



PROJECT MUSE®

---

Scotland and the Thirty Years' War, 1618-1648 (review)

William Young

The Journal of Military History, Volume 67, Number 1, January 2003, pp. 226-227 (Review)

Published by Society for Military History

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1353/jmh.2003.0091>



➔ *For additional information about this article*

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/40517>

There are nine essays in this volume and they follow a simple chronological pattern beginning with Paul A. Rahe's essay on the Peloponnesian War and ending with Williamson Murray's look at the Gulf War. In between these points Clifford J. Rogers analyzes the Hundred Years' War, focusing on the English *chevauchées*. Rogers's treatment of *chevauchées*—offensive, mounted raids—is important for the volume because many of the other essays use the concept to explain attacks on civilians. John A. Lynn provides a fine discussion of the devastation of the Palatinate, 1688-89, and how the killing of civilians and the threatening of their livelihoods were instruments of war that furthered the objectives of Louis XIV. T. C. W. Blanning brings out in his essay on warfare in revolutionary France that even with the powerful notions of liberty and equality for all people, civilians still suffered in warfare. Mark Grimsley superbly probes by way of comparison the problems with race and American military operations against White Southerners in the Civil War and Native Americans thereafter. Holger H. Herwig explores how the cultural and attitudinal underpinnings of the German military from Ludendorff to Hitler informed the military's treatment of civilians in war. Truman O. Anderson provides a detailed study of partisan fighting and its impact on the civilian population on the Eastern Front in World War II. Using the concept of *chevauchées*, Conrad C. Crane brings out the tension in the American approach to strategic bombing in World War II between technological and practical imperatives and a moral concern over killing civilians. Williamson Murray's piece concludes the volume with a view to the air campaign in the 1990 Gulf War and reinforces the dominant theme in all of the volume's essays that the treatment of civilians in warfare has been contingent and relative. Unfortunately, the editors do not provide a needed afterword that could have brought the essays—all of them written prior to 1993—into a 9/11 perspective. In fact, the absence of any discussion of the three thousand Americans killed in the 9/11 attack and America's subsequent war on terrorism creates an understandable but vacant tone to all of the essays.

Still, these outstanding essays are a must read for scholars and informed citizens interested in understanding the nature of post-modern war and the problem presented by civilians in its path. 9/11 and the looming confrontation with Iraq only reinforce the importance of the themes, patterns, and arguments brought out in this book.

Gian P. Gentile

Fort Hood, Texas

*Scotland and the Thirty Years' War, 1618–1648*. Edited by Steve Murdoch. Leiden, Netherlands: Brill, 2001. ISBN 90-04-12086-6. Illustrations. Tables. Figures. Notes. Index. Pp. xvi, 311. \$96.00.

This is a collection of essays concerning Scottish involvement in the Thirty Years' War. The essays focus on Stuart diplomacy and Scottish military involvement in the conflict.

By the beginning of the war, the Scots had formed a strong connection with Protestant Germany through the Scottish princess, Elizabeth Stuart, daughter of King James VI and I of Great Britain. Elizabeth was married to Frederick V, the Elector of the Palatinate who became King of Bohemia in opposition to the Holy Roman Emperor in 1619. Frederick V and Elizabeth were forced to flee Bohemia and the Palatinate after the Battle of White Mountain in 1620. Thereafter, the Stuart monarchy sought the restoration of Frederick V and Elizabeth to their lands in the Palatinate. The contributors to this volume emphasize the devotion of Scottish diplomats and soldiers to Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, and her family's cause against the Habsburgs.

The Scots played a key role in Stuart diplomacy during the war. In his essay, Steve Murdoch stresses the Stuart monarchy's reliance upon Scotsmen to conduct British diplomacy at the Danish and Swedish courts in support of Frederick V. These efforts led to alliances against the Habsburgs. On the other hand, David Worthington investigates the activities of Scottish exiles at the courts of the Spanish and Austrian Habsburgs. He argues that these Catholic Scotsmen were loyal to the House of Stuart and the cause of Elizabeth Stuart, despite her Protestant ways. John R. Young looks at Scottish foreign policy and the attempt to extend the Solemn League and Covenant to the European continent as a defense league for European Protestantism in the 1640s.

The most overwhelming involvement of the Scots in the Thirty Years' War was in the military sphere. Over 50,000 Scots fought on the continent during the conflict. In his essay, J. V. Polišínský shows that several thousand Scottish soldiers were deployed to the Palatinate in support of Frederick V in 1619–21. Matthew Glozier focuses on the 15,000 Scottish soldiers serving in the armies of France and the Dutch Republic in the struggle against the Habsburgs. Alexia Grosjean depicts the strong Scottish leadership role and the importance of the 25,000 Scots that served in the Swedish army in the anti-Habsburg war effort. Finally, Paul Dukes and Robert Frost address the Scottish forces serving in the armies of Muscovy and Poland-Lithuania.

These essays contribute significantly to our knowledge of Scottish military and diplomatic involvement in the Thirty Years' War. The study shows that the Scottish contribution to the conflict was more significant than previously believed. The study also makes a valuable contribution to the growing knowledge of warfare during the first half of the seventeenth century.

William Young

University of North Dakota  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

*Justice to the Maimed Soldier: Nursing, Medical Care and Welfare for Sick and Wounded Soldiers and Their Families During the English Civil Wars and Interregnum, 1642–1660.* By Eric Gruber von Arni. Burlington, Vt.: Ashgate, 2001. ISBN 0-7546-0476-4. Maps. Illustrations. Tables. Appendixes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xv, 283. \$ 69.95.