Robert the Bruce's Invasion of Ireland - Colin McNamee - 1997
This is a very readable narrative of a momentous episode in British history. Former studies of this topic concentrate upon events in Scotland, but England's war with Robert Bruce profoundly affected the whole of the British Isles. Biographies have appeared of the various leading personalities involved, but no-one has hitherto attempted to link up the various theatres of war in a comprehensive study. The effects of the Bruce wars outside Scotland have never before been systematically examined; and the attempt to establish a 'pan-celtic alliance' deserves its reassessment. The emphasis on the wider implications of the war is justified by the fact that the vast bulk of the archive material relating to the war emanates from the English royal government which was unable to operate in Scotland from 1311.

Robert the Bruce - Michael Pennman - 2004-08-05
Robert the Bruce (1274-1329) was the famous unifier of Scotland and defeater of the English at Bannockburn - the legendary hero responsible for Scottish independence. Michael Pennman retells the story of Robert's rise - his part in William Wallace's revolt against Edward I, his seizing of the Scottish throne after murdering his great rival John Comyn, his excommunication, and devastating battles against an enemy Scottish coalition - climaxing in his victory over Edward II's forces in June 1314. He then draws attention to the second part of the king's life after the victory that made his name.

The Encyclopedia of War, 5 Volume Set - Gordon Martel - 2012-01-17
This ground-breaking 5-volume reference is a comprehensive print and electronic resource covering the history of warfare from ancient times to the present day, across the entire globe. Arranged in A-Z format, the Encyclopedia provides an overview of the most important events, people, and terms associated with warfare - from the Punic Wars to the Mongol conquest of China, and the War on Terror; from the Ottoman Sultan, Suleiman 'the Magnificent', to the Soviet Military Commander, Georgi Konstantinovich Zhukov; and from the crossbow to chemical warfare. Individual entries range from 1,000 to 6,000 words with the longer, essay-style contributions giving a detailed analysis of key developments and ideas. Drawing on an experienced and internationally diverse editorial board, the Encyclopedia is the first to offer readers at all levels an extensive reference work based on the best and most recent scholarly research. The online platform further provides interactive cross-referencing links and powerful searching and browsing capabilities within the work and across Wiley-Blackwell's comprehensive online reference collection. Learn more at wwwENCYCLOPEDIOforwar.com. Selected by Choice as a 2013 Outstanding Academic Title Recipient of a 2012 PROSE Award honorable mention

Born Fighting - Jim Webb - 2005-10-11
In his first work of nonfiction, bestselling novelist James Webb tells the epic story of the Scots-Irish, a people whose lives and worldview were dictated by resistance, conflict, and struggle, and who, in turn, profoundly influenced the social, political, and cultural landscape of America from its beginnings through the present day. More than 27 million Americans today can trace their lineage to the Scots, whose bloodline was stained by centuries of continuous warfare along the border between England and Scotland, and later in the bitter settlements of England's Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland. Between 250,000 and 400,000 Scots-Irish migrated to America in the eighteenth century, traveling in groups of families and bringing with them not only long experience as rebels and outcasts but also unparalleled skills as frontiersmen and guerrilla fighters. Their cultural identity reflected acute individualism, dislike of aristocracy and a military tradition, and, over time, the Scots-Irish defined the attitudes and values of the military, of working class America, and even of the peculiarly...
Born Fighting - Jim Webb - 2005-16-11

In his first work of nonfiction, bestselling novelist James Webb tells the epic story of the Scots-Irish, a people whose lives and worldview were dictated by resistance, conflict, and struggle, and who, in turn, profoundly influenced the social, political, and cultural landscape of America from its beginnings through the present day.

More than 27 million Americans today can trace their lineage to the Scots, whose bloodstream was stained by centuries of continuous warfare along the border between England and Scotland, and later in the bitter settlements of England's Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland. Between 250,000 and 400,000 Scots-Irish migrated to the American frontier, traveling in groups of families and bringing with them not only long experience as rebels and outcasts but also unparalleled skills as frontiersmen and guerrilla fighters. Their cultural identity reflected a focus on tradition, or whimsical and individualistic character—a people too often ignored or taken for granted.

Born Fighting shows that the Scots-Irish were 40 percent of the Revolutionary War army; they included the pioneers Daniel Boone, Lewis and Clark, Davy Crockett, and Sam Houston; they were the writers Edgar Allan Poe and Mark Twain; and they have given America numerous great military leaders, including Stonewall Jackson, Ulysses S. Grant, Audie Murphy, and George S. Patton, as well as most of the soldiers of the Confederacy (only 5 percent of whom owned slaves, and who fought against what they viewed as an invading army). It illustrates how the Scots-Irish redefined American politics, creating the populist form of American democracy itself. Born Fighting redefines America to its most powerful, patriotic, and individualistic cultural group—one too often ignored or taken for granted.

Before the Military Revolution - Alexander Querengässer - 2021-09-30

Before the Military Revolution examines European Warfare in the Late Middle Ages from 1300 to 1490. It is not restricted only to well-covered conflicts, like the Anglo-Scottish Wars or the Hundred Years War, but gives due weight to all regions of Europe, including the Empire, the Baltic, the Balkans and the Mediterranean, and considers developments in naval warfare. The Hussite Wars and the wars of the Teutonic Order and the Hanseatic League are covered, as is the expansion of Moscow, the Ottomans and Venice, and battles like Aussig (1426), Copenhagen (1428), Chojnice (1454) are discussed alongside Bannockburn and Agincourt. This age witnesses a fundamental change. The feudal system of the High Middle Ages crumbled everywhere in Europe due to climatic change, economic crisis and population decline. This triggered a fiscalization of the military organization, the establishment of taxes and representation of the estates. This book argues that these changes are the most fundamental ones in the military and political organization in Europe until the rise of the constitutional state around 1800 and so comes closer to the original concept of a Military Revolution. It also takes a critical look at other often discussed developments of this age, like the Infantry and Artillery Revolution or the decline of cavalry.

Before the Military Revolution examines European Warfare in the Late Middle Ages from 1300 to 1490. It is not restricted only to well-covered conflicts, like the Anglo-Scottish Wars or the Hundred Years War, but gives due weight to all regions of Europe, including the Empire, the Baltic, the Balkans and the Mediterranean, and considers developments in naval warfare. The Hussite Wars and the wars of the Teutonic Order and the Hanseatic League are covered, as is the expansion of Moscow, the Ottomans and Venice, and battles like Aussig (1426), Copenhagen (1428), Chojnice (1454) are discussed alongside Bannockburn and Agincourt. This age witnesses a fundamental change. The feudal system of the High Middle Ages crumbled everywhere in Europe due to climatic change, economic crisis and population decline. This triggered a fiscalization of the military organization, the establishment of taxes and representation of the estates. This book argues that these changes are the most fundamental ones in the military and political organization in Europe until the rise of the constitutional state around 1800 and so comes closer to the original concept of a Military Revolution. It also takes a critical look at other often discussed developments of this age, like the Infantry and Artillery Revolution or the decline of cavalry.

Before the Military Revolution examines European Warfare in the Late Middle Ages from 1300 to 1490. It is not restricted only to well-covered conflicts, like the Anglo-Scottish Wars or the Hundred Years War, but gives due weight to all regions of Europe, including the Empire, the Baltic, the Balkans and the Mediterranean, and considers developments in naval warfare. The Hussite Wars and the wars of the Teutonic Order and the Hanseatic League are covered, as is the expansion of Moscow, the Ottomans and Venice, and battles like Aussig (1426), Copenhagen (1428), Chojnice (1454) are discussed alongside Bannockburn and Agincourt. This age witnesses a fundamental change. The feudal system of the High Middle Ages crumbled everywhere in Europe due to climatic change, economic crisis and population decline. This triggered a fiscalization of the military organization, the establishment of taxes and representation of the estates. This book argues that these changes are the most fundamental ones in the military and political organization in Europe until the rise of the constitutional state around 1800 and so comes closer to the original concept of a Military Revolution. It also takes a critical look at...
The battle of Bannockburn, fought on the fields south of Stirling at midsummer 1314, is the best known event in the history of Medieval Scotland. It was a unique event. The clash of two armies, each led by a king, followed a clear challenge to a battle to determine the status of Scotland and its survival as a separate realm. As a key point in the Anglo-Scottish wars of the fourteenth century, the battle has been extensively discussed, but Bannockburn was also a pivotal event in the history of the British Isles. This book analyses the road to Bannockburn, the campaign of 1314 and the aftermath of the fight. It demonstrates that in both its context and legacy the battle had a central significance in the shaping of nations and identities in the late Medieval British Isles.

**In Freedom's Cause** - George Alfred Henty - 1885
At the turn of the fourteenth century in Scotland, young Archie Forbes becomes involved with both William Wallace and Robert the Bruce in the struggle for Scottish independence from English rule.

**In Freedom's Cause** - George Alfred Henty - 1885
At the turn of the fourteenth century in Scotland, young Archie Forbes becomes involved with both William Wallace and Robert the Bruce in the struggle for Scottish independence from English rule.

**Cultural Exchange and Identity in Late Medieval Ireland** - Sparky Booker - 2018-03-22
Irish inhabitants of the 'four obedient shires' - a term commonly used to describe the region at the heart of the English colony in the later Middle Ages - were significantly anglicised, taking on English names, dress, and even legal status. However, the processes of cultural exchange went both ways. This study examines the nature of interactions between English and Irish neighbours in the four shires, taking into account the complex tensions between assimilation and the preservation of distinct ethnic identities and exploring how the common colonial rhetoric of the Irish as an 'enemy' coexisted with the daily reality of alliance, intermarriage, and accommodation. Placing Ireland in a broad context, Sparky Booker addresses the strategies the colonial community used to deal with the difficulties posed by extensive assimilation, and the lasting changes this made to understandings of what it meant to be 'English' or 'Irish' in the face of such challenges.

**Cultural Exchange and Identity in Late Medieval Ireland** - Sparky Booker - 2018-03-22
Irish inhabitants of the 'four obedient shires' - a term commonly used to describe the region at the heart of the English colony in the later Middle Ages - were significantly anglicised, taking on English names, dress, and even legal status. However, the processes of cultural exchange went both ways. This study examines the nature of interactions between English and Irish neighbours in the four shires, taking into account the complex tensions between assimilation and the preservation of distinct ethnic identities and exploring how the common colonial rhetoric of the Irish as an 'enemy' coexisted with the daily reality of alliance, intermarriage, and accommodation. Placing Ireland in a broad context, Sparky Booker addresses the strategies the colonial community used to deal with the difficulties posed by extensive assimilation, and the lasting changes this made to understandings of what it meant to be 'English' or 'Irish' in the face of such challenges.

**England and Scotland at War, c.1296-c.1313** - 2012-06-22
In England and Scotland at War, c.1296-c.1513, Andy King and David Simpkin bring together new perspectives on the Anglo-Scottish conflict from Dunbar to Flodden. The essays focus on the military history of the wars from both sides of the border.

**England and Scotland at War, c.1296-c.1313** - 2012-06-22
In England and Scotland at War, c.1296-c.1513, Andy King and David Simpkin bring together new perspectives on the Anglo-Scottish conflict from Dunbar to Flodden. The essays focus on the military history of the wars from both sides of the border.

**Bannockburn** - Michael Brown - 2008-07-02
The battle of Bannockburn, fought on the fields south of Stirling at midsummer 1314, is the best known event in the history of Medieval Scotland. It was a unique event. The clash of two armies, each led by a king, followed a clear challenge to a battle to determine the status of Scotland and its survival as a separate realm. As a key point in the Anglo-Scottish wars of the fourteenth century, the battle has been extensively discussed, but Bannockburn was also a pivotal event in the history of the British Isles. This book analyses the road to Bannockburn, the campaign of 1314 and the aftermath of the fight. It demonstrates that in both its context and legacy the battle had a central significance in the shaping of nations and identities in the late Medieval British Isles.

**Bannockburn** - Michael Brown - 2008-07-02
The battle of Bannockburn, fought on the fields south of Stirling at midsummer 1314, is the best known event in the history of Medieval Scotland. It was a unique event. The clash of two armies, each led by a king, followed a clear challenge to a battle to determine the status of Scotland and its survival as a separate realm. As a key point in the Anglo-Scottish wars of the fourteenth century, the battle has been extensively discussed, but Bannockburn was also a pivotal event in the history of the British Isles. This book analyses the road to Bannockburn, the campaign of 1314 and the aftermath of the fight. It demonstrates that in both its context and legacy the battle had a central significance in the shaping of nations and identities in the late Medieval British Isles.

---

**Ireland's History** - Kenneth L. Campbell - 2013-12-05
Ireland's History provides an introduction to Irish history that blends a scholarly approach to the subject, based on recent research and current historiographical perspectives, with a clear and accessible writing style. All the major themes in Irish history are covered, from prehistoric times right through to present day, from the emergence of Celtic Christianity after the fall of the Roman Empire, to Ireland and the European Union, secularism and rapprochement with the United Kingdom. By avoiding adopting a purely nationalistic perspective, Kenneth Campbell offers a balanced approach, covering not only social and economic history, but also political, cultural, and religious history, and exploring the interconnections among these various approaches. This text will encourage students to think critically about the past and to examine how a study of Irish history might inform and influence their understanding of history in general.

**Disunited Kingdoms** - Michael Brown - 2014-07-10
In the last decades of the thirteenth century the British Isles appeared to be on the point of unified rule, dominated by the lordship, law and language of the English. However by 1400 Britain and Ireland were divided between the warring kings of England and Scotland, and peoples still starkly defined by race and nation. Why did the apparent trends towards a single royal ruler, a single elite and a common Anglicised world stop so abruptly after 1300? And what did the resulting pattern of distinct nations and extensive borderlands contribute to the longer-term history of the British Isles? In this innovative analysis of a critical period in the history of the British Isles, Michael Brown addresses these fundamental questions and shows how the national identities underlying the British state today are a continuous legacy of these years. Using a chronological structure to guide the reader through the key periods of the era, this book also identifies and analyses the following dominant themes: - the changing nature of kingship and sovereignty and their links to wars of conquest - developing ideas of community and identity - key shifts in the nature of aristocratic societies across the isles - the European context, particularly the roots and course of the Hundred Years War - this is essential reading for undergraduates studying the history of late Medieval Britain or Europe, but will also be of great interest for anyone who wishes to understand the continuing legacy of the late medieval period in Britain.

**Disunited Kingdoms** - Michael Brown - 2014-07-10
In the last decades of the thirteenth century the British Isles appeared to be on the point of unified rule, dominated by the lordship, law and language of the English. However by 1400 Britain and Ireland were divided between the warring kings of England and Scotland, and peoples still starkly defined by race and nation. Why did the apparent trends towards a single royal ruler, a single elite and a common Anglicised world stop so abruptly after 1300? And what did the resulting pattern of distinct nations and extensive borderlands contribute to the longer-term history of the British Isles? In this innovative analysis of a critical period in the history of the British Isles, Michael Brown addresses these fundamental questions and shows how the national identities underlying the British state today are a continuous legacy of these years. Using a chronological structure to guide the reader through the key periods of the era, this book also identifies and analyses the following dominant themes: - the changing nature of kingship and sovereignty and their links to wars of conquest - developing ideas of community and identity - key shifts in the nature of aristocratic societies across the isles - the European context, particularly the roots and course of the Hundred Years War - this is essential reading for undergraduates studying the history of late Medieval Britain or Europe, but will also be of great interest for anyone who wishes to understand the continuing legacy of the late medieval period in Britain.
Identity and culture in late-medieval Scotland and Ireland; Michael Brown (U St Andrews), Scotland and Ireland

The Bruce invasion of Ireland: an Irish perspective; Robin Frame (Durham U), The earldom of Ulster between England and Scotland; Michael Penman (U Stirling), The Bruce invasion of Ireland: a Scottish perspective; Sean Duffy (TCD), The Bruce

The literary world of early medieval Ireland and Scotland; Alex Woolf (U St Andrews), The Scottish and Irish church in the tenth to twelfth centuries; R.A. McDonald (Brock U), Ireland, Scotland and the kingdom of the Isles; Bernard Meehan (TCD), The art of early medieval Ireland and Scotland; Benjamin Hudson (Penn State U), The literary world of early medieval Ireland and Scotland; Alex Woolf (U St Andrews), The Scottish and Irish church in the tenth to twelfth centuries; R.A. McDonald (Brock U), Ireland, Scotland and the kingdom of the Isles; Michael Pennan (U Stirling), The Bruce invasion of Ireland: a Scottish perspective; Sean Duffy (TCD), The Bruce invasion of Ireland: an Irish perspective; Robin Frame (Durham U), The earldom of Ulster between England and Scotland; Katharine Simms (TCD), Scotland and the politics of Gaelic Ulster; Martin MacGregor (U Glasgow), Identity and culture in late-medieval Scotland and Ireland; Michael Brown (U St Andrews), Scotland and Ireland in the late Middle Ages.

The Irish-Scottish World in the Middle Ages - Seán Duffy - 2018-10-31

In this volume, the proceedings of the 2nd Trinity Medieval Ireland Symposium (marking the 700th anniversary of the invasion of Ireland by Edward, brother of King Robert Bruce of Scotland), a host of experts here explore crucial aspects of Irish-Scottish links in the Middle Ages. Do the origins of modern Scotland lie in Ireland? To what extent did the legacy of Colum Cille of Iona define relations between the two regions - in political, ecclesiastical, literary and artistic terms? Is the Book of Kells 'Irish' or 'Scottish'? What were the impacts of Viking and then Anglo-Norman attempts at conquest? Did contacts intensify with the recruitment of Hebridean galloglass by the chieftains of Gaelic Ulster and elsewhere or were ancient bonds on the wane as the Middle Ages drew to a close?

Contents: Dauvit Broun (U Glasgow), Ireland and the beginnings of Scotland; Thomas Owen Clancy (U Glasgow), Scotland and Ireland before 800; James E. Fraser (U Guelph), Ireland and the Christianization of Scotland; Bernard Meehan (TCD), The art of early medieval Ireland and Scotland; Benjamin Hudson (Penn State U), The literary world of early medieval Ireland and Scotland; Alex Woolf (U St Andrews), The Scottish and Irish church in the tenth to twelfth centuries; R.A. McDonald (Brock U), Ireland, Scotland and the kingdom of the Isles; Michael Pennan (U Stirling), The Bruce invasion of Ireland: a Scottish perspective; Sean Duffy (TCD), The Bruce invasion of Ireland: an Irish perspective; Robin Frame (Durham U), The earldom of Ulster between England and Scotland; Katharine Simms (TCD), Scotland and the politics of Gaelic Ulster; Martin MacGregor (U Glasgow), Identity and culture in late-medieval Scotland and Ireland; Michael Brown (U St Andrews), Scotland and Ireland in the late Middle Ages.
Rethinking Military History is a bold new ‘thought book’ that reconsiders military history at the beginning of the twenty-first century. The chapters provide a valuable and concise survey of the main themes in the study of military history from 1500 to the present day as Jeremy Black reveals the main trends in the practice and approach to military history and proposes a new manifesto for the subject to move forward. This must-read study demonstrates the limitations of current approaches, including common generalizations, omissions, and over-simplifications. Engaging theoretical discussions, with reference to specific conflicts, suggest how these limitations can be remedied and adapted, whilst incorporating contributions from other disciplines. Rethinking Military History is essential reading for all those with an interest in military history, and all who wish to take part in moving the discipline forward.

Rethinking Military History - Jeremy Black - 2004

This book gives an insight into the Irish revolution, and seeks to explain how it came about, through a study of the functions of the courts and local government, and then goes on to describe the military side of the revolution. A detailed look at the Irish revolution at a regional level. County Longford was the scene of Sinn Féin’s crucial by-election in September 2014. He begins with the totemic Battle of Bannockburn in 1314, in which the Scots routed the English and preserved their independence until the two nations’ parliaments united in 1707. Paying particular attention to Robert Burns and continuing up to the present day, he examines how writers have set out in poetry, fiction, plays and on film the ideal of Scottish independence. Publication coincides with the 700-year anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn.

Annabourns - Robert Crawford - 2014-01-14

Poet and critic Robert Crawford explores in eloquent detail the literary-cultural background to Scottish nationalism in the lead-up to the referendum on independence for Scotland from the United Kingdom in September 2014. He begins with the totemic Battle of Bannockburn in 1314, in which the Scots routed the English and preserved their independence until the two nations’ parliaments united in 1707. Paying particular attention to Robert Burns and continuing up to the present day, he examines how writers have set out in poetry, fiction, plays and on film the ideal of Scottish independence. Publication coincides with the 700-year anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn.

County Longford and the Irish Revolution, 1910-1923 - Marie Coleman - 2006

This book gives an insight into the Irish revolution, and seeks to explain how it came about, through a study of events at a regional level. County Longford was the scene of Sinn Féin’s crucial by-election victories in 1917 and an active area of IRA operations during the War of Independence. Sinn Féin’s victory in the by-election acted as a catalyst for the rapid spread of the movement throughout Longford in the latter half of 1917. Marie Coleman discusses the political aspect of the revolution by examining the importance of administrative charges as Sinn Féin and Dáil Éireann usurped the functions of the courts and local government, and then goes on to describe the military side of the revolution. A detailed look at the Irish revolution at a regional level. County Longford was the scene of Sinn Féin’s crucial by-election victories in 1917 and an active area of IRA operations during the War of Independence.

County Longford and the Irish Revolution, 1910-1923 - Marie Coleman - 2006
throughout Longford in the latter half of 1917. Marie Coleman discusses the political aspect of the revolution by examining the importance of administrative charges as Sinn FÃ©in and Cumann na mBan respectively, outlining their activities at various stages of the independence campaign, and examining their motivation for joining these organisations and engaging in violent activity.

**Dr. Droop's Juggling Buffooney** - Bruce Fife - 1988
People who want to develop an act for birthday parties or street corners will find this book a blessing. Easy-to-follow directions on how to juggle, manipulate cigar boxes, do balancing tricks, and become an hilariously funny juggler. Contains 25 complete comic juggling routines. Simple enough for beginners, funny enough for professionals.

**Dr. Droop's Juggling Buffooney** - Bruce Fife - 1988
People who want to develop an act for birthday parties or street corners will find this book a blessing. Easy-to-follow directions on how to juggle, manipulate cigar boxes, do balancing tricks, and become an hilariously funny juggler. Contains 25 complete comic juggling routines. Simple enough for beginners, funny enough for professionals.

**Irish Canadian Conflict and the Struggle for Irish Independence, 1912-1925** - Robert McLaughlin - 2013
“McLaughlin’s research is highly original, demonstrating the extensive role played by Canadians in this fascinating episode of Ireland’s history”--Page 4 of cover.

**Irish Canadian Conflict and the Struggle for Irish Independence, 1912-1925** - Robert McLaughlin - 2013
“McLaughlin’s research is highly original, demonstrating the extensive role played by Canadians in this fascinating episode of Ireland’s history”--Page 4 of cover.

**Historical Dictionary of the British Monarchy** - James Panton - 2011-02-24
The Historical Dictionary of the British Monarchy provides a chronology starting with the year 495 and continuing to the present day, an introductory essay, an extensive bibliography, and over 600 cross-referenced dictionary entries on significant persons, places, events, institutions, and other aspects of British culture, society, economy, and politics. This book is a must for anyone interested in the British monarchy.

**Historical Dictionary of the British Monarchy** - James Panton - 2011-02-24
The Historical Dictionary of the British Monarchy provides a chronology starting with the year 495 and continuing to the present day, an introductory essay, an extensive bibliography, and over 600 cross-referenced dictionary entries on significant persons, places, events, institutions, and other aspects of British culture, society, economy, and politics. This book is a must for anyone interested in the British monarchy.

**Ireland and the English World in the Late Middle Ages** - Brendan Smith - 2009-04-15
This volume extends the ‘British Isles’ approach pioneered by Robin Frame and Rees Davies to the later middle ages. Through examination of issues such as frontier formation, colonial identities and connections with the wider world it explores whether this period saw the bonds between the British Isles weaken, strengthen, or simply alter.

**Ireland and the English World in the Late Middle Ages** - Brendan Smith - 2009-04-15
This volume extends the ‘British Isles’ approach pioneered by Robin Frame and Rees Davies to the later middle ages. Through examination of issues such as frontier formation, colonial identities and connections with the wider world it explores whether this period saw the bonds between the British Isles weaken, strengthen, or simply alter.

**The American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War** - Bruce Catton - 1960
836 pictures illustrating the Civil War with a narrative that covers both military and political aspects of the war.

**The American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War** - Bruce Catton - 1960
836 pictures illustrating the Civil War with a narrative that covers both military and political aspects of the war.

An authoritative, illustrated history of medieval warfare combines maps, battle plans, and pictorial essays to explore such topics as fortifications, weaponry, the use of cavalry, siege warfare, strategy and theory, and individual battles and campaigns. UP.
legends of ancient wars and warriors, moving through a time when history and storytelling were not separate
crafts, into a time when history was as much propaganda as fact, Wars of the Irish Kings tells of tribal battles,
foreign invasions, Viking raids, family feuds, wars between rival Irish kingdoms, and wars of rebellion against the
English. This collection is peopled with familiar names: Cuchulain, Finn MacCool, Brian Boru, Mad King Sweeney,
Strongbow, Edward and Robert Bruce, Queen Elizabeth I and Lord Essex, Hugh O'Donnell, and Hugh O'Neill.
Battles formed the legends and history of the land: the Da Dannan meet the Fir Bolgs near Sligo, Brian Boru faces
the Vikings at Clontarf in Dublin Bay, High King Rory O'Connor confronts the English invaders near Waterford,
O'Briens battle the English (and other O'Briens) at Dysert O'Dea near Limerick, guns are carried for the first time
in battle at Knockdoe near Galway, the Bruces from Scotland and their Irish allies overwhelm the English at
Connor in Ulster, and Hugh O'Neill ambushes General Bagenal near Armagh. The book ends near Cork in 1601
when the English defeat O'Neill and his Spanish allies at Kinsale. Common people as well as kings appear in these
pages. A foot soldier in the early days of gunpowder accidentally sets off a disastrous explosion, a harper’s
disembodied head is sent by error to the king of England, who displays it as that of the king of Ireland, and a
Welsh camp follower named Alice is given the job of executing Irish captives during the English invasion. The
sources for these stories and many more range from ancient manuscripts telling of mythical battles to a
seventeenth-century siege diary. There are excerpts from such Irish literary masterpieces as The Cattle Raid of
Coole (The Tain), the monumental Annals of the Four Masters, passages from Gerald of Wales’s account of the
English conquest in the twelfth century, pages from an Icelandic saga, and even a blistering letter from Queen
Elizabeth I to her inept commander in Ireland (“You do but piece up a hollow peace . . . ”). The result is a
surprisingly immediate and stunning portrait of an all-but-forgotten time that forged the Ireland to come.

The Oxford History of Ireland - R. F. Foster - 2001
* Over 2000 years of Irish history, from pre-Christian times to the present-day Troubles.*--Back cover.