INTRODUCTION

There is perhaps no other more lively area for study in medieval history than medieval military history, with its attendant and complementary field, the history of medieval military technology. In the past twenty years, the length of my personal academic experience in medieval military history and technology, it seems that more major scholarly inroads have been made in this field than in any other historical genre of medieval studies. (Of course, I could be biased.) What this has meant is that it is now more difficult to keep up with all of the trends and sources in the field than ever before. Hence the need for a reference work covering what has previously been written which, in turn, can assist the scholar, both the more experienced academic and the beginner, to improve his or her work in medieval military history or the history of medieval military technology.

Utilizing library catalogues, bibliographies, and footnotes, I have tried to compile the most complete list of secondary references to works in medieval military history and the history of military technology which I could. Of course, in doing this, two problems of incompleteness presented themselves. First, the references themselves are often incomplete. Article footnotes rarely contain complete references, especially as far as complete page numbers when other articles are concerned, while lately it has also become a practice, an unfortunate one in my experience, of leaving off these same article page numbers from book and article bibliographies as well. Finally, it is rare that publishers’ names are ever supplied in either bibliographies or article footnotes. In short, I have included the most complete information that I can: a complete reference, with page numbers if articles, and publishers’ names if books, if possible, and where not possible, as much information as I had available to me. All reference data should be complete enough to find these works in a library or to order them from an inter-library loan service.

The second problem which I, and undoubtedly any compiler of bibliographical reference works, have encountered in composing this bibliographical collection is the ultimate incompleteness of the work as a whole. No sooner is a bibliography published than new items appear which would be appropriate for it. I have tried to include everything I could up to Spring 2001 when I compiled the final draft on which this bibliography is based.
Of course, there are also the obviously missed references. No matter how thorough the bibliography compiler is in searching for references, there will always be many that are missed. (Indeed, in an earlier draft of this work, I actually missed one of my own articles!)

The plan is to provide a means whereby references, both those which represent items appearing after this work is published and those which were left out, can appear. Updates will appear! Although where yearly updates will appear has not be determined, there are plans to have these; multi-annual updates will appear in print. In each of these, both new references and those left out will appear — depending on the number of new items, these references may be annotated. I would appreciate any additions to the bibliography, with potential donors of these able to reach me through E.J. Brill Publishing or, at least for the near future, at kdevries@loyola.edu.

Finally, a few words need to be written about the geographical/chronological limitations of this work and the categories which I have used to catalogue these references. While I have kept fairly strictly to a geography which centers on conventional medieval boundaries — Europe, Byzantium, and the Middle East — the chronology does differ from the conventional medieval dates. Because of its influence on the early Middle Ages, I wanted to include references to Late Antiquity, especially to the military history and technology of the third- and fourth-century Roman Empire. For the reverse reason, the influence of the Middle Ages on the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, I have included references to military history and technology up to 1648 as well. This is especially important in the study of the Ottoman Turkish Wars and Arms and Armor, where the end of the fifteenth century as a chronological terminus makes little sense.

As for what categories I have used to divide these references, while some are obvious or at least indicate the interests of scholars in the past couple of centuries, I must admit that many simply reflect my own personal bias. Some categories are geographical in content (France, Spain and Portugal, Holy Roman Empire, England, etc.), some denote separate wars (Barbarian Invasions, Hundred Years War, Crusades, Dutch Revolt, Thirty Years War, etc.), and some are thematic (Chivalry, Financing, Mercenaries, Military Obligation, Military Orders, etc.) Please note that several categories have also been sub-divided into separate chronologies...
or military events. These different categories should be easily discerned by a simple scanning of the Table of Contents.

There are of course some anomalies. A general one is that beyond some “General,” non-chronological categories, there are four major categories: “Late Antiquity;” “Medieval;” “Early Modern;” and “Premodern,” which refers only to “Military Technology” references. More specific anomalies are: “Barbarian Invasions” which covers all military activity of the invaders of the old Roman Empire throughout the early Middle Ages; “Bouvines” which is a category by its own and not a sub-division of “France,” “the Holy Roman Empire,” “England” or “Low Countries,” because of the participation of military units from all of those lands; “Carolingian” which covers all military activity in central and western Europe from Charles Martel through the end of the Carolingian Kings; “Cavalry” which is different from “Knights and Knighthood,” the latter being found as a sub-division of “Chivalry;” “Church” which covers all ecclesiastical miliary activities and commentaries, including the “Just War,” except for the “Peace and Truce of God,” references to which can be found under “Peace Movements;” “Crusades – Later” which contains references to all crusading activities referring to the Islamic lands after the “Crusade – Fourth,” although the “Albigensian,” “Children’s,” “Hussite,” and “Livonian” Crusades have their own categories; “Crusader Kingdoms” which also have a separate Crusade sub-division category; “Mongols” whose military activities are a subdivision of “Crusades” as well; Crusades against the Ottomans can be found as “Medieval/Early Modern – Ottoman Turkish Wars;” the “Eastern European” category in which both the “Medieval” and “Early Modern” periods contain all references to military activities east of the Holy Roman Empire, including Russia and Hungary; “English/Scottish Conflicts” and “English/Welsh Conflicts” which are sub-divisions of “England,” although “Scotland” has its own category for references not principally directed at the Scottish Conflicts with its southern neighbor; Scottish participation in the “Hundred Years War” is categorized as a sub-division of that larger category; “Financing” references to which have their own category, unless referring to the “Hundred Years War,” which has a “Financing” sub-division; “Historiography” which is a different category from “Methodology;” references to English and French Kings who ruled during the “Hundred Years War” which are listed as sub-divisions of that category even if the military references do not specifically refer to that war (especially important in dealing with
“Henry VI,” whose participation in the “Wars of the Roses” means that one seeking information about that king’s role in that English war should look in both categories); “John of Gaunt” which has his own “Hundred Years War” subdivision, while references to the Black Prince’s military activities are to be found under the “Edward III” sub-division; “Joan of Arc” which has her own “Hundred Years War” sub-division, as does the French provinces of “Brittany,” “Burgundy,” “Gascony and Guyenne,” and “Normandy;” “France,” the “Low Countries,” and “Burgundy” sub-divisions of the “Hundred Years War” which also contain references to warfare occurring after the traditional date of the War’s end, 1453; references to “Hundred Years War – Navies” should also be sought in “Military Technology – Premodern – Ships (inc. Warships) – Late Medieval;” the “Hungarian Invasions” category which refers only to those specific invasions, with other references to Hungary found in the “Eastern Europe” category; “Ireland” which in both the Medieval and Early Modern periods also contains conflicts fought in Ireland against the English; references to Ransoms which can be found in either “Laws of War” or “Hundred Years War – Laws of War;” “Mercenaries” which has its own category, although references to condottieri fighting specifically in “Italy” should also be looked for there, and mercenaries fighting in the “Hundred Years War” have a sub-division there; Recruitment and/or Feudalism references which can be found under “Military Obligation;” the “Popular Rebellion” category which contains both urban and rural rebellions; “Scandinavia” which differs from “Vikings” in its chronology, the former with references principally referring to events dated after 1100; “Renaissance” which specifically refers to general works containing that word in their titles and differs from “Early Modern – General;” the “Military Revolution” which has its own category, while “Military Revolution Abroad” refers specifically to early Colonial Warfare of European lands; the Early Modern “Italian Wars” which are included with “Italy;” “Spanish Armada” which is a sub-division of “Early Modern – Spain,” although one seeking references to that conflict must also see “Military Technology – Premodern – Ships (inc. Warships) – Early Modern;” and, almost all divisions and sub-divisions of “Military Technology” which should be self-explanatory, but please note that “Courtly Engineers” appears as a sub-division here and not in “Medieval – Manuals” or “Early Modern – Military Thought.”