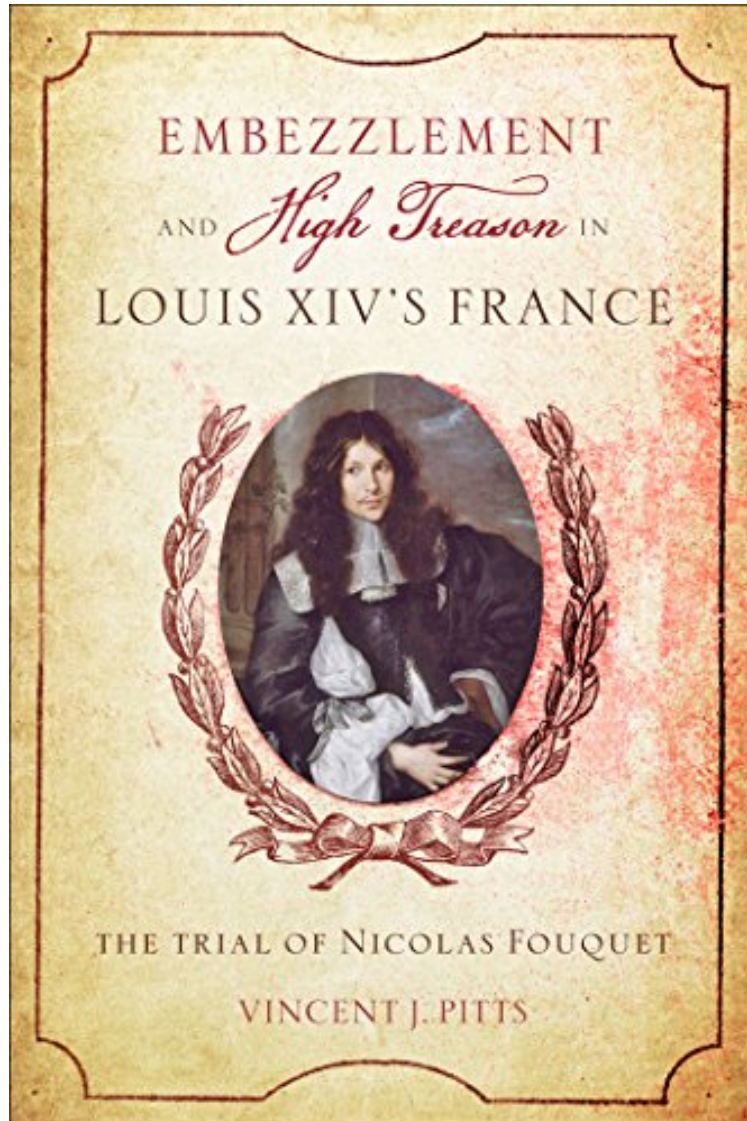


(Library ebook) Embezzlement and High Treason in Louis XIV's France

Embezzlement and High Treason in Louis XIV's France

Vincent J. Pitts

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2827987 in eBooks 2015-11-05 2015-11-05 File Name: B015J9T9O4 | File size: 39.Mb

Vincent J. Pitts : Embezzlement and High Treason in Louis XIV's France before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Embezzlement and High Treason in Louis XIV's France:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Another Excellent Pitts WorkBy Daniel W. SmallAs a lawyer, I found the detail and discussion very enlightening. The history was entertaining. The writing was top drawer.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I have been in love with Nicolas Fouquet since I was about 15 and ...By Mell have been in love with Nicolas Fouquet since I was about 15 and was reading books related to Louis XIV, who I love as well. Not too fond of what he did to Nicolas though. I am a 53 yr. old American that will sadly never get to visit France but reading about 17th Century history lets me visit in some small way. I have read another book about

Nicolas and I eagerly awaited this book's release last year and bought it for myself as a treat. I have always wanted to know more about what happened and this book has just been wonderful in providing the information surrounding the king and Nicolas. For the average person like myself, although it can be complex, which I loved, the author I felt did well with explaining everything in a fashion that a layman could understand. Anyway, it was money well spent to own for myself, not checked out of a library and returned. A must have for a collector of French history within the 17th Century. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. High marks for a tale of high treason.....By Charlie Quigley There aren't many scholarly works that read as effortlessly as a good historical novel. But, like his previous works on Anne-Marie-Louise d'Orleans and Henri IV, Vincent Pitts has accomplished this again with his account of the trial of Nicolas Fouquet. He brings to life the atmosphere of mid-17th century France and its political intrigue and tensions in a style nearly riveting as Neal Stephenson's recreation of Restoration England in his Baroque Trilogy, and manages to guide the reader through an immense cast of characters without creating confusion. I found myself racing through the last few chapters to discover the fate of the protagonist and his adversaries, even though the outcome of the story is clear from the outset. A good read for anyone interested in this era of European history, whether you are an academic, or just curious.

From 1661 to 1664, France was mesmerized by the arrest and trial of Nicolas Fouquet, the country's superintendent of finance. Prosecuted on trumped-up charges of embezzlement, mismanagement of funds, and high treason, Fouquet managed to exonerate himself from all of the major charges over the course of three long years, in the process embarrassing and infuriating Louis XIV. The young king overturned the court's decision and sentenced Fouquet to lifelong imprisonment in a remote fortress in the Alps. A dramatic critique of absolute monarchy in pre-revolutionary France, *Embezzlement and High Treason in Louis XIV's France* tells the gripping tale of an overly ambitious man who rose rapidly in the state hierarchy; then overreached. Vincent J. Pitts uses the trial as a lens through which to explore the inner workings of the court of Louis XIV, who rightly feared that Fouquet would expose the tawdry financial dealings of the king's late mentor and prime minister, Cardinal Mazarin.

"Pitts is a natural storyteller who draws the reader into the world of nobles and financiers. The book gives the reader a good sense of some of the main features of high politics of the time: court intrigue, shifting alliances, rivals scheming for power, shady dealings, patronage, piety, high officials skirting the law. At times the crafty plotting of the historical characters is reminiscent of Hilary Mantel's *Bring Up the Bodies*." (Gail Bossenga, Elizabethtown College, author of *The Politics of Privilege: Old Regime and Revolution in Lille*) "A fine book. It is a compelling account of a political drama in mid-seventeenth century France, but it is also a window into the process by which rule of law gradually became established...[and] I thoroughly enjoyed reading it." (EH.Net) "... Pitts gives us a well-organized, concise narrative of what amounts to a highly extractive economy whereby the few at the top accumulate the most to live in ostentatious splendor." (Renaissance Quarterly) About the Author Vincent J. Pitts teaches at Quinnipiac University. He is the author of *Henri IV of France: His Reign and Age*, *La Grande Mademoiselle at the Court of France: 1627-1693*, and *The Man Who Sacked Rome: Charles de Bourbon, Constable of France (1490-1527)*.