Queen Victoria's Wars

This is a new history of Britain's imperial wars during the nineteenth century. Including chapters on wars fought in the hills, on the veldt, in the dense forests, and along the coast, it discusses wars waged in China, Burma, Afghanistan, and India/Pakistan; New Zealand; and West, East, and South Africa. Leading military historians from around the world situate the individual conflict in the larger context of British domestic history and British foreign policy/grand strategy and examine the back-ground of the conflict, the war aims, the outbreak of the war, the forces and technology employed, a narrative of the war, details about one specific battle, and the aftermath of the war. Beginning with the Indian Rebellion and ending with the South African War, this book enables readers to see the global impact of British imperialism, the function of the army in the service of British political goals, and the evolution of military technology.

Stephen M. Miller is Professor of History at the University of Maine. He is the author of *George White and the Victorian Army in India and Africa* (2020), *Volunteers on the Veld* (2007), and *Lord Methuen and the British Army* (1999), and editor of *Soldiers and Settlers in Africa*, 1850–1918 (2009).

Queen Victoria's Wars

British Military Campaigns, 1857–1902

Edited by Stephen M. Miller University of Maine



CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press 978-1-108-49012-2 — Queen Victorias Wars: British Military Campaigns, 1857-1902 Edited by Stephen M. Miller Frontmatter <u>More Information</u>

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108490122 DOI: 10.1017/9781108785020

© Cambridge University Press 2021

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2021

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ Books Limited, Padstow Cornwall

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-49012-2 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Contents

	List of Maps List of Contributors Acknowledgements	<i>page</i> vii viii xii
1	Introduction STEPHEN M. MILLER	1
2	The Indian Rebellion, 1857–1858 DOUGLAS M. PEERS	8
3	Punitive Expeditions in China, 1857–1860 BRUCE COLLINS	40
4	The Expedition to Abyssinia, 1867–1868 CHRISTOPHER BRICE	62
5	The New Zealand Wars, 1845–1872 JOHN CRAWFORD	83
6	The Third Anglo-Asante War, 1873–1874 RYAN PATTERSON	106
7	The Second Afghan War, 1878–1880 RODNEY ATWOOD	126
8	The Anglo-Zulu War, 1879 IAN KNIGHT	146
9	The First Anglo-Boer War, 1880–1881 JOHN LABAND	167
10	Egypt and the Sudan, 1881–1885 ROB JOHNSON	187
11	The Third Anglo-Burmese War and the Pacification of Burma, 1885–1895 IAN F. W. BECKETT	220
		v

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-49012-2 — Queen Victorias Wars: British Military Campaigns, 1857-1902
Edited by Stephen M. Miller
Frontmatter
More Information

vi	Contents	
12	The Tirah Campaign, 1897–1898 SAMEETAH AGHA	240
13	Reconquest of the Sudan, 1896–1898 EDWARD M. SPIERS	260
14	The South African War, 1899–1902 STEPHEN M. MILLER	281
15	Conclusion STEPHEN M. MILLER	308
	Index	312

Maps

2.1	The Indian Rebellion, 1857–1858	page 14
3.1	Eastern China, c. 1860	44
4.1	Abyssinia, 1867–1868	64
5.1	New Zealand Wars	89
6.1	Third Anglo-Asante War, 1873–1874	109
7.1	Afghanistan and North-West Frontier, c. 1879	129
8.1	The Anglo-Zulu War, 1879	148
9.1	The First Anglo-Boer War, 1880–1881	172
10.1	Egypt and the Sudan, 1882–1885	189
11.1	Burma, 1885–1895	223
12.1	The North-West Frontier of British India, c. 1900	244
13.1	Reconquest of the Sudan, 1896–1898	262
14.1	The South African War, 1899–1902	286

Contributors

- SAMEETAH AGHA is Associate Professor of Modern World History at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York. Her teaching and research areas include: imperialism and colonialism, British empire, military history, and colonial warfare and resistance with an emphasis on South Asia and Afghanistan. She has published several articles and essays on these topics and is most recently the author of *The Limits of Empire: Subimperialism and Pukhtun Resistance in the North-West Frontier* (2020).
- RODNEY ATWOOD read history at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario (BA Hons) and Churchill College, Cambridge (PhD). Between those two periods of study, he served in the Royal Tank Regiment. He is the author of *The Hessians: Mercenaries from Hessen-Kassel in the American War of Independence* (1980), of three books on Field Marshal Lord Roberts including a biography, and an account of the life of General Lord Rawlinson.
- IAN F. W. BECKETT retired as Professor of Military History at the University of Kent in 2015. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he has held chairs in both the United Kingdom and the United States, and was Chairman of the Council of the UK Army Records Society from 2001 to 2014. Internationally known for his work on the British army, his publications include Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana (2019); A British Profession of Arms: The Politics of Command in the Late Victorian Army (2018); and Wolseley and Ashanti: The Asante War Journal and Correspondence of Major General Sir Garnet Wolseley, 1873–1874 (2009).
- CHRISTOPHER BRICE, PhD, is a British independent scholar, lecturer, and member of the Victorian Military Society. He is the author of two books, *The Thinking Man's Soldier* (2012), a biography of General Sir Henry Brackenbury, and *Brave as a Lion* (2015), a biography of Field Marshal Hugh Gough. He is also working on three other books, one of which is a history of the Abyssinian Campaign of 1867–68. Alongside

viii

List of Contributors

this he acts for the publisher Helion & Co Ltd as a series editor for their 1815–1914 series entitled *From Musket to Maxim*.

- BRUCE COLLINS published books and articles on antebellum America before working on British power projection. His recent work includes War and Empire: The Expansion of Britain, 1790–1830 (2010), 'Defining Victory in Victorian Warfare, 1860–1882', Journal of Military History (2013), and Wellington and the Siege of San Sebastian, 1813 (2017). He is currently writing about the British counterinsurgency and the Indian Uprising of 1857. He has taught at the University of Glasgow and was Professor of International History at the University of Buckingham 1988–96. Following appointments as a dean, he was Professor of Modern History at Sheffield Hallam University from 2004 until his retirement in 2020.
- JOHN CRAWFORD is the New Zealand Defence Force Historian and has written on many aspects of the history of the New Zealand Armed Forces and defence policy. Currently he is working on a book about New Zealand's campaigns against the Ottoman Empire during the First World War. His recent publications include: *Phenomenal and Wicked: Attrition and Reinforcement in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force at Gallipoli*, co-authored with Matthew Buck (2020) and *Tutu Te Puehu: New Perspectives on the New Zealand Wars*, co-edited with Ian McGibbon (2018). He is Chairman of the New Zealand Military History Committee.
- ROB JOHNSON is Director of the Changing Character of War research centre at the University of Oxford, and a senior research fellow of Pembroke College. A former army officer, he specializes in the history of war, strategic leadership, and operational developments. His area of specialism is the Middle East and Arabic-speaking world, but also aspects of colonial and anti-colonial warfare. He is the author of several books, including *The Great War in the Middle East* (2016) and *True to Their Salt: Indigenous Forces in Western Armed Forces* (2017). He has recently authored a study of Lawrence of Arabia's ideas on war (2019).
- IAN KNIGHT studied Afro-Caribbean history at the University of Kent. He has specialized in the study of the Anglo-Zulu War for forty years and has written widely on the subject. In 2000, he served as the historical adviser to the exploratory archaeological dig on the iSandlwana battlefield. He has appeared in a number of television documentaries on the subject and is an honorary research associate of the KwaZulu-Natal Museum. He has advised on a number of

x List of Contributors

museum exhibitions, lectures on Anglo-Zulu history, and leads tours of the battlefields.

- JOHN LABAND is Professor Emeritus of History, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, and a research associate in the Department of History, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. He is also a Life Member of Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, England, and a fellow of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. He specializes in the history of the Zulu kingdom and in colonial wars in Africa. Among his recent books are *The Assassination of King Shaka* (2017), *The Land Wars: The Dispossession of the Khoisan and AmaXhosa in the Cape Colony* (2020), and *The Eight Zulu Kings from Shaka to Goodwill Zwelithini* (2018).
- STEPHEN M. MILLER is Adelaide C. and Alan L. Bird Professor and Chair of the Department of History at the University of Maine. He is the author of Lord Methuen and the British Army (1999), Volunteers on the Veld: Britain's Citizen-Soldiers and the South African War (2007), and George White and the Victorian Army in India and Africa (2020), and editor of Soldiers and Settlers in Africa, 1850–1918 (2009). He has contributed chapters to several books and has published articles in a number of journals, including the Journal of Military History, Journal of British Studies, War in History, and War and Society. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.
- RYAN PATTERSON, PhD, studies the British Empire and imperial culture with a particular emphasis on the professional and public engagement with nineteenth-century colonial and imperial small wars. His current work is an exploration of the methods and rationale by which new technologies were assessed and incorporated into the British military system, a process highly influenced by prevailing social and cultural movements at the heart of Victorian society. He is currently a contract instructor and research associate in history at Carleton University.
- DOUGLAS M. PEERS is Professor of History at the University of Waterloo. He is the author of *Between Mars and Mammon: Colonial Armies and the Garrison State in Early-Nineteenth Century India* (1995), *India under Colonial Rule*, 1700–1885 (2006), and, with Nandini Gooptu, coedited India and the British Empire (2012), a companion volume for the Oxford History of the British Empire. He has published more than twenty-five articles and chapters on nineteenth-century India, focusing on the military and its influence on the evolution of the colonial state. He is currently writing a study of war and the making of modern South Asia.

List of Contributors

xi

EDWARD M. SPIERS is an emeritus professor at the University of Leeds. Among his twenty books are an edited work, *The Sudan: A Reconquest Reappraised* (1998); *The Scottish Soldier and Empire*, 1854–1902 (2006); a co-edited volume, *A Military History of Scotland* (2012), which won the Saltire Prize and Templar Medal; and a trilogy on *Letters from the Sieges of Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking* (2010, 2013, and 2019). He has also written six books on chemical and biological warfare.

Acknowledgements

Editing this book was a pleasure from start to finish. Douglas M. Peers, Bruce Collins, Christopher Brice, John Crawford, Ryan Patterson, Rodney Atwood, Ian Knight, John Laband, Rob Johnson, Ian F. W. Beckett, Sameetah Agha, and Edward M. Spiers have all been wonderful contributors. Their work is exceptional, they did not get upset with my meddling, and they met all the deadlines. I especially want to thank Ian Beckett for connecting me with many of the other contributors and offering important collegial support; John Laband for commenting on drafts of the introduction and for other assistance; and, Rob Johnson for reading drafts of the introduction and conclusion and helping me think about the structure of the book. Michael Watson and Emily Sharp have been extremely helpful at Cambridge University Press and their two anonymous reviewers offered critical insight into the project. Douglas M. Peers would like to thank the staff of the British Library and, in particular, what was once called the India Office Library and Records for more than thirty years of assistance and encouragement. Christopher Brice would like to thank George Anderson and Helion & Co Ltd for the use of the map which accompanies his chapter. John Crawford would like to thank Matthew Buck for reading his draft and making helpful suggestions. Ryan Patterson would like to acknowledge Professors Jeremy Black and Richard Noakes. Rodney Atwood would like to acknowledge Peter Boyden and Keith Surridge, who read a draft of the chapter, the gracious permission of H. M. The Queen for use of the 2nd Duke of Cambridge's papers in the Royal Archives, Windsor, the National Library of Wales for the Hills-Johns papers, the British Library Board for use of the India Office papers, and the National Army Museum for use of the Roberts, Haines and Charles Gough papers. Ian Knight would like to thank John Laband, for his advice and collaboration over the years; Paul Marais and Eric Boswell, for exploring rural KwaZulu Natal with him; and Isandlwana Lodge, whose hospitality he has enjoyed at the end of many a weary day tramping over the battlefields. Rob Johnson would like to acknowledge the National Army Museum, London, and the Bodleian

Acknowledgements

Library, Oxford. Ian F. W. Beckett would like to acknowledge Her Majesty's Stationery Office for quotation from the Crown copyright material in The National Archives, the Trustees of the British Library for material in the Asia, Pacific and Africa Collection (formerly the Oriental and India Office Collection), and the National Army Museum. Edward M. Spiers would like to acknowledge Hatfield House Muniments, The National Archives, the National Army Museum, Sudan Archive, University of Durham, Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives, King's College London, Museum of Lincolnshire Life, National Library of Scotland, National Records of Scotland, and West Sussex Record Office. I would like to give special thanks to Peter Harrington at the Anne S. K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library, for providing the image for the book's cover and Martin Conte for indexing the book.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all those in the Department of History and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Maine for providing a supportive and vibrant intellectual home. This remains as true today during the global pandemic as it did twenty years ago when I arrived. I would also like to acknowledge the librarians at Fogler Library, University of Maine, The National Archives, and, the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre. Two exceptional historians and people who helped shape my career sadly passed away recently. Bruce Vandervort, who served for many years as the editor of The Journal of Military History and contributed to my first edited collection, was kind enough to welcome me into the fold of military historians. Edmund Wehrle, Emeritus Professor at the University of Connecticut, mentored me during my time in graduate school at Storrs. Finally, I wish to thank my two sons, David and Max, K. M., N. M., and the late W. M. for getting me out of the house on walks, and my wife, Jessica, for her love and support.