European Warfare, 1350–1750

The period 1350 to 1750 saw major developments in European warfare, which not only had a huge impact on the way wars were fought, but are also critical to long-standing controversies about state development, the global ascendancy of the West, and the nature of ‘military revolutions’ past and present. However, the military history of this period is usually written from either medieval or early-modern, and either western or eastern European, perspectives. These chronological and geographical limits have produced substantial confusion about how the conduct of war changed. The chapters in this book provide a comprehensive overview of land and sea warfare across Europe throughout this period of momentous political, religious, technological, intellectual, and military change. Written by leading experts in their fields, it not only summarises existing scholarship, but also presents new findings and new ideas, casting new light on the art of war, the rise of the state, and European expansion.

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For Evie, Debbie, and Joanna
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Acknowledgements

This book had its origins in the perception of a group of academics at the University of Reading that, for progress to be made in the great debates about military history in the pre-industrial era, historians needed to cross the chronological divide that has tended to separate scholars of the Middle Ages from historians of the early-modern world. The initial concept was to stage a conference on medieval and early-modern military history that would bring together specialists from across the period 1350–1750 to discuss common issues. We are indebted to two colleagues who have since left Reading, Anne Curry and Clare Dale, for their encouragement and contribution to discussions at the formative stage.

As the concept developed, the editors came to feel that what was really desirable was a volume that would tackle the major themes in the history of warfare in late-medieval and early-modern Europe. We identified those themes and the leading experts on them, and enlisted a group of prominent scholars to write on them. We are grateful to all our contributors for providing us, in timely fashion, with authoritative and stimulating essays that summarise current scholarship and present new research and ideas. We are additionally obliged to Gábor Ágoston and Simon Pepper for their help with maps. We are very grateful to Michael Watson, history Editor at Cambridge University Press, for his interest in and enthusiastic support for this book, from its concept through to press. We also thank Helen Waterhouse for overseeing the passage of the book into production, and Sarah Price and Robert Whitelock for their superb work in production and copy-editing.

Having worked out the concept of the book, its table of contents, and the contributing authors, we still wanted to go ahead with a conference: both to serve the original purpose, of bringing historians of different periods together; and as a way of enhancing the quality of the chapters in the book, by presenting drafts to an audience of experts, whose comments and criticism would be integrated into the final texts. The conference (entitled Crossing the Divide: Continuity and Change in
Acknowledgements

_Late-Medieval and Early-Modern Warfare_ was held at the University of Reading in September 2007, and has been an important and integral part of the process of producing this book. The discussions between scholars working on different periods, different regions in Europe, and different types of history were extremely productive and exciting. Each chapter that follows has been improved by the comments and criticisms raised during discussion sessions (and by comments over tea, coffee, and dinner). The contributors to this volume were particularly notable participants in discussions at the conference, but important contributions were made by many other scholars. Thus, while the chapters that follow are the work of particular scholars and bear their individual imprint, the volume as a whole is a collaborative work in more ways than one.

We are therefore grateful to everyone who participated in the conference and helped to stage it. We thank the forty-one scholars from twelve countries (Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, the UK, and the USA) who attended for crossing chronological, geographical, and disciplinary divides, and so helping make this a better volume: Ronald Asch, Jim Beach, Adrian Bell, Matthew Bennett, Alan Bryson, Adam Chapman, Alan Cromartie, Kelly DeVries, John Dillon, Gary Evans, Joel Félix, Caroline Finkel, Mark Fissel, Robert Frost, Bernard Ganly, Jan Glete, Roeland Goorts, Rosa Groen, Steve Gunn, Simon Healy, Margaret Houlbrooke, Ralph Houlbrooke, Alan James, Michiel de Jong, Andy King, Gunnar Knutsen, Rhoads Murphey, Olaf van Nimwegen, David Parrott, Simon Pepper, Rebecca Rist, Nick Rodger, Cliff Rogers, Shinsuke Satsuma, Alaric Searle, D. H. Seo, Louis Sicking, Oliver Teige, László Veszprémy, Andrew Wheatcroft, and David Whetham. We are particularly beholden to those who served as chairs of sessions. The conference could not have taken place without the exceptional efficiency of the support team comprising Nina Aitken, who made most of the logistical arrangements, and Natasha Madgwick.

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The draft of the introduction was completed during the autumn of 2007, when Frank Tallett had a term of sabbatical leave. The editing process was completed during the spring and summer of 2008, when David Trim held the Walter C. Utt Visiting Chair in History at Pacific Union College. We are grateful to the University of Reading for the research leave granted to Frank Tallett, and to Pacific Union College and the Walter C. Utt Endowment, for David Trim’s appointment to the Utt Chair, both of which greatly facilitated completion of the volume.

Sometimes academic historians are more focused on teaching, research and administration than they, or their children, would like. The editors are exceptionally grateful to their daughters, Deborah and Joanna Tallett and Genevieve Trim, for forbearance and patience when dad was at work, or at home but ‘busy’ – this work is dedicated to them.
Note on the text

In order to keep this book to a reasonable length, references and supporting examples have been curtailed by contributors, and the editors have supplied one comprehensive bibliography, rather than separate bibliographies for each chapter. All works are cited in the notes by author and short title; full bibliographical details will be found in the bibliography at the end of the volume. This is divided into printed primary works and secondary works, but otherwise is alphabetised. Where more than one chapter from a collection of essays is cited, the book is listed separately, by editors’ surnames, as well as by the authors of the various chapters. It is cited in full the first time it appears, but thereafter by short title.
Abbreviations

AHR  American Historical Review
AoH  Acta orientalia academiae scientiarum Hungaricae
ASF  Archivio di Stato, Florence
BN, MS Fr. Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Manuscrits Français
EHR  English Historical Review
Hk Hadtörténelmi közlemények [Hungarian Quarterly of Military History]
HZ  Historische Zeitschrift
JMH  Journal of Military History
NAN Het Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Netherlands
NAUK The National Archives, Kew, United Kingdom
RAZH Rijksarchief in Zuid-Holland, The Hague, Netherlands
SCʃ Sixteenth Century Journal
TRHS Transactions of the Royal Historical Society
UA Het Utrechts Archief, Utrecht, Netherlands
ZfO Zeitschrift für Ostforschung
Map 2  Battles, sieges, and fortresses in the Low Countries and northern France, c. 1400–1750. After Tallett, War and Society, xi.
Map 3  Central Europe, c. 1480. After Magocsi, Historical Atlas of Central Europe, 32.
Map 7 The Hungarian defence system in 1582. After Király and Veszprémy, Millennium of Hungarian Military History, 722.
Map 8  The Thirty Years’ War. After Parker, *Thirty Years’ War*, 210–11.