REVIEWS

Petri Talvitie and Juha-Matti Granqvist (eds)

Civilians and Military Supply in Early Modern Finland

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FROM THE late sixteenth to the middle of the eighteenth centuries, Sweden was one of Europe's most militarized states. The Swedish realm was engaged in war against Denmark-Norway, Russia, Poland-Lithuania, and the Holy Roman Empire throughout almost the entire period. Under such considerable stress, how was Sweden able to keep its war machine oiled and who bore the costs for keeping it running? Petri Talvitie and Juha-Matti Granqvist's edited collected *Civilians and Military Supply in Early Modern Finland* seeks to answer these questions by focusing on Finland, then Sweden's eastern frontier, and explores themes relating to military maintenance, finance, credit, and civilian-army interactions from the late sixteenth to the early nineteenth centuries. Inspiration for the volume appears to be drawn from the pioneering work of Fritz Redlich and David Parrott on 'military entrepreneurship' and the importance of private individuals in keeping early modern armies afloat.

The eight chapters in this volume have been contributed by upcoming and established scholars, and each chapter is built off of research undertaken in Swedish and Finnish archives, ensuring the highest level of originality. The eight chapters are split over three parts and, in part one, 'Financing the Wars,' Jakko Björklund begins by examining the role of officers as creditors and guarantors during the Ingrian War (1609-1617), arguing that Swedish success was due only to the funding which came from its officers' private coffers. In the following chapter, Kasper Kepsu examines the burghers of the port of Nyen who, though forced into exile during the Great Northern War (1700-1721) both financed and supplied Sweden's army as refugees. In the final chapter of part one, Petri Talvitie demonstrates that the Swedish crown

sold over 40,000 'crown farms' throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Talvitie argues that the sale of these farms was intimately interlinked with raising the states' revenue during war—especially during the Great Northern War.

Part two, 'Military Supplies and the Countryside' looks at the burden of war on the rural populations of Finland. Mirkka Lappalainen first examines the manufacture of saltpetre—potassium nitrate, an essential ingredient in the production of gunpowder—the difficulties of manufacture and the 'essentially oppressive system' (p. 173) which the Finnish civilian population was subject to in producing raw materials. Sampsa Hatakka then searches for a new explanation for Sweden's disastrous war against Russia in the 1740s. Hatakka argues that, instead of poor military and political leadership, Sweden's army and navy were essentially let down by supply chain issues in the production of bread and the inability of the Swedish government to overcome this at the outset of the conflict. In the final chapter of part two, Anu Lahtinen analyzes the toll that war took on the locales of Hyvinkää and Kytäjärvi, in terms of depopulation, the ill behavior of their garrisons, and the tax burden faced by the populace.

In an interesting contrast to part two, part three—'Cities and the Provisioning of Armies'—examines the burden of war on Finland's urban population. Juha-Matti Granqvist traces the development of Helsinki from a modest town into an important and highly militarized fortress city and the correlating evolution of the burgher class into one which was fully prepared to 'serve all the major maintenance needs of the army,' (p. 254). Remaining in Helsinki, Sofia Gustafsson then analyzes the interactions between civilians and the soldiers billeted there, demonstrating that the civilian population realized that it had much to gain from its garrison and that, in general, relations between the two populations remained 'calm and collected.' Finally, the epilogue to the book provides a welcome analysis and synthesis, neatly summarizing the book's main argument that non-state actors were essential to Sweden's early modern military supply systems.

Though the book is marketed as a study of Finland throughout the early modern period, it should be noted that it is certainly weighted towards the eighteenth century with the Great Northern War, perhaps unsurprisingly, taking center stage. Chapters one and five do cover aspects of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, but it is only a small section (pp. 210-214) which covers the middle of the seventeenth. In a volume which ostensibly deals with military entrepreneurship, the lack of any substantive discussion on the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648)—arguably the apogee of the military entrepreneur—is a surprising omission.

Civilians and Military Supply in Early Modern Finland is an excellent case-study of civilian-military interaction and the availability of the volume online through open access is extremely commendable. While the book will obviously appeal to those who study early modern Finland or Sweden, all those who study early modern military history, generally, will benefit from its ideas, research, and methodology.

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