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9. The major-generals and the 1656 election  
10. Defeat at Westminster and fall from power  
11. Conclusion  
Postscript: The major-generals' later careers  
Bibliography: Index

### Maps and tables

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(Politics, Culture and

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Manchester: Manchester

University Press, 2001.

£46 (cloth), £15.99

(paper). 0 7190 5187 8; 0

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After a Royalist uprising in March 1655, led by Sir John Penruddock, Cromwell (influenced by Lambert) divided England into military districts ruled by army major generals who answered only to him. The 15 major generals and deputy major generals—called "godly governors"—were central not only to national security , but Cromwell's crusade to reform the nation's morals.

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The results were the Decimation Tax and the rule of the Major-Generals. Cromwell insisted that 'the sole end of this way of procedure was the security of the peace of the nation, the suppressing of vice and encouragement of virtue, the very end of magistracy.' 54 The Major-Generals were

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