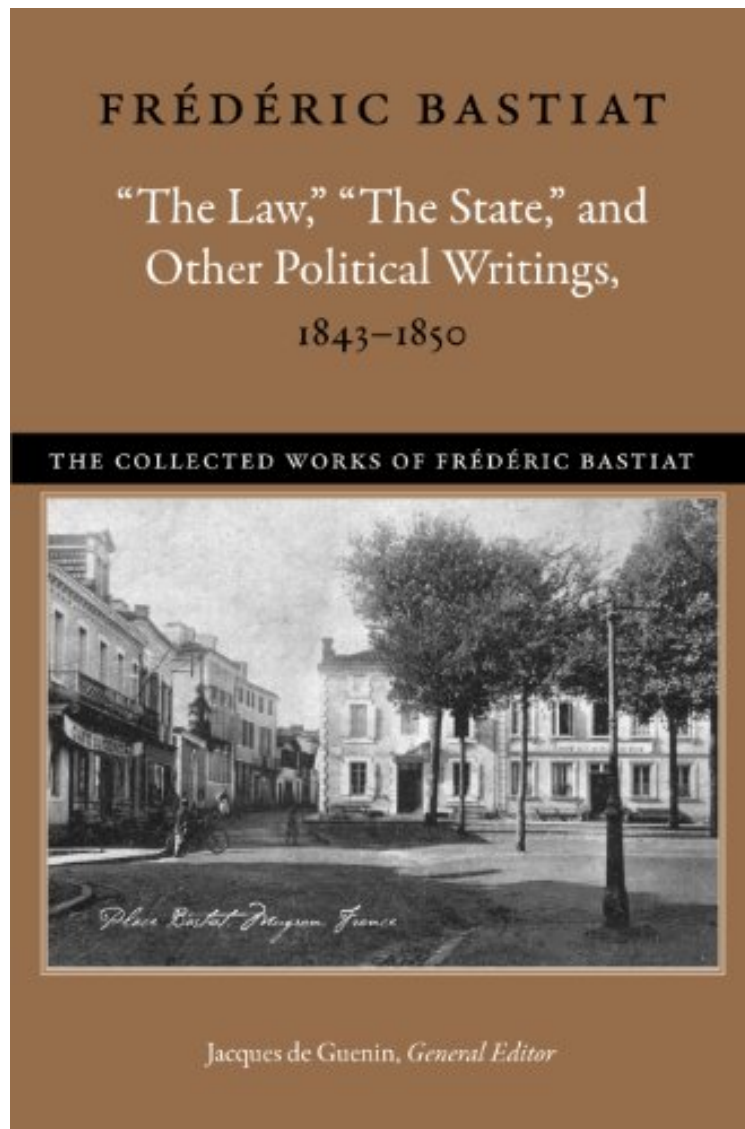


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quot;The Law,quot; quot;The State,quot; and Other Political Writings, 1843-1850 (The Collected Works of Frederic Bastiat)

Frederic Bastiat

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Frederic Bastiat : *quot;The Law,quot; quot;The State,quot; and Other Political Writings, 1843-1850 (The Collected Works of Frederic Bastiat)* before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *quot;The Law,quot; quot;The State,quot; and Other Political Writings, 1843-1850 (The Collected Works of Frederic Bastiat)*:

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Prescient, timely and importantBy jbdmdThe title of the review

sums things quite well. One immense source of the value of Bastiat is the fact that he wrote in the middle of the 19th century and so the clarity of his arguments are unclouded by current political rhetoric. His attacks on the growth of the State and the potentially unlimited utopian fantasies of those who would be "The Legislator" coupled with his juxtaposition of the events in France with the freedom experienced by the Americans of his era provide a telling lesson for today (slavery aside, which he attacks). Bastiat reminds us of the fact that the State IS force. It has no other tools (just remember, "Jim Crow Laws" were LAWS and not "Jim Crow Recommended Best Practices").

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Review of Bastiat By Bruce R. Quayle Bastiat's words are as relevant now as when they were written. There are times I lose track of the fact I am not reading about our misguided present politics.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Joe NYC Important reading!

Frédéric Bastiat was a keen observer and analyst of political and economic problems and a passionate proponent of liberal economic theory. "The Law," "The State," and Other Political Writings (1843–1850), collects nineteen of Bastiat's "pamphlets," or articles, ranging from the theory of value and rent, public choice and collective action, government intervention and regulation, the balance of trade, education, and trade unions to price controls, capital and growth, and taxation. Many of these are topics still relevant and debated today. Bastiat's famous essay "The Law" showcases his talents as an activist for the free market. He explains that the law, far from being what it ought to be, "namely the instrument that enabled the state to protect individuals' rights and property, had become the means for what he termed 'spoliation,' or plunder." From the article "The State," in which Bastiat argues against socialism, comes perhaps his best-remembered quotation: "The state is the great fiction by which everyone endeavors to live at the expense of everyone else." Throughout his articles, Bastiat demonstrates how the combination of careful logic, consistency of principle, and clarity of exposition is the instrument for solving most economic and social problems. Readers will find extensive introductory material, including notes on the translation and on the editions of the *Oeuvres Complètes*, a chronology of Bastiat's life and works, two maps of France showing the cities associated with Bastiat, annotations to the articles, and a bibliography. A special section provides little-known anecdotes about Bastiat and his contemporaries, including his editor Prosper Paillottet, who became Bastiat's friend and eventually his executor. In addition, this edition also contains footnotes and glossary entries that help explain the political, economic, and intellectual context in which Bastiat lived and worked. Filling gaps on Bastiat and his philosophy, this volume features articles that have never before been translated in English.

Frédéric Bastiat (1801–1850) was one of the leading advocates of free markets and free trade in the mid-nineteenth century. Jacques de Guenin is founder of the Cercle Frédéric Bastiat. He is a graduate of the École des Mines in Paris and holds a Master of Sciences from the University of California, Berkeley. Pascal Salin is Emeritus Professor of Economics, Paris University, and former president of the Mont Pelerin Society. He is the author of *Libéralisme*; *France n'a pas peur du libéralisme*; and *Revenir au capitalisme, pour éviter les crises*. Dennis O'Keeffe is Professor of Social Science at the University of Buckingham, Buckingham, England, and is Senior Research Fellow in Education at the Institute of Economic Affairs, London. David M. Hart has a Ph.D. in history from King's College, Cambridge, and is the Director of Liberty Fund's Online Library of Liberty.