## **Table of Contents**

Acknowledgements	9
List of Figures	11
List of Tables	13
A Note on Spelling, Translation and Currencies	15
Chapter 1. Introduction: Swiss Tools of Empire	17
State of Research	19
New Military History	19
New Imperial History	22
History of Labour Migration	24
Aims and Scope of This Study	25
Sources, Structure & Methodology	26
Sources	26
Chapter Outline	29
Chapter 2. Swiss Supplies for Dutch Demands: Transformations	in a
Military Labour Market	31
Global Demand for Mercenaries	32
French Empire	32
British Empire	34
Italian Peninsula	37
Colonial Latecomers	38
The Dutch Demand for Mercenaries	39
The First Wave, 1814–1843	39
The Second Wave, 1844–1872	41
The Third Wave, 1873–1914	43
Swiss Supply: Continuities and Contradictions	47
Transformations of a Military Labour Market	47
Back to Business	51
Last Glow	52
Conclusion	56

Chapter 3. Follow the Men: The Many Lives of Swiss Mercenaries	59
Separation & Transition: Motives, Recruitment & Emigration	60
Social Background	60
Knowledge & Motives	62
Transition: Entering the Military Sphere	65
A mercenary's life in the Dutch East Indies	69
Social and Racial Hierarchies	69
Daily Routine: Monotony, Discipline, and Diseases	72
Disappointment and Insubordination	76
Military Violence	80
Intimacy & Sexuality in the Barracks	83
Should One Stay or Should One Go: Life after Service	87
Civilian Life in the Indies	88
Back to Switzerland	89
Conclusion	92
Chapter 4. Follow the Money: Colonial Cash Flows and Interlocking	
Bureaucracies	95
Signature Premiums	96
Pay	99
Pensions & Gratification Payments	102
Transimperial Administrative, Financial & Military Networks	102
Zooming in on Colonial Cash Flows	106
Inheritance Payments	112
Overall Assessment of the Inheritances	113
Who Got the Money—And Who Did Not?	114
Conclusion	118
Chapter 5. Trace the Memory: Relics and Representation in the	
Transimperial Cultural Archive	121
Sharing the Mercenary Experience	122
Letters	123
Picture postcards	125
Memoirs	125
Spoken Words	126
Objects	126

The Colonial Gaze of Swiss Mercenaries	128
Colonised Subjects	128
Domains of the Intimate	137
African, Asian and European Comrades	142
Enemies & Warfare	146
Conclusion	149
Chapter 6. Conclusion: Swiss Tools of Empire	153
Swiss Tools of Empire	153
Beyond the Dutch Empire	154
Marrying New Military History with New Imperial History	156
Limitations of this Study and Future Research Avenues	157
Notes	159
Bibliography	209
Primary Sources	209
Archival Sources	209
Published Primary Sources	211
Newspapers & Periodicals	212
Secondary Sources	213
Index	233