to topic # AB013... Today we will be looking at the Victorian era. Thanks so much to AboutBritain.com for use of their summary text for this lesson.



*When Queen Victoria ascended the British throne in 1837, it marked the beginning of a promising new age - the Victorian era.*



*The preceding Georgian era  
had lasted from 1714 to  
1830, from the reign of  
George I through George IV.*



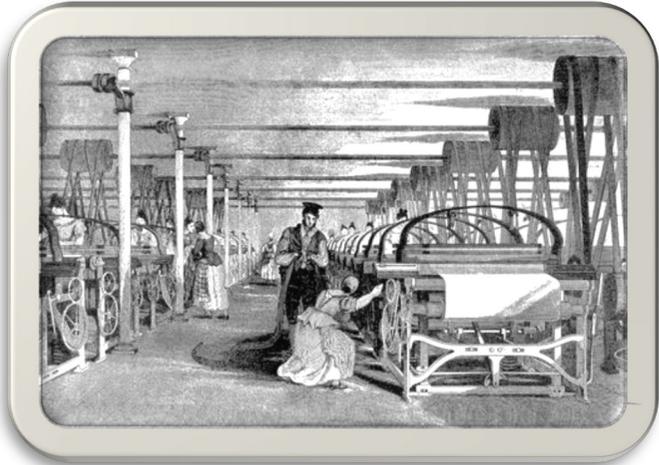
*Those who could see into the future would have been excited to see the dawn of a long period of peace and prosperity in England under Queen Victoria.*





*As the British Empire expanded to cover more than a quarter of the globe, it made Britain the most powerful nation in the world.*

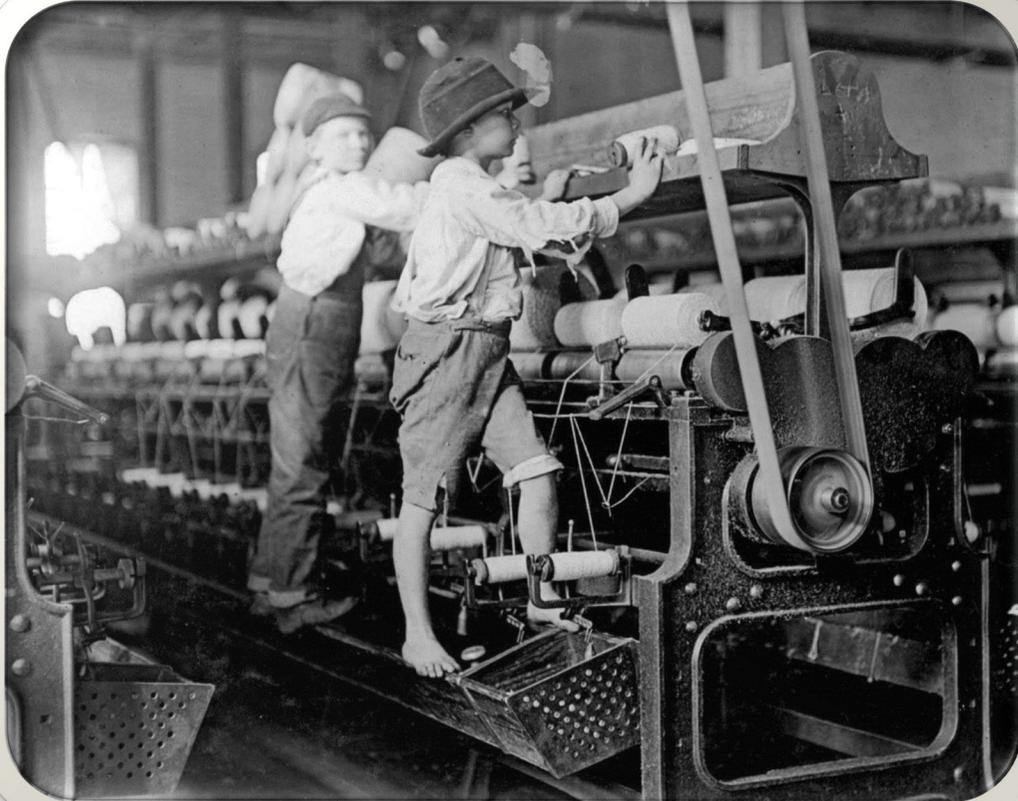




*The preceding years of the Industrial Revolution had led to the mass production of goods...*



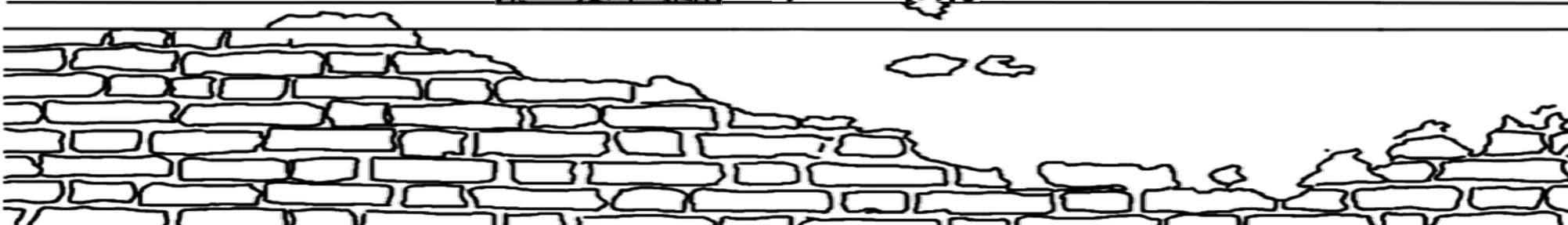
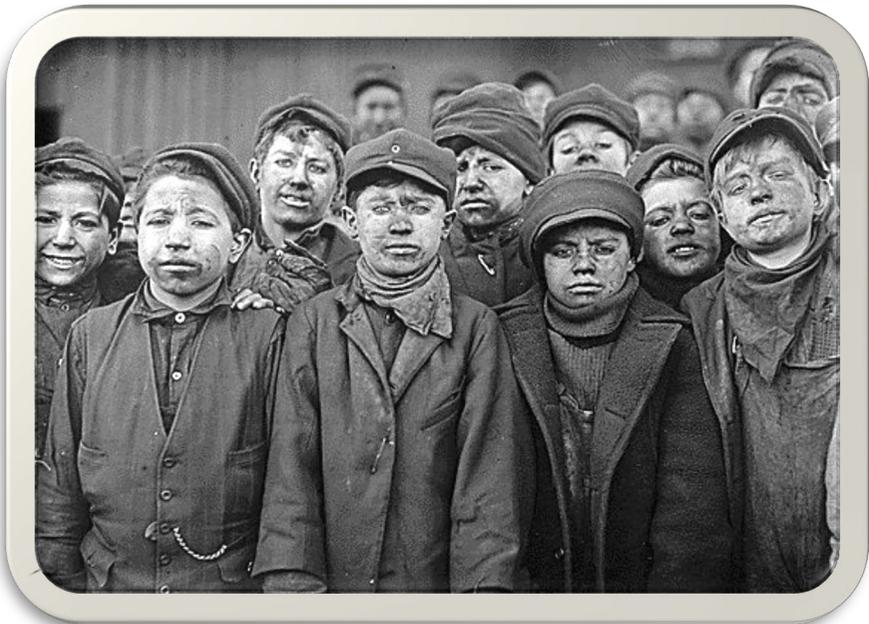
*...making them far more affordable for common people, but life for mill workers was harsh.*



*During the Victorian era in England, law-makers and trade unions began to address and improve working conditions, particularly for child labor.*



*They eventually made it illegal for children to work more than 69 hours per week!*



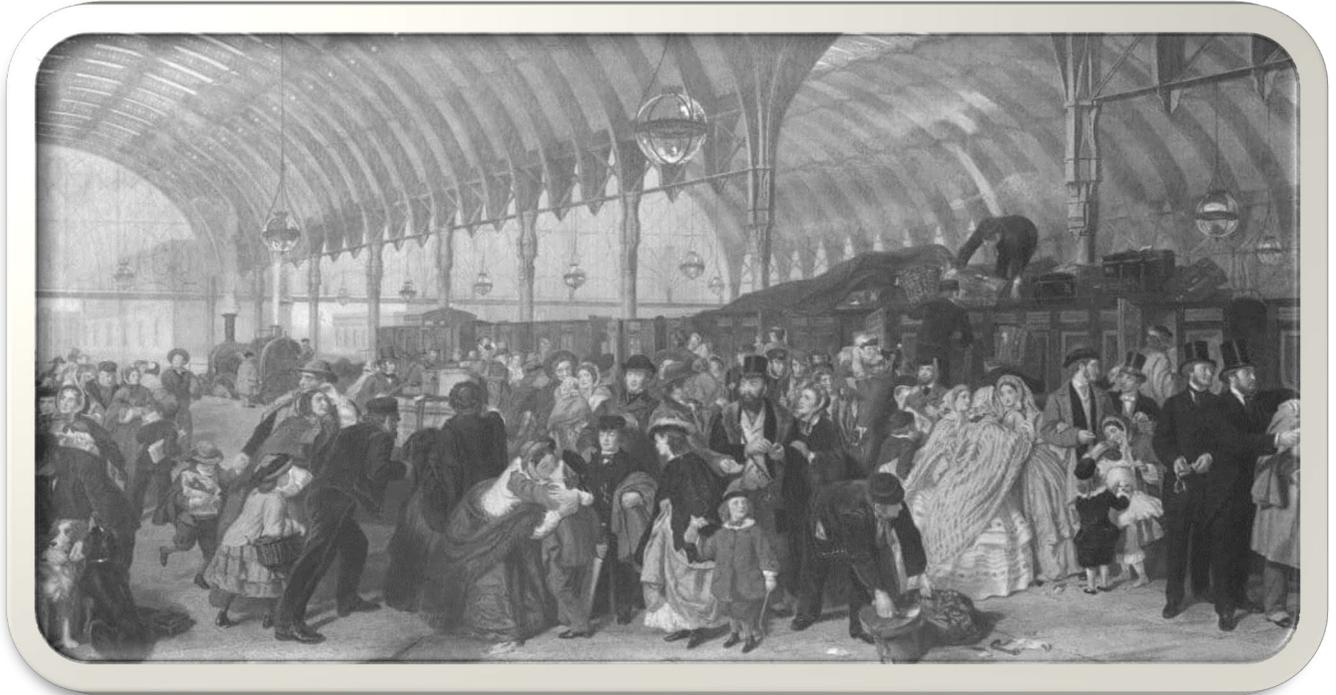
*As living standards improved throughout the Victorian period, birth rates increased.*



*Lack of war and famine coupled with improved health standards meant that the population exploded from 13.8 million in England in 1831, to 32.5 million by 1901.*



*Middle class England grew rapidly and the upper class, which was formerly purely hereditary, came to include the nouveau riche...*

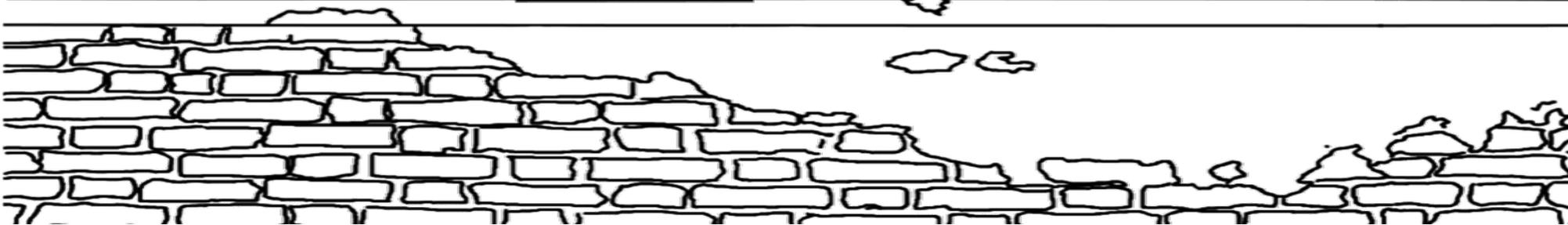


*...who made fortunes  
from successful  
commercial enterprises.*





*However, a large proportion  
of Victorian society was still  
working class...*





*...and they remained disgruntled  
at the social inequality and  
eventually sought reform.*



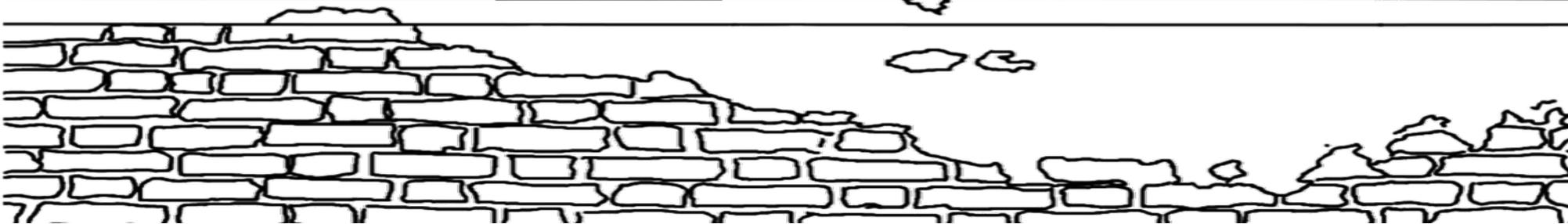
*Railways continued to develop, offering mass transit for city dwellers who were able to spend time off visiting the seaside and participating in the new pastime of sea bathing.*



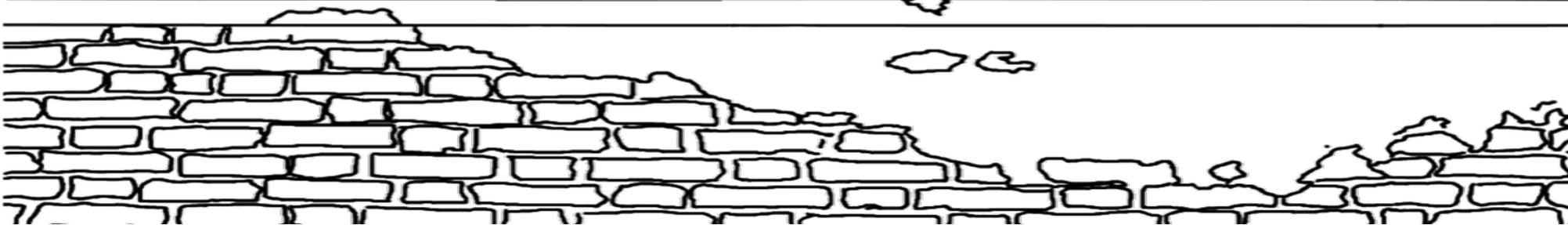
*From Brighton to  
Bridlington  
fashionable seaside  
resorts sprang up.*



*Boarding houses were built along the seafronts of towns near to industrialized areas such as London, Manchester, Leeds and the northwest of England.*



*In London, the world's first underground railway, nicknamed the Tube, opened in 1862.*



*Politically, during the Victoria era, the House of Commons had two main political parties: the Tories and the Whigs.*

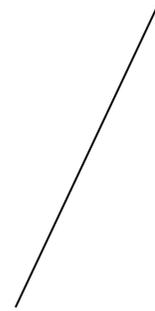


*By the mid 19th century the Whigs were known as the Liberal party and the Tories were the Conservative party.*





*The Labor party  
only came into  
being in 1900.*





*Prince Albert was a keen supporter  
of the Arts and London blossomed  
under his patronage with the  
building of the Royal Albert Hall...*



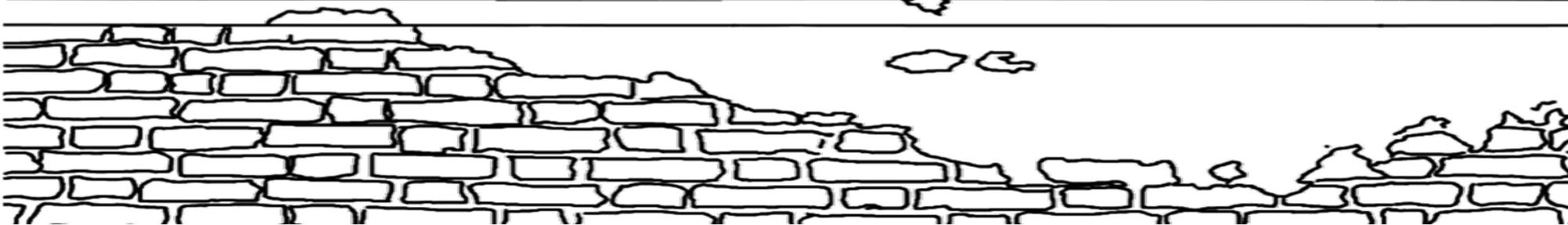
*...the Royal Opera House, the  
Science Museum, the Natural  
History Museum and The  
Victoria and Albert Museum.*



*Poetry, literature and art flourished with the Bronte sisters, George Eliot, Oscar Wilde, Rudyard Kipling and Charles Dickens publishing popular works.*



Scientifically, the Victorian era also saw huge success.



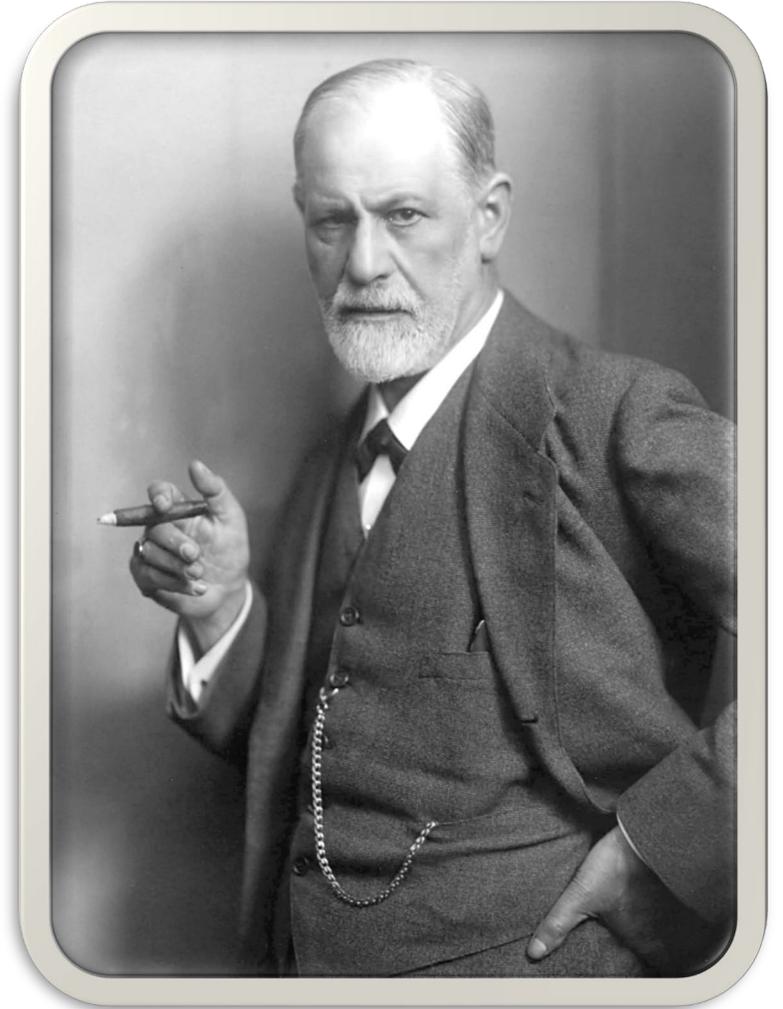
*Darwin published his  
Theory of Evolution and  
the Great Exhibition of  
1851...*



*...showcased many industrial and technological advances in the specially built Crystal Palace.*



*Sigmund Freud developed  
modern psychiatry and Karl  
Marx developed his new  
economic theory.*





*The Victorian era in Great Britain was a time of great change and progress and is still considered the Birth of Modern Times.*



*Again, thanks to AboutBritain.com  
for their help... So we have  
completed topic # AB013 in our  
series...*

*Yes, but we'll be back  
with another topic  
soon...*



**Original Source Material for this topic:**

1) <https://www.aboutbritain.com/articles/victorian-era-1837-1901.asp>

