

Georgia Erects a Monument To An English Soldier

Statue of Lieutenant Oglethorpe Unveiled at Savannah on Nov. 23—His Services to the State in the Eighteenth Century—Brave But Peaceable—Story of His Career.

Few of the many who won distinction during the stormy days of America's colonial history performed a work so lasting and so distinctive in character as that of James Edward Oglethorpe, the soldier, statesman and protector of the men whose sons now compose the Five Civilized Tribes. In recognition of the services rendered by this British friend of America, a monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies at Savannah, Ga., on Nov. 23.

Long before the Norman conquest the Oglethorpes held the estate of Oglethorpe in the County of West Riding, England. James Edward was the youngest son of Sir Theophilus, knighted and made a major general by James II. after the battle of Sedgemoor. He commanded the army that opposed William of Orange. He lost his commission, but retained his estate, served in two parliaments, and died in his fiftieth year and was buried in Westminster Abbey. His two elder sons, Lewis and Theophilus, left good records in the army and in parliament, but died young.

James Edward Oglethorpe was born June 1, 1689, and was educated at Oxford. Large for his years, he was but 15 when he decided to serve as a "gentleman volunteer abroad" under Prince Eugene of Savoy.

Describing an incident in his early career Boswell says: "Young Oglethorpe was sitting at a table in company with a prince of the House of Wurtemberg, who took up a glass of wine, and, by a flip, made some of the foam fly into Oglethorpe's face. The young soldier was in a dilemma. He durst not challenge so distinguished a personage, yet he must not let the affront stand. He raised his eyes, fixed on his highness, and smiling at the time as if he took what had been done in jest, Oglethorpe exclaimed: 'That's a good joke, but we do it much better in England,' whereupon he flung a whole glassful of wine in the prince's face. An old general present observed: 'Il a bien fait, mon prince, vous l'avez comencé,' and thus the affair ended in good humor."

Fights Under Eugene. Oglethorpe served in the English army from 1710 to 1714, being commissioned a captain of the Life Guards. The treaty of Utrecht ending the war between Great Britain, France and Spain, Oglethorpe again sought service under him until 1718, when he returned to England. In 1722 he was elected to parliament, and for many years represented the borough of Haslemere.

At this time the debtors' prisons and London jails were overflowing; men of prominence, becoming financially embarrassed, were herded with the vilest of criminals; public sympathy was aroused, and Oglethorpe espoused the cause of the helpless. He brought the subject before parliament, which appointed a committee of fourteen members of the House of Commons, with Oglethorpe as chairman. The committee worked faithfully, and in harmony; they made a philanthropic campaign and enlisted the people, and a wealthy London merchant bequeathed his fortune to the Government to be used in adjusting claims of creditors and the release of debtors.

Oglethorpe and his friends petitioned the crown for a grant of land in America. The times were propitious. South of the Carolina Span occupied Florida with a well-fortified position at St. Augustine, from whence she constantly menaced the Carolina and Virginia settlements, inciting the Indians and the negro slaves to violence.

Carolina, by treaty with the Yamacraw Indians, had established them on the north bank of the Savannah as a partial protection. They also agreed to settle to the London company for a protective settlement at the mouth of that river.

On June 9, 1732, George II. issued a charter to James O. Oglethorpe and others stipulating that the new colony was "for the benefit of the poor of the kingdom and for the protection of the southern frontier of the American colonies."

Naming the new province Georgia, the charter limited its territory to all lands between the mouth of the Savannah and the northern and western boundary of the Carolina, and westward to the Pacific. This, of course, included what were afterwards the states of Alabama and Mississippi.

Philanthropy Sole Motive. The charter placed the Georgia under the guardianship of a board of incorporators for twenty

years "in trust for the poor." The patrons, by their own request, received no remuneration for their services, or grants of land, being wholly controlled by philanthropic motives. The trustees added to gratuitous services by contributing largely from their private means.

This unselfishness awakened honest human sympathy. The Bank of England, other public institutions and individuals contributed money and influence; creditors assigned their worthless claims and made liberal contributions in cash.

The first company of colonists, better equipped than any that had gone before, sailed in the good ship Anne, Nov. 17, 1732, reaching the Savannah on Feb. 12, 1733. They numbered 120 men and included farmers, carpenters and other industrial workers.

Under Oglethorpe's direction, the colony was soon located where the beautiful city of Savannah now stands, homes and substantial fort were built, and all men able to bear arms were organized into military companies and drilled daily.

The chief of the Yamacraws, their neighbors, was received with an amicable treaty made. The great Georgia country was inhabited by the Creek nation, the Cherokees, the Choctaws, the Chickasaws, the Natchez and the Tennessee.

Learning that the Spanish emissaries were in communication with the Creeks, Oglethorpe sent a messenger to the Creek chiefs, formally inviting them to visit him at Savannah.

A King in Every Town. The Creek Nation was an immense confederacy, resembling the Iroquois in their method of government. There were eight tribes, with fifty towns and 60,000 warriors. Each town was independent in domestic concerns, but otherwise all acted collectively, and only a majority of towns could declare war or make treaties. Each town had its own council, or elective king, who, however, was only an executive officer, carrying out the people's will as expressed through their representatives.

Next to him was the head war chief, these two officials were assigned special houses adjoining the public square. Each town was a log house parallelogram inclosed by palisades, with the public square in the center.

In response to the invitation, the Creek chiefs appeared, fifty in number, in all their barbaric splendor. Oglethorpe received them royally, made them many presents, and in a pleasing address offered his protection and alliance against encroachments of other races, expressing a wish that the Creek Nation would grant the colonists a portion of the land they did not need.

By the speech, the speaker and the presents, Long King, one of the chiefs, expressing the sentiments of the nation, declared that "we are persuaded that the spirit of God has sent the English hither for our good; and, therefore, we are welcome to all the land we do not need." Whereupon he laid eight bundles of buckskin on the ground, saying: "These are the eight tribes who have consented to grant you the land you do not need."

All were satisfied, and on June 1, 1733, a treaty was concluded, granting to the English sovereignty over all the Creek lands as far south as St. John's River, they agreeing in return to form no new settlements without first obtaining the consent of the Indians.

Rules for trade between the races and adjustments of disputes according to the English laws were agreed to, and the Indians promised not to permit any other white nation to settle in their country.

No more just or advantageous Indian treaty was ever made in America.

The following year Oglethorpe held a council with the Cherokees, and won their lasting regard and affection. They had already contracted friendly relations with the English. In 1730 Sir Alexander Cumming had been sent among them to counteract the influence of the French, who then held Louisiana, and to gain their esteem.

On his return he took with him six of his chiefs, who were greatly pleased with their entertainment and with the splendor of England. Their nation remained in alliance with the English, and naturally so in the revolution, for American success meant their own displacement.

Scarcely had the grand council with the Creeks closed on June 1, 1733, when a Cherokee chief appeared in Savannah and stood proudly before Oglethorpe. "Fear nothing," said the English commander, "but speak freely."

The red mountaineer tossed his head disdainfully and replied: "I always speak freely. Why should I fear? I have never known fear even among my enemies, and why should I be afraid now in the midst of friends?"

He declared that he had no sooner heard of the arrival of the English at Savannah than he had set out to welcome them. This knit a fresh strand of English friendship with the Cherokees.

Oglethorpe was able to adjust differences between these ancient enemies, the Creeks and the Cherokees, that put a stop to their long-continued warfare. He also made treaties with the Chickasaws, a powerful warlike tribe of Mississippi.

In July, 1733, Red Shoes, a famous Choctaw chief, came to Savannah to propose a similar treaty for his people, a hunting and agricultural nation located west of the Creek. They numbered 2,500 warriors, and dominated a large part of what is now the states of Alabama and Mississippi.

Oglethorpe negotiated a treaty that was faithfully kept during their stay in the Mississippi. He won their confidence and the confidence of these four great nations, holding them as friends and allies, while the Carolinas, who had mistreated them and had sent many of them as slaves to the West Indies, were in constant dread of their vengeance.

Brave but Peaceable. Far to the west on the Mississippi, where Natchez now stands, dwelt the Natchez tribe, who, with their kindred the Tensas, nearer the gulf, were friendly to the English. Both tribes were sun worshippers, and mound builders. They were brave but peaceable. The head chief of the Natchez was called the Great Sun. Their arms were bows and arrows, and their shields were made of animal skins.

Living near the French settlements of Louisiana and incurring their animosity, the French made war on both tribes, defeating them in two battles, with great slaughter. The sun chief, with forty warriors and 400 women and children, was captured and all were sold as slaves in Santo Domingo. The few who escaped joined the Chickasaws and with them warred against the French and their native allies for many years.

On March 18, 1734, a large colony of Moravians arrived at Charleston and settled to Savannah. During the thirty years' war in Germany their fathers had suffered much persecution and many thousands had been driven into exile. They settled in Saxony and prospered. When thirty years, when in 1733, Archbishop Salzburg decided to exterminate them, thirty thousand fled to England and Holland, and many of them fell into the hands of an English society, which furnished free transportation to America, supplies for one year, land free of rent for ten years and freedom of worship, with all the other privileges of Englishmen.

Oglethorpe went with them to select a location, and they called their settlement Ebenezer. A company of highlanders settled on the Altamaha, calling the place Darien, and others settled at Fort Argyre. The latter admired both the sturdy Scots and the music of their bagpipes, and when the Spaniards came they joined in the fight.

Brings Wesleys to America. In 1734 Oglethorpe sailed for England and with him went Tomo-chichi, his wife and son and a Yamacraw chief, who were presented to the king and queen. The old chief was much pleased with Queen Catherine. When Oglethorpe returned to America two years later with his delighted native guests, John and Charles Wesley, who later founded the Methodist Church, also accompanied him, and with them were 300 emigrants, mostly Moravians.

Oglethorpe and his trustees opposed slavery, their charter prohibiting it. But his planter friends, the highlanders and the Moravians, the largest producers, wanted slaves, and they evaded the law by hiring men for one year and then for fifty years from the Carolina dealers. The government posed the sale of rum, but the Carolina traders smuggled it in. When Oglethorpe was called back to England slavery was introduced on all plantations.

Oglethorpe built Fort St. Andrew, at the mouth of St. Mary's River, the southern boundary line of Georgia. The Spanish governor at St. Augustine threatened an invasion of Georgia and the Carolinas. Georgia was in peril and the Moravians, many of them fearing the Spanish, had abandoned their plantations and joined the Quaker settlements of Pennsylvania.

The highlanders were always ready, and the Indian allies promised support, but Oglethorpe wanted trained soldiers; to get them and to arouse England, he sailed in 1737, and after much pleading was given authority to enlist a regiment of 600, and obtained an appropriation of \$100,000 for defence. He was commissioned brigadier-general with military jurisdiction over Georgia and South Carolina. The trustees offered a bounty of twenty-five acres of land to each soldier who enlisted for seven years; which induced many to bring their families.

Finding that the Spanish emissaries had visited his Indian allies during his absence, Oglethorpe decided to look them up. Travelling with only four attendants, he was welcomed by the chiefs, who renewed their fealty and promised many warriors on call.

Fever Kills Thousands. On Oct. 19, 1739, England declared war on Spain. Admiral Vernon was dispatched with a large fleet to the West Indies and Oglethorpe was directed to vigorously attack the Spaniards in Florida. Had Vernon supported the Georgia and Carolina troops

of this expedition the Spaniards would have been driven from East Florida, but Vernon preferred to attack Cartagena on the Caribbean Sea. Failing to do so, he returned to Jamaica, having lost over ten thousand men by yellow fever.

St. Augustine received large reinforcements from Havana, and Oglethorpe, who had taken all the fortified posts excepting St. Augustine, was forced to retire. In May, 1742, Oglethorpe learned that 2,000 veteran Spanish troops had sailed from Havana to invade Georgia and South Carolina, and on Carolina's refusal of assistance, he assembled at Fredricka 500 Indians, his regiment, obtained from the Indians, and with two companies of highlanders.

The Spanish fleet appeared in June, and on the twenty-first their small vessels, built to navigate the shallows, entered Amelia Sound, but the guns of Fort Williams soon dispersed them. Then they made a feint on Cumberland Island, turning suddenly on Cumberland Sound, and was Oglethorpe, who, with three galleys, was endeavoring to reach the twelve Spanish vessels, sinking four of them and driving the remainder to the mainland.

St. Augustine is Saved. A few days later the Spanish force was landed and marched to Fredricka. Oglethorpe was obliged to divide his small force between Fredricka and the Spanish landing, and the entire Spanish army of 5,000 soon put the English to flight. Oglethorpe had called the Highland commander's attention to a narrow ambuscade on the road, and two companies of Highlanders with the Indians occupied that position, while the remainder fled toward Fredricka.

The Spaniards, on seeing the flight, halted in a solid mass, and then the combined yells of Highlander and savage and repeated volleys of musketry from unseen foes who were close to them, caused them to waver. There was no resistance, and the slaughter continued until the Spaniards broke through the line of their assailants and fled into the woods, where broadsword and tomahawk ended many more of them. Two days later, the crippled Spanish fleet sailed for Havana, and there was no further danger from St. Augustine.

On the Spanish side, the ablest and most successful of all the colonial leaders. For twelve years he had governed Georgia, devoting his entire time to the helping of his people. In 1745 he was promoted to major-general, and later bore the commission of lieutenant-general. When the revolution broke out in America, but, declaring the demands of the colonists were just, he refused to go.

He died on July 1, 1785, the friend of America and the patron saint of Georgia to the end of his long life of 96 years.

Becomes Royal Province. Owing to Oglethorpe's great personal bravery and his unusual tact in dealing with the natives, Georgia had fewer troubles than any of her neighbors. In 1752 the trustees surrendered their charter to the crown and Georgia became a royal province.

Oglethorpe was a charter member of Solomon's lodge, No. 1, F. and A. M., of Savannah, Ga., chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in 1735. This is said to be the oldest continuous Masonic lodge in America.

Today among the "wards of the nation" are the five civilized tribes of Oklahoma. Was it chance or the work of one great-hearted, liberal-minded, Christian soldier, Oglethorpe, that made these five tribes distinguished?

For the five were all his old friends—the Creeks, the Choctaws, the Chickasaws and the Seminoles, who were of the Creek family. Fortune continues to favor them, for they are under the immediate charge of J. George Wright, commissioner to the five civilized tribes as the local representative of the secretary of the interior. Was it luck or chance that the six nations of the Iroquois confederacy now number 4,415, while Oglethorpe's five civilized tribes number 101,496, a population composing more than one-third of all the Indians in the United States?

Fatal Palace of Manuel. and, escorted by a brilliant torchlight procession, the monarch closed the doors of the Palace of Tribulation and established the seat of government at Palace Eden.

As if in proof of the contention of the superstitious subjects, there then followed a season of wonderful prosperity for the Portuguese, which obtained throughout King Louis' reign.

Carlos ascended the throne in 1589, following the death of King Louis. Carlos laughed at the superstitions connected with the palace and announced in the face of great objection from his ministerial advisors that he intended to take up his abode there, and there King Carlos was murdered and his eldest son also was slain by foes of the government.

Since the day Manuel ascended to the throne he and his mother occupied Necessidades palace, alike indifferent to the superstitious tales of the people.

When Manuel was leaving Erciceira for Gibraltar, a worn and tired fugitive from the wrath of his people, he is said to have spoken of the baleful palace to faithful retainers who left the country with him.

Portugal will never be the nation it hopes to be, while Necessidades remains," he is said to have prophesied.

CASABIANCA WAS NOT A MYTH. The "Boy on the Burning Deck" is not a myth, but an actual fact, and few know that the man who gave the order for the destruction of the vessel, on whose deck the aforesaid boy stood, was born in Jamaica Plain, and lived there till his royalist father, who objected strenuously to the American revolution transplanted him to England, where he served under Nelson in the battle of the Nile.

The boy was French, son of the admiral of the French ship Orient, and that was the vessel that blew up with the immortal boy standing by the mainmast.

The boy's unconscious destroyer, Capt. Benjamin Halliwell, was born in the old Boyston house, still standing at the corner of Boylston and Center streets, in Jamaica Plains. The house was built in 1726 by the Boylston and afterward passed to the rabid royalist, Benjamin Halliwell, after whom the captain was named.

The old man lived in Jamaica Plain long enough to make himself unpopular when the American revolution broke out. The son had been early sent to England for his education, and he became one of the seven American-born men to attain distinction in the British navy.

In the battle of the Nile Capt. Halliwell had command of the ship Swiftsure, which ran down the luckless "Orient." When Capt. Halliwell gave the command for the French vessel to be blown up, he knew nothing of the 13-year-old son of the French admiral, who, foolishly but heroically, obeyed his step-father's order, "Don't leave the vessel till I give you permission," and his "proud, though childlike form" graced the doomed vessel when she "with fragments strewn around the sea."

Capt. Halliwell afterwards heard the sad tale and was much moved by it. The boy called out three times in agony to his father, he learned, but stood resolutely by the mainmast, though his father lay cold in death.

So much moved was the captain that he had a coffin made in the boy's honor out of the floating fragments of the "Orient" and sent it to his friend and patron, Lord Nelson, with the story of the boy's bravery, and ex-

pressed deep regret for the young hero's untimely end.

Nelson had the coffin placed in the cabin in remembrance of the boy, and Capt. Halliwell himself told the tale to the then widely known poet, Felicia Hemans. Her sympathies were im-

mediately excited, and she immortalized the boy in her sentimental but immortal verses, and she named him wisely, "Casabianca."

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