

SOCIAL & CULTURAL DYNAMICS

*A Study of Change in Major
Systems of Art, Truth, Ethics,
Law and Social Relationships*

Revised and abridged in
one volume by the author

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SUMMARY AND MAIN RESULTS OF
STUDY OF WAR IN THE
HISTORY OF EUROPE

I. ABSOLUTE FIGURES

On the plan of absolute figures, for the armies' strength and the casualties, we can attempt to make a summary of their movement for four of the countries studied from the twelfth century to 1925. There are four countries which it is possible to study in this way, France, England, Austria-Hungary, and Russia. The remaining five countries, at least formally, enter the scene later, and therefore a summary for all nine countries would make comparison unfair, or even impossible, in regard to the later centuries. However considerable were the variations of the above four countries, they preserved essentially their continuity as well as the constancy of their territory and population. It is true that the total for these four countries is somewhat unfair in regard to the later centuries, because Germany before the sixteenth century figured in Austria-Hungary; and a considerable part of Italy, Holland, and Poland also entered the data for earlier centuries. For this reason, totals for the four countries from century to century tend to overestimate somewhat the figures for earlier centuries, before the seventeenth, and to underestimate somewhat the figures for the seventeenth and later centuries.

TABLE 15. SUMMARY FIGURES BY CENTURY PERIODS FOR FRANCE, ENGLAND, AUSTRIA-HUNGARY, AND RUSSIA FROM 1101 TO 1925

<i>Century</i>	<i>Army's Strength (Number)</i>	<i>Casualties (Number)</i>
1101-1200	1,161,000	29,940
1201-1300	2,372,000	68,440
1301-1400	3,867,000	166,729
1401-1500	5,000,000	285,000
1501-1600	9,758,000	573,020
1601-1700	15,865,000	2,497,170
1701-1800	24,849,000	3,622,140
1801-1900	17,869,800	2,912,771
1901-1925	41,465,000	16,147,550

Table 15 shows the summarized results by century periods of the movement of the army's strength and of casualties for France, England, Russia, Austria-Hungary, from the twelfth to the twentieth century.

Since the summary deals with the same four countries for the centuries compared, the figures, as absolute figures, are roughly comparable, though recognizing the slight overestimation for earlier centuries, explained above.

Before proceeding with the analysis of these figures, let us sum up the figures for all the nine countries, keeping in mind, however, that such a summary tends to inflate unduly the figures for the later centuries, for the reason just opposite to the one indicated in the preceding paragraph (see Table 16).

TABLE 16. SUMMARY FIGURES BY CENTURY PERIODS FOR NINE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FROM 1101 TO 1925

Century	Army's Strength (Number)	Casualties (Number)
1101-1200	1,161,000	29,940 ¹
1201-1300	2,372,000	68,440 ²
1301-1400	3,947,000	169,929 ³
1401-1500	6,910,000	364,220 ⁴
1501-1600	16,707,300	896,185 ⁵
1601-1700	25,796,000	3,711,090 ⁶
1701-1800	31,055,500	4,505,990 ⁷
1801-1900	24,233,800	3,625,627 ⁸
1901-1925	60,425,000	22,035,150 ⁹

¹ Only Austria, England, France, Russia.

² Only Austria, England, France, Russia.

³ Plus Poland for one quarter.

⁴ Plus Spain.

⁵ Plus Italy and the Netherlands.

⁶ Plus Germany (all nine).

⁷ All nine countries.

⁸ All nine countries.

⁹ All nine countries.

In Table 16 the data are comparable beginning with the second part of the seventeenth century, after which time all nine of the countries are present.

So far as the absolute figures are concerned, whether in Table 15 or in the comparable study (Table 16), they show a steady but uneven growth of the size of the army and the number of the casualties, from the twelfth to the eighteenth centuries inclusive, a notable decrease in the nineteenth century, and an unprecedented flare-up in the first quarter of the twentieth century. The casualty figure for that quarter exceeds the total casualty for all the preceding centuries taken together (in Tables 15 and 16). The figure for the army's strength is also exceptionally high (in both tables).

Although it is lower than the total for all of the previous centuries taken all together, nevertheless its stunning size, especially when it is remembered that it is only for one quarter century, is evident. The above means then, first, that *within the centuries studied there is no continuous trend, according to the tables; after an increase from the twelfth to the eighteenth centuries both figures are less in the nineteenth*. Second, as far as the absolute figures stand, *they do not warrant any claim for the existence of some continuous trend toward a disappearance or decrease of*