

# GREENWICH CAMPMENT



## No. 34—HEROES OF HISTORY.

(Written for the Desert News by Albert Payson Terhune.)

### GEORGE MONK—Hero or Traitor?

**B**ENEDICT ARNOLD tried to sell his country to its former master. He is forever branded as a traitor. George Monk, a century or so earlier, did practically the same thing, only with more success. He was hailed as a national hero.

Monk was one of the least "human" characters of history and one of the best soldiers. In 1625, when only 17 years old, he fell foul of the law by some escapade and was forced to flee from England. This was probably the luckiest thing that ever befell him, for it led him to Spain, where, enlisting as a soldier of fortune, he speedily won a name for courage and strategic skill. Thence, four years later, he drifted to the Netherlands, and in the ceaseless wars which rent that unlucky country increased his fame and experience. A clash with the Dutch civil authorities in 1633 sent him hurrying back to England, where his early misdeed was forgotten and where he was made a colonel in Charles I's war against Scotland. He later did active work in putting down an Irish uprising. So by the time the king declared war on parliament Monk was known as one of the foremost soldiers in the kingdom.

Monk fought valiantly on the royalist side, but when captured and sent to prison in the Tower of London he had little hesitation in accepting his freedom on condition of receiving a high command in the parliamentary forces. He cared little for whom he fought. At heart he was loyal and true to just one man. And that man was George Monk. He knew he was valuable as a military leader, and he showed rare judgment in picking the winning side. Charles I had been beaten and beheaded by parliament. Monk at once threw in his lot with the victors. With only 6,000 men he was sent to subdue Scotland in 1650 and to crush the hopes of Charles I's son of raising an army there to avenge his slain father. After a brief, sharp campaign Scotland was at Monk's mercy. He was made governor of the beaten country, and ruled it with a rod of iron. Three years after the Scottish conquest he routed the Dutch, who had planned to invade England. Monk was now, next to Oliver Cromwell, the strongest man in the realm. But he was not content. He quietly bid his time for greater self-advancement.

Cromwell was Lord Protector of England, and would probably have declared himself king had not the people very plainly shown him that they were sick of royalty. Against this man of iron Monk knew he could accomplish nothing, so he remained on duty in Scotland, strengthening his own hold on the army and planning for the future. He had not long to wait. Cromwell, died, leaving his weak son Richard to inherit the title of Lord Protector. Richard speedily demonstrated his unfitness for such a position, and in less than a year was deposed.

Then another swept Great Britain. Cromwell's old soldiers, deprived of their master's awe-inspiring presence, sought to dictate national affairs. Parliament made some show of guiding the ship of state, but with poor results. The people at large wanted some firm and established form of government. They were tired of the stern, joyless, puritanical rule of the past 12 years; especially weary of the present lawlessness. They forgot the oppression and injustice of their former monarchy and began to sigh for a king to rule over them. Some years earlier they had proclaimed Charles I a devil in human form. In fact, the usual idea of Mephistopheles, or Satan, is derived from the portraits of Charles I—the pointed beard, arched brows and royal red costume. But England had forgotten its former hatred. The eldest son of Charles I was living in exile, but his agents were busy in England planning to restore him to his father's throne.

These agents approached Monk, offering him enormous bribes to throw his influence and the power of his army on the side of the young prince. For a long time Monk hesitated. He was not quite certain the time for action was ripe. Perhaps, also, the price offered did not satisfy him. He knew the balance of power lay in his hands and that the side he declared for would probably win. Therefore he could afford to hold out for a good price. But meantime he took the precaution to weed out of his army all religious agitators who hated monarchy and all men who were known to sympathize with parliament.

He concentrated his great army in Edinburgh and prepared to jump in the right direction at the right moment. While he did nothing to uphold parliament's shaky power he also did nothing that could in case of parliamentary success be used against him. Stronger grew the prince's adherents, and parliament waxed weaker. At last Monk felt the time for action had come. He marched his army southward to London (nominally at parliament's order, having had himself appointed commander-in-chief of all the parliamentary forces), and there promptly went over to the Royalist standard. Thanks to him, the prince entered London unopposed and, after a bloodless revolution, was crowned Charles II.

For his services in the restoration Monk was made Duke of Albemarle and commander-in-chief of the British army and received an additional personal allowance of \$35,000 a year. It was his payment for "throwing" England to the Royalist party. He had earned it. The turncoat was applauded and became the hero of the kingdom. This short, fat, blond man, with a wrinkled, ugly face, shared popular honors with the handsome, dissolute new king. It would be hard to decide which of the two was least worthy of them.

### A MAKER OF BIG GUNS.

**N**O living man knows more about guns and explosives than Sir Andrew Noble, who has lately been awarded, with the approval of the Prince of Wales, the Albert medal of the Royal society.

He is chairman of Armstrong, Whitworth & Company, whose great works stand at Elswick, on the up-river side of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Elswick has a hand in almost every department of the steel industry, but its specialties are big guns and warships. It has built the greater part of the Japanese navy. Forty thousand pounds is distributed there every week

in wages among 25,000 men. Some hundred thousand of the population of Newcastle are more or less dependent on Elswick. It has a river frontage a mile and a half long and a hundred and fifty separate workshops. It has even a children's school.

### BORN AT GREENOCK.

The ordnance department, in which Sir Andrew Noble won his fame, covers over 40 acres, and employs 15,000 of the men. Work goes on there day and night.

Born at Greenock 77 years ago, the son of a naval officer and of an American mother, Sir Andrew soon became a captain in the Royal artillery, and an enthusiastic student of everything relating to cannons.

When the great struggle between

cannon and armour plating began, the government appointed, in 1855, a committee of inquiry, with Capt. Noble as a member. In the same year, so rapidly had he come to the front, he was made assistant inspector of artillery.

It was in 1860 that he began his famous partnership with the late Lord Armstrong, who 13 years before had abandoned the quieter paths of the law and founded a small factory at Elswick.

In 1860 he had just joined an ordnance department, and saw that the brilliant young artillery officer was the man he wanted. The two worked together for 40 years, while the factory grew from a small thing to become one of the biggest industrial establishments in the world.

Sir Andrew Noble was largely responsible for the change from iron to steel as a material for big guns. Something better was needed than the heavy bronze and cast-iron cannon that had been doing duty at Sebastopol. In a few years Noble's partnership was made permanent, and revolutionized the science of cannon-building.

This is how big guns are built at Elswick:

Test-hot steel ingots are forced into a rough cylindrical shape, either by the pounding of steam-hammers (some of them can give a blow of 700 tons), or by hydraulic presses. The largest of the latter gives a pressure of nearly 6,000 tons.

Now that the rough forging has been made it has to be tested, and this is a critical part of the process. A few pieces are cut off from the main forging, heated in oil at a temperature of about 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit, and fixed firmly in iron jaws. Hydraulic pressure now tries to draw each lump into the strain, sometimes rising to 46 tons on each square inch. If all the sample pieces stand the test the forging is held good enough to make a gun. If not, another forging is made.

If the test is satisfactory the rough pillar of steel is now "rough-bored" inside and "turned" on the outside. Then it is hardened by being dipped into a bath of hot oil; then cooled and turned again till smooth; then annealed, or allowed to cool slowly from a high temperature; then it is "fine-bored" and "finished" on the next process is that of testing the surface. It is tested both chemically and by mirrors.

### GROOVED LIKE A SCREW.

The gun is now well into shape, but it needs strengthening. A deep pit is dug, and the gun set upright in it. Red-hot hoops of steel are dropped on from top, so they cool they tighten. After each layer of hoops the gun is planed by a lathe to make it smooth for the next layer.

Now the inside is rifled or grooved like a screw. When the powder chamber has been bored out and the breech-block fitted, the gun is nearly ready for its trials. The barrel is bored out and tested near Silloth, on the flat and lonely shores of Solway Firth.

Many are the inventions that the artillery world owes to Sir Andrew Noble. The shell might be summed up in this: Sir Andrew was the first man to apply scientific methods of research to gun making, which had hitherto been largely a matter of thumb and trial. One of the most ingenious inventions, however, is the chronoscope, which measures the speed of a shot at different parts of the barrel of a gun. It consists of a rule of thumb attached to the circumference of the gun to the bore, are screwed into the sides of the gun. As the shot passes its foremost edge presses up a wire which cuts a wire. This intercepts an electric current, and the instrument thus makes the record.

He has, too, after exhaustive research, published a valuable table by which the heat and the gases produced by any charge in any gun can be calculated and analysed.

### FOND OF SHOOTING.

Sir Andrew is very fond of shooting and of tennis. When young he was a noted athlete. His home is in the heart of Jesmond Down, the most beautiful public park in England. Honors have been showered on him for his services to science. He has been decorated by seven foreign governments.

A story is told of two Elswick children who once saw Sir Andrew pass. "Do you know who that is with the white whiskers?" asked one.

"No."

"Well, that's Noble," was the awed answer.

"Is that him?"

"Yes, that's the man my father says invented the pop-gun." And four reverential eyes followed the great inventor.—Pearson's Weekly.

### PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE.

Artistic Buildings No More Costly Than Commoner Styles.

The future architecture, public and private, in the district of Columbia, will largely determine whether the capital is to be beautiful or ugly. If it is good architecture the capital will be beautiful; if it is bad architecture, the capital will be ugly. If the public architecture is good, as seems now to be assured, and the private architecture is ugly, as may be in large measure the case, the ugly private architecture will destroy the effects of the beautiful public architecture and whatever beautiful private architecture there is as well.

The impartial visitor of good taste, walking or driving about the city and its suburbs, will praise the fine public and private architecture, but will have to condemn the appearance of the city as a whole if there is so much poor private architecture as to require our architects and builders ought to do everything in their power to make such strong public opinion as will affect every property owner who proposes to build within the next 25 years, for in that time the architectural character of the capital will be practically settled.

If it is to be good, it must be good because it is usually more ornate, costs more than beautiful architecture, which ought to be simple, then there is no money reason why we should have anything but beautiful architecture. If a row of houses can be made to look like one of the most beautiful and beautiful buildings in a lot of insignificant, homely, and sometimes repulsive buildings, at less rather than at more expense, all that we require is a public opinion which will perhaps unconsciously influence the property owner to produce a beautiful rather than any ugly result. Most property owners, whether they have any personal knowledge of good architecture or not, realize when they are shown a beautiful plan that it is beautiful, and if they can be made to see that it is not more expensive than an ugly plan, they will prefer it, but they will work to make the architects and builders, and they can only be effective if they have at hand the pictures and plans of beautiful architecture elsewhere and especially in Europe, where private houses and even rows of houses are made as beautiful in their kind as any public buildings.

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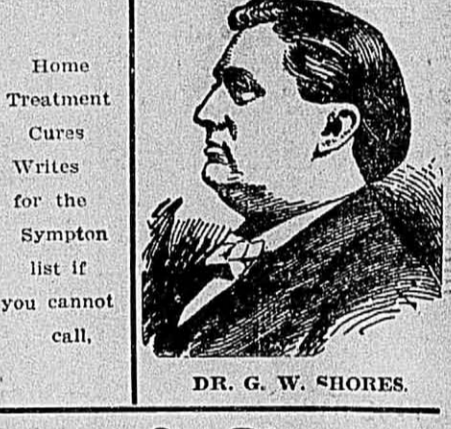
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## NEXT WEEK IN HISTORY.

- AUGUST 15.
  - 1814—Battle of Fort Erie.
  - 1824—Marquis de Lafayette landed in New York and began his wonderful tour as the guest of the nation.
  - 1835—First Atlantic cable message.
  - 1895—General John D. Imboden, famous Confederate cavalryman, died at Abingdon, Va.; born 1821.
- AUGUST 16.
  - 1777—General Nicholas Herkimer, hero of the battle of Oriskany, died; born about 1715. Battle of Bennington, Vt.
  - 1825—Charles Cotesworth Pickney, American soldier and statesman, author of the immortal phrase, "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute," died in Charleston; born 1746.
  - 1851—Lopez, the first great Cuban leader, captured and executed.
  - 1882—Senator Benjamin Harvey Hill died at Atlanta; born 1830. Hill was a member of the Confederate sen-
- AUGUST 17.
  - 1785—Jonathan Trumbull, Revolutionary patriot, died; born 1710. Trumbull was governor of the colony of Connecticut. He was a man of wide attainment and Washington often consulted him in emergencies. "Let us hear what Brother Jonathan has to say," was an expression often on Washington's lips.
  - 1786—David Crockett, soldier, hunter and pioneer, born in Tennessee; killed in Alamo, March 6, 1836.
  - 1896—Mary Abigail Dodge (Gail Hamilton), a writer of note, died; born about 1830.
- AUGUST 18.
  - 1807—Charles Francis Adams, statesman and diplomat, United States

- minister to England during the Civil war, born; died 1886.
- 1877—Two satellites of Mars were discovered by Professor Asaph Hall at Washington.
- 1896—Professor Frederick William Crouch, composer of "Kathleen Mavourneen," died in Portland, Me.; born 1808.
- AUGUST 19.
  - 1692—Second general execution of "witches" at Salem, Mass.; John Proctor, Bridget Bishop, George Burroughs, Martha Carrier, and John Willard were hanged.
  - 1812—Famous fight between the United States frigate Constitution (Olive Throssides) and the British frigate Guerriere off Cape Race, at the end of thirty minutes the Guerriere was a wreck.
  - 1908—The battleship fleet reached Sidney, N. S. W., in its cruise around the world.
- AUGUST 20.
  - 1794—Battle at Maumee rapids, Ohio: General Anthony Wayne defeated the Miami and other Indians.
  - 1823—Benjamin Harrison, twenty-third president of the United States, was born in North Bend, O.; died 1901.
  - 1866—President Johnson proclaimed a state of peace, and this is judicially taken as the end of the war.
  - 1906—Cuban Liberals arose against the Palma administration; revolutionists took up arms.
- AUGUST 21.
  - 1881—Leslie Combs, pioneer and soldier, died at Lexington, Ky., born 1793.
  - 1902—General Franz Sigel, noted German civil war veteran, died; born 1824.
  - poet and editor of St. Nicholas; poet and editor of St. Nicholas; died; born 1838.

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