

Scottish soldiers in France in the reign of the Sun King

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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

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