

claim to Bosnia, Bulgaria, Herzegovina, Montenegro, Roumania and Servia. The sultan was also obliged to promise a reform in his treatment of his Christian subjects, but these promises he never fulfilled. However, by constantly playing the European nations against one another, he succeeded in warding off their interference. In 1908 he was compelled by the Young Turks to grant a constitution, and in April, 1909, he was deposed.

**Abd-ul-Medjid**, *ahhd'ul me jood'*, (1823-1861), thirty-first sultan of the Ottoman Empire. He succeeded his father, Mahmud II, in 1839. Abd-ul-Medjid favored reforms, but most of them remained inoperative, or caused bloody insurrections where attempts were made to carry them out. His reign was marked by the Crimean War and by the menace of Mehemet Ali of Egypt.

**Abek'et**, **THOMAS**. See **BECKET**, **THOMAS** 1.

**Ab'el**, the name of the second son of Adam and Eve (*Gen.* IV, 2). Abel was a shepherd and, according to the biblical story, offered his sacrifices in such a spirit that they were regarded with greater favor by the Lord than were Cain's. The latter, enraged at this, slew his brother.

**Abelard**, *ab's lord*, **PIERRE**, (1079-1142), an illustrious French scholastic philosopher and theologian. He went to Paris at the age of twenty, where he established himself as a philosophical lecturer in 1113. Later he obtained the chair held by his former master. At this moment his reputation was greatest. From Rome, England and Germany, students hastened to listen to his eloquent logic, and he numbered among his followers the ablest men of his time. He secretly married Heloise, the beautiful niece of Fulbert, canon of Notre Dame, who in revenge put an end to their union. A council held at Soissons in 1121 condemned Abelard's opinions on the Trinity as heretical, and soon after he withdrew to Nogent-on-the-Seine where he built an oratory, and named it the Paraclete, or Comforter. In 1140 the pope condemned him, as a heretic, to perpetual silence. Two years after, he died.

**Aben**, *ah'ben*, **-Es'ra** (1093-1163), a celebrated Jewish rabbi, born at Toledo, Spain. He was noted for his knowledge of astronomy, medicine, mathematics and philosophy, but he particularly distinguished himself as a commentator on Scripture.

**Abercrombie**, *ab'er crum'by*, **JAMES** (1706-1781), a British soldier. He commanded the

British forces in America during the French and Indian War, was defeated at Ticonderoga and was therefore superseded the next year. After his return to England he was elected to Parliament.

**Aberdeen**, a royal burgh of Scotland, capital of Aberdeenshire and fourth largest city of Scotland. The city is beautifully laid out and has streets which are regular and well-paved. It contains many notable buildings, chief among which are the municipal and county buildings, the Music Hall buildings, the Trades' Hall, the Roman Catholic church, Cathedral of Saint Machar and a university. The university was established in 1800 by the union and incorporation of the University and King's College of Aberdeen and the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen. Its library contains 130,000 volumes. There are also numerous other colleges and schools, among which are Gordon's College, an art school and the Mechanics' Institution. Aberdeen has an excellent harbor, which facilitates trade and which is responsible for the extensive commerce. It is a large manufacturing center, the chief industries including woolen, cotton, jute and linen factories, large soap, candle, chemical and paper works, shipbuilding yards and establishments for preparing granite for all uses. In 1836 Aberdeen was burned by the English, but was rebuilt and named New Aberdeen. Its present prosperity began in 1818, when the art of granite polishing was rediscovered. Population in 1908, estimated, 178,210.

**Aberdeen**, **S. D.**, the county seat of Brown co., 280 mi. w. of Minneapolis, Minn. It is the seat of the northern normal and industrial school, one of the largest of the state educational institutions. It is a railroad, manufacturing and wholesale distributing center. Nine lines of railway extending in different directions from the city give it the nickname "Hub City." Population in 1910, 10,753.

**Aberdeen**, **WASH.**, the chief city of Chehalis co., is situated at the head of navigation on the Chehalis River and on branches of the Northern Pacific and Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound railroads. It is at the head of Gray's Harbor and has an important ocean and inland trade. It is an important lumbering center, containing large sawmills, shingle mills and canning factories. Population in 1910, 13,660.

**Aberdeen**, **JOHN CAMPBELL GORDON**, Seventh Earl of (1847- ), a British statesman.