

WAR, RELIGION AND SERVICE

POLITICS AND CULTURE IN NORTH-WESTERN EUROPE 1650–1720

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Focusing on the years between the end of the Thirty Years' War and the end of the War of Spanish Succession, this new monograph series seeks to broaden scholarly knowledge of this crucial period that witnessed the solidification of Europe into centralised nation states and created a recognisably modern political map. Bridging the gap between the early modern period of the Reformation and the eighteenth century of colonial expansion and industrial revolution these years provide a fascinating era of study in which nationalism, political dogma, economic advantage, scientific development, cultural interests and strategic concerns began to overtake religion as the driving force of European relations and national foreign policies.

The period under investigation, *c.*1650–1720 corresponds to the decline of Spanish power and the rise of French hegemony that was only to be finally broken following the defeat of Napoleon in 1815. This shifting political powerbase presented opportunities and dangers for many countries, resulting in numerous alliances between formerly hostile nations attempting to consolidate or increase their international influence, or restrain that of a rival. Three of the most influential nations at this time, France, Great Britain and The Netherlands, were all at some stage during this period either at war or in alliance with one another.

Despite this being a formative period in the formation of the European landscape, there has been remarkably little joined-up research that studies events from an international, rather than national perspective. By providing a forum that encourages scholars to engage with the subject of politics, diplomacy, war and international relations on a broad European basis, it is hoped that a greater understanding of this pivotal era will be forthcoming.

War, Religion and Service

Huguenot Soldiering, 1685–1713

Edited by

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The University of Sydney, Australia

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ASHGATE

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Philip Rambaut, DSC, is author of the only existing biography of Feversham: *Louis de Durfort-Duras, second Earl of Feversham* (1988). His work also appears in the *Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland*, 25 (1989–93) and in P. Rambaut and R. Vigne, *Britain's Huguenot War Leaders* (2003).

Dianne W. Ressinger has produced the definitive English-language version of the memoirs of the Revd Jaques Fontaine (Huguenot Society, new series 2, 1997) and recently published the first ever English edition of the memoirs of Isaac Dumont de Bostaquet (Huguenot Society, new series 4, 2005).

Dr Helmut Schnitter taught at the University of Potsdam, Germany, and has published widely on the Huguenots in the army of Brandenburg-Prussia. His most important works include *Unter dem rotten Adler. Réfugiés im brandenburgischen Heer Ende des 17. Anfang des 18. Jahrhundert* (1996) and 'Die Réfugiés in der brandenburgischen Armee', in G. Bregulla (ed.), *Hugenotten in Berlin* (1988).

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Foreword

General Sir Peter de la Billière, KCB, KBE, DSO, MC and bar (rtd.)

The British Army is no stranger to recruits from foreign countries and it has been my privilege to serve with men from many nations from as far afield as Fiji, Hong Kong and New Zealand to mention a few. They made fine soldiers with many of them winning gallantry awards. Contemporary times are no stranger to wars of religion, and Northern Ireland and the international Islamic conflicts are the most recent scenes of such action. Today's events reflect the role played by religion in war in the Middle Ages and the early modern period in Europe.

For 250 years the French Protestants suffered persecution while the rulers of France with few exceptions, but notably Henry IV who proclaimed the Edict of Nantes, created a single Catholic state. Freedom of worship came on the eve of the Revolution of 1789 and was enshrined in the Declaration of the Rights of Man. It is not surprising that many thousands of Protestants gallantly refused to abjure and at great risk emigrated to other states throughout Europe and the world. That so many of them were accomplished artisans in their trade, including that of soldiering, became France's loss and Europe's gain. To this day many people of distinction in professions and trades are descended from Huguenot ancestors; as with my family they take great pride in their lineage and would no doubt wish that their predecessors had had the opportunity to maintain more positive connections with their former motherland.

Courage became an inherent quality of the migrant Huguenots and in no profession was this more apparent than amongst those who enlisted into the armies of European nations. Huguenot generals and senior commanders abound in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century armies, in particular the English army benefited from their presence. The extraordinary example of Friedrich Hermann von Schomberg, who ultimately commanded thousands of Huguenot officers in the Irish campaigns, stands out. Though a Marshal of France he chose to leave his adopted motherland rather than obey Louis XIV's request to abjure his faith and then became the Field Marshal of the Brandenburg army. He concluded his career as second-in-command to William III and was appointed Knight of the Garter and Master of Ordinance.

Huguenot soldiers were a force to be reckoned with throughout Europe and this volume is the first attempt to bring together in a scholarly study essays treating the Huguenots as soldiers in Europe. Their story is often fascinating and sometimes poignant as they aided International Protestantism against Catholic foes across Europe, while remaining 'under the cross' in their homeland of France. This book contains chapters analysing their efforts internationally prior to the 1685 revocation of the Edict of Nantes which sealed their fate in France. Their role as mercenaries and freedom fighters for International Protestantism is explored together with the complex political motivation that underscored their involvement abroad in the pre-

Revocation era. Chapters examine the Huguenot rationale for joining foreign armies and the dynamics of the 'Protestant International' of which they were a prominent part. Their role in European armies after the Revocation is covered by a number of expert studies of Huguenot refugees in the armies of Britain, the Netherlands, Russia, Brandenburg-Prussia, Brunswick-Lüneburg-Cell and Savoy-Piedmont. Chapters also treat the Huguenot legacy, focusing on the ageing generation of refugees and their descendants' contributions to the countries of their adoption. This book contains studies of the Huguenots as a group in various countries and examines the lives and action of some individual French refugee commanders who led armies consisting of their compatriots. By combining biographical studies of eminent figures with broader consideration of group experience this book presents a wide-ranging and thought provoking collection of material. It is the first study of its kind to treat consistently the military contribution made by Huguenots to armies outside France at the high point of their importance as a historical group.

I take pride in my association with this important literary salutation to Europe's Huguenot ancestors. They were brave entrepreneurial people: they have made a significant contribution to the prosperity and security of Europe and they stand acknowledged as upholders of democratic and religious freedom.

The authors are to be congratulated for their valuable contribution to history: their book will occupy a prominent position in my library and that of others who have an interest in this period and these people.

Acknowledgements

Thanks must go to Mrs Vivian Costello, of the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland, for her tireless support of this volume, and for translating much of the German material into English. The editors would also like to thank Mr Randolph Vigne for his encouragement and assistance throughout the production of this book.

The index and cumulative bibliography were constructed by Matthew Glozier.

List of Abbreviations

AECP	Archives étrangères, <i>correspondance politique</i> , Quai d'Orsay (Paris)
AEMD	Archives étrangères, <i>mémoires et documents</i> , Quai d'Orsay
AG	Archives de la guerre, Château de Vincennes (Paris)
Bib. Inst.	Bibliothèque de l'Institut (Paris)
Bib. Maz.	Bibliothèque Mazarin (Paris)
BL, Add. MS	British Library (London), Additional Manuscripts
BN	Bibliothèque Nationale (Paris)
BN, f. Fr.	Bibliothèque Nationale de France, <i>fonds Française</i>
BN, MS Fr.	Bibliothèque Nationale de France, <i>manuscrits Française</i>
Bod. Lib.	Bodleian Library (Oxford)
BSG	Bibliothèque Saint-Genève (Paris)
CARAN	Centre Accueil de la Recherche des Archives Nationales (Paris)
CSPDom.	<i>Calendar of State Papers Domestic</i>
CTB	<i>Calendar of Treasury Books</i>
DNB	Dictionary of National Biography
GAL	Gemeentearchief van Leiden (Netherlands)
HMC	Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts (UK), Reports
HNA	Het Nationaal Archief (The Hague) (formerly Algemeen Rijksarchief)
TNA	The National Archives (Kew) (formerly PRO)
NAS	National Archives of Scotland (Edinburgh)
NLS	National Library of Scotland (Edinburgh)
SG	States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands
SHAT	Service Historique de l'armée de terre, Château de Vincennes (Paris)
SPV	State Papers Venetian
WO	War Office

Glossary

Adjutant. An officer who assists the Colonel in regimental administrative duties, and is specially selected for the purpose.

Blind. A piece of wood set across the top of a trench to support hurdles and bavines filed with earth in order to cover in the trench and protect it from gun fire.

Brevet. Not a regimental rank, but an army one. It applies to field service and a brevet Major, for example, continues to serve as a Captain in his regiment, the higher rank only being assumed in field manoeuvres.

Cadet. A volunteer, serving in the hope of obtaining a commission. Some entire regiments consisted of Cadets, or well-born youths training for commissions. The majority of Cadets attached to Huguenot regiments succeeded as few appear in this rank on later pension lists. Their status and pay approximate those of Serjeants.

Captain-Lieutenant. The senior Lieutenant ranking next for promotion, who commanded the Colonel's company.

Chevaux-de-frises. Stakes of wood tied together with iron and driven into the ground as an obstacle to cavalry.

Counter-mine. A tunnel of the defenders to discover the mines of attackers.

Counterscarp. The slope of the moat nearest the open country.

En seconde. A term applied to officers appointed to a regiment in the absence of the officer holding the 'standing' or permanent commission. For example, following the disaster at Almanza, where a number of officers were taken prisoner, *en seconde* officers took their place pending release.

Hornworks. Rectangular outworks providing enfilading fire down the length of the curtain wall and flanking all approaches by the attackers.

Maréchal de camp. A rank in the French army equivalent to Major-General.

Raveline. A small, triangular work with only two faces and no angles, built in the moat before the curtain wall where the moat made a salient angle.

Redout. A small square fort with no angles which was always detached from the main fortifications.

Reformé/reformado. An officer placed on half-pay, additional to the strength of a regiment, forming a kind of reserve.

Scarp. The slope of the ditch nearest the town.

Troop. Applied to the cavalry, whereas 'company' is used in the infantry. Regiments were divided into troops or companies, each commanded by a Captain.

