

Scottish soldiers in France in the reign of the Sun King

Type de contenu : Texte

Titre(s) : Scottish soldiers in France in the reign of the Sun King : nursery for men of honour / by Matthew Glozier

Auteur(s) : Glozier, Matthew

Adresse bibliographique : Leiden Boston : Brill, cop. 2004

Description matérielle : 1 vol. (XVI-290 p.) : ill., couv. ill. ; 25 cm

Collection : History of warfare 24 ISSN 1385-7827

ISBN : 90-04-13865-X

Appartient à la collection : History of warfare 24 ISSN 1385-7827

Classification décimale Dewey : 944/.0049163 22

Note(s) : Based on the author's thesis (Ph. D.--University of Western Sydney) presented under the title : A 'Nursery for Men of Honour' : Scottish Military Service in France and The Netherlands, 1660-92

Note sur les bibliographies et les index : Bibliogr. p. [263]-282. Index

Résumé ou extrait : The Scottish contribution to the armies of Louis XIV in the late 1600s was indeed small, admits Glozier (Medieval studies, U. of Sydney), but by no means insignificant, and more important because of what preceded them and what would follow. He argues that the participation was not part of the long alliance between Scotland and France, but was nothing more than the attempt by a relatively small body of men to maintain themselves in employment in a trade for which they were well trained and experienced, and to engage in a particular style of life they considered their birthright. They undoubtedly looked to the past as a guide to profit and occupation, he suggests, but were dismayed to find the whole system on which their employment, livelihood, and status depended challenged and transformed before their very visors

Sujet - Nom commun : Soldats écossais -- France -- 17e siècle

Scots -- History -- France

Soldiers -- Scotland

Sujet - Nom géographique : Écosse (GB) -- Histoire militaire -- 17e siècle

France -- 1643-1715 (Louis XIV)

France -- History -- Louis XIV, 1643-1715

Scotland -- History, Military

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