ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

During the research which underlies this book, and during the gestation process of the manuscript, I have benefited greatly from the advice and support of various people and institutions. Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to Prof. Dr. Dieter Riemenschneider and Prof. Dr. Frank Schulze-Engler from the University of Frankfurt a.M. for their invaluable mentorship during my first years of working on Scottish postcolonialism. I have also received important encouragement, comments, suggestions, and support from Prof. C. L. Innes, Prof. Dr. Mark Stein, Prof. Carla Sassi, Dr. Michael Newton, Prof. Dr. Christoph Heyl, Dr. Christine Vogt-William, Caroline Kögler, my NUP editors Gianna F. Mosser and Nathan MacBrien, and the two anonymous peer reviewers. Any remaining shortcomings in this book are, of course, entirely my own.

I would also like to thank the friendly staff at Bridgeman Images for supplying the picture reproduced on the cover—this Victorian scrap perfectly captures the ambiguity of the Scottish Highlanders’ position in British colonial discourse: on the one hand, the Highlander marches alongside the other (ethnically unmarked) British redcoat soldier as a leader of the pageant, presumably a fellow conqueror of the “exotic” people and animals behind him, but on the other hand he is arguably also part of the pageant of the colonized—ethnically marked like them, and with some “primitive exoticism” emanating from his garb. Recalling the triumphal marches in ancient Rome where victorious commanders and emperors paraded themselves, their troops, foreign captives and spoils, this Victorian procession also reflects Britain’s attempts to portray itself as a successor to imperial Rome—with “Celts” as barbarian Others to both empires, and a bridge between them.

Further thanks are due to the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD) for facilitating my very first stay in Scotland as a scholar of their “Anglistenprogramm” during the academic year 1996–97, which laid the initial foundations for my long-standing fascination with Scottish studies. I have also benefited enormously from a doctoral scholarship granted by the German National Academic Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes). Furthermore, I would like to thank the National Library of Scotland as well as the libraries of the University of Glasgow, the University of Aberdeen, and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig for their generous permission to use their excellent resources during my research.

Some of the ideas presented in this book were previously published in a different form as parts of essays in the following collections and journals:
Global Fragments: (Dis)Orientation in the New World Order, edited by Anke Bartels and Dirk Wiemann; Transcultural English Studies: Theories, Fictions, Realities, edited by Frank Schulze-Engler and Sissy Helft; Translation of Cultures, edited by Petra Rüdiger and Konrad Gross; The Bottle Imp 10; Within and Without Empire: Scotland Across the (Post)colonial Borderline, edited by Carla Sassi and Theo van Heijnsbergen; Anglistentag 2012 Potsdam: Proceedings, edited by Katrin Röder and Ilse Wischer; and Contested Identities: Literary Negotiations in Time and Place, edited by Roger Nicholson, Claudia Marquis, and Gertrud Szamosi. In terms of theory and historical basics, there are also some overlaps with my earlier monograph Uneasy Subjects: Postcolonialism and Scottish Gaelic Poetry—in a way, these two studies complement each other, approaching the Scottish (post)colonial question from different linguistic angles.

I am also immensely grateful for all the love and support I have received from my parents Irene and Werner Stroh, and from my partner Gregor Addison. He is due additional thanks for many inspiring reading suggestions and years of lively intellectual dialogue. It is to these three wonderful people that this book is dedicated.
Gaelic Scotland
in the
Colonial Imagination