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ST. GEORGE

IF Gibbon's sketch of St. George's career be correct, that martial hero gives his position in the Christian calendar to no merit of his own. Born in a fuller's shop in Epiphania, Cilicia, he contrived to ingratiate himself with those above him by servile flattery, and so gradually rose from his original obscurity. A lucrative contract for supplying the army with bacon, proved, under his unscrupulous management, a mine of wealth; but as soon as he had made his fortune, he was compelled to fly the country, to escape the consequences of the discovery of his dishonest practices. He afterwards became a zealous convert to Arianism, and made himself so conspicuous in his new vocation, that he was sent by Constantius to supersede Athanasius in the archbishopric of Alexandria. To satisfy his avarice, the pagan temples were plundered, and the pagan and Christian inhabitants taxed, till the oppression became unendurable. The people rose and expelled the ex-contractor, but he was quickly reinstated by the army of Constantius. The accession of Julian was the signal for retribution. George and two of his most obnoxious adherents were dragged to prison by the exultant Alexandrians, where they lay for twenty-four days, when the impatience of the people refused to wait longer for revenge. The prison doors were broken open, the archbishop and his friends murdered, and their bodies, after being carried through the city in triumph, thrown into the sea. This death at the hands of the pagans made the tyrant a martyr in the eyes of the Arians, and canonization followed as a matter of course. When the Arians entered the church, they brought back their saint with them; and although he was at first received with distrust, the sixth century saw him firmly established as one of the first order. The Crusades added to his renown. He was said to have fought for Godfrey of Bouillon at the battle of Antioch, and appeared to Coeur-de-Lion before Acre as the precursor of victory, and from that time the Cappadocian adventurer became the chosen patron of arms and chivalry. Romance cast its halo around him, transforming the symbolical dragon into a real monster slain in Libya to save a beautiful maiden from a dreadful death.

Butler, the historian of the Romish calendar, repudiates George of Cappadocia and will have it that the famous saint was born of noble Christian parents, that he entered the army, and rose to a high grade in its ranks, until the persecution of his co-religionists by Diocletian compelled him to throw up his commission, and upbraid the emperor for his cruelty, by which bold conduct he lost his head and won his sainthood. Whatever the real character of St. George might have been, he was held in great honour in England from a very early period. While in the calendars of the Greek and Latin churches he shared the twenty-third of April with other saints, a Saxon Martyrology declares the day dedicated to him alone; and after the Conquest his festival was celebrated after the approved fashion of Englishmen. In 1344, this feast was made memorable by the creation of the noble Order of St. George, or the Blue Garter, the institution being inaugurated by a grand joust, in which forty of England's best and bravest knights held the lists against the foreign chivalry attracted by the proclamation of the challenge through France, Burgundy, Hainault, Brabant, Flanders, and Germany. In the first year of the reign of Henry V, a council held at London decreed, at the instance of the king himself, that henceforth the feast of St. George should be observed by a double service; and for many years the festival was kept with great splendour at Windsor and other towns. Shakespeare, in *Henry VI*, makes the Regent Bedford say, on receiving the news of disasters in France: "Bonfires in France I am forthwith to make To keep our great St. George's feast withal!"

Edward VI promulgated certain statutes severing the connexion between the 'noble order' and the saint; but on his death, Mary at once abrogated them as 'impertinent, and tending to novelty.' The festival continued to be observed until 1567, when, the ceremonies being thought incompatible with the reformed religion, Elizabeth ordered its discontinuance. James I, however, kept the 23rd of April to some extent, and the revival of the feast in all its glories was only prevented by the Civil War. So late as 1614, it was the custom for fashionable gentlemen to wear blue coats on St. George's day, probably in imitation of the blue mantle worn by the Knights of the Garter. In olden times, the standard of St. George was borne before our English kings in battle, and his name was the rallying cry of English warriors. According to Shakespeare, Henry V led the attack on Harfleur to the battle-cry of

'God for Harry! England I and St. George!' and 'God and St. George' was Talbot's slogan on the fatal field of Patay. Edward of Wales exhorts his peace-loving parents to 'Cheer these noble lords, And hearken those that fight in your defence; Unsheathe your sword, good father, cry St. George!' The fiery Richard invokes the same saint, and his rival can think of no better name to excite the ardour of his adherents: 'Advance our standards, set upon our foes, Our ancient word of courage, fair St. George, Inspire us with the spleen of fiery dragons! England was not the only nation that fought under the banner of St. George, nor was the Order of the Garter the only chivalric institution in his honour. Sicily, Arragon, Valencia, Genoa, Malta, Barcelona, looked up to him as their guardian saint; and as to knightly orders bearing his name, a Venetian Order of St. George was created in 1200, a Spanish in 1317, an Austrian in 1470, a Genoese in 1472, and a Roman in 1492, to say nothing of the more modern ones of Bavaria (1729), Russia (1767), and Hanover (1839).—*Chambers' Book of Days.*

CROMWELL'S DISSOLUTION OF THE RUMP PARLIAMENT

THE 20th of April 1653, is the date of this memorable event. The Parliament by which Charles I had been met and overcome, was dwindled down by various purgations to about fifty-three members, who aimed at becoming a sort of mild oligarchy for the administration of the affairs of the commonwealth. They were deliberating on a bill for the future representation, in which they should have a permanent place, when Cromwell resolved to make an end of them. It was the last incident in the natural series of a revolution, placing military power above all other.

Cromwell, having ordered a company of musketeers to follow him, entered the House in plain black clothes and grey worsted stockings, and sitting down, listened for a while to their proceedings. Hearing at length the question put, that the bill do pass, he rose, put off his hat and began to speak. In the course of his address, he told them of their self-seeking and delays of justice, till at length Sir Peter Wentworth interrupted him with a remonstrance against such language. Then blazing up, he said, 'We have had enough of this—I will put an end to your prating.' Stepping into the floor of the House, and clapping on his hat, he commenced a violent harangue, which he occasionally emphasized by stamping with his feet, and which came mainly to this, 'It is not fit you should sit here any longer—you have sat too long for any good you have been doing lately. You shall now give place to better men. Call them in!' he exclaimed; and his officer Harrison and a file of soldiers entered the House. Then proceeding, 'You are no parliament! Some of you are drunkards—bending a stern eye upon Mr. Chaloner; some of you are—' a word expressive of a worse immorality, and he looked here at Henry Marten and Sir Peter Wentworth—'living in open contempt of God's commandments. Some of you are corrupt, unjust persons—how can you be a parliament for God's people? Depart, I say, and let us have done with you. Go!'

He lifted the mace from the table, and gave it to a musketeer to be taken away. He caused Harrison to give his hand to Speaker Lenthall, and lead him down from the chair. The members, cowed by his violence, and the sight of the armed men, moved gloomily out of the House. 'It is the Lord that hath caused me to do this,' he said. 'I have sought that He would rather slay me than put me upon doing this work.' Sir Harry Vane venturing a remonstrance, 'Oh, Sir Harry Vane!' exclaimed the Lord-General; 'the Lord deliver me from Sir Harry Vane!' When all had gone out, he came out too, and locked the door. From that time he was master of the three kingdoms for about five and a half years.—*Chambers' Book of Days.*

DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME

On Saturday night last most of the clocks in Town were advanced an hour, but this did not altogether prevent a mix-up in church attendance in the morning. At the evening services there was no confusion, the new time having been mastered by then. On Monday there was only one time, and on all sides there was an expression of appreciation of the change. Some people got a little mixed on the word 'saving.' How were you going to save if you set the clock ahead an hour? Surely that would be a loss! But it is now thoroughly understood and fully adopted.

CONCERNING A DECADENT NATION

'French troops began to intervene on March 23 in the battle now being fought on the British front.'—*Official Dispatch.*

HOLD there, Tommy! They come, Petain's odoriferous life guards, Slouching with rifle and bomb and a varied assortment of blankets. Tinware, onions and stews, and the sun that ne'er failed them at Verdun. France from her white-bled veins still squeezes a cup for transfusion.

Hold there, Haig! You! They come! Their saucy gleam like the helmet Of Roland, Joan, I say!—and a minimum quota of cannon. Three hundred miles of front, a half-hundred more hardy matters. France once more is at work spiking the Hindenburg schedule

Belgium called and they came, this feeble folk from the boulevards, Frog-eaters sadly addicted to peg-top trousers and absinthe. Came in their paper-soled shoes and leaped at the Kaiser's machine guns. Caught the blow full in the face and tumbled back to Marne and to glory.

Serbia called, and they came: 'On the banks of the Struma our soldiers—' Our troops in the bend of the Cerna—' In the Salonika sector our soldiers—' Spaded and festered and fought and smoked their notorious tobacco, Woud'ring what it all was about, but *alors, ça va très bien, n'est-ce pas?*

Italy called and they came: 'Our regiments marching through Brescia—' 'On the heights of Asiago our troops—' Oh, tight-lipped anonymous poet, Your day and your night communiqués—pronounced as we do it in Kansas— Show down-and-out Frenchmen just raising Sam Hill in the Mediterranean.

Stand then, Britain! She comes—France of the scant forty millions, Done for three years ago, white-bled by Hindenburg's schedule. France of the Lafayette touch gives still one more twist to her life veins, Sounds the call of Verdun and leaps—Hold, Haig! She is coming!

—*New York Evening Post.*

THE DANGER OF UNCONTROLLED ZIONISM

[To the Editor of the Spectator]

SIR,—The British Government has recently announced that it is prepared to listen favorably to the desire of the Jews to settle in Palestine—a matter which gives food for reflection. From Germany comes the news that an amalgamation of all the Jewish Associates in that Empire has taken place, and they demand from their Government, among other things in their 'irreducible minimum,' 'the unrestricted right of immigration into the Turkish Empire, and especially into Palestine.' This is a matter of the utmost gravity. To permit the establishment of such Jewish colonies in Palestine means neither more nor less than handing over the country to enemy Jews, which is criminal folly. It is to plant the enemy there deliberately with power to pursue his usual methods of 'peaceful penetration,' and Palestine already suffers from far too many of that ilk. It is absurd for these Jews to talk of 'national aspirations,' for they are no longer a nation, and have no ruler, either secular or religious. They repudiated their own nationality for themselves and their descendants when, in order to procure the death of their Messiah, they took upon themselves the responsibility of His blood for all time, and then avowed that they had 'no king but Caesar.' For centuries they have been only a religious body, the greater proportion of whom consist to-day of alien enemies, and the very fact that in speaking of them it is necessary to specify that they are either German, Austrian, Bulgarian, &c., Jews shows how completely they have incorporated themselves into the nations whose citizenship and protection they claim. Of the British I am not, of course, speaking; their patriotism and generosity have been magnificent. But the Palestine movement comes largely from Jews whose adopted countries are those of our enemies, or whose patronymics betray their original homes.

The movement itself originated with Theodor Hertzl, an Austrian Jew—a charming personality and a dreamer. His successor was Dr. Tchenow, who died but a few weeks ago, and who wrote from his death-bed that 'Great Britain has now promised to use its best endeavors to assist us in the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.' How can a 'national home' be made for a denationalized religious body? The names alone of the President of the Conference held in London the other day and of the purchaser of the site for the University in Palestine betray the probable origin of their owners. To further an unlimited Zionist movement is simply to further the *Mittel-Europa* and Near East schemes of the Central Powers and to jeopardize our hold on India. It means the deliberate 'driving of a powerful enemy wedge between Egypt and the East, where for our safety it is absolutely necessary that we control unfettered the Suez Canal, Egypt, Palestine, and Syria. Have our men fought and died to rescue Palestine from the unspeakable Turk merely to replace him with a large population of Jews of enemy extraction who owe allegiance to enemy Sovereigns? We know the Kaiser is determined to annex Palestine; he has frankly said so, and has for years been working for this end, and one of his indirect but dangerously insidious methods is to foster the establishment of German and Austrian Jews all over the Holy Land. The trade, finance, industries, and hotels of Palestine and Syria are almost entirely in German hands and this Zionist movement when thoroughly sifted is merely Pan-Germanism under a subtle disguise.

All this has nothing to do with the Jewish religion, though here again we are confronted with some hard facts of history. Palestine ceased to be the home of the Jewish faith and Jerusalem the centre of Jewish worship ere the first century had passed away. The country then became thoroughly Christian, as the ruins of 'the thousand and one churches' proclaim, and Jerusalem was the heart of Christendom, and Christianism remained until the tide of Mohammedanism swept them away. The Crusaders did not set forth on their brave, bold venture, to rescue from Paynim hands the site of the Temple and restore it to Jewish keeping. It was to recover the Holy Sepulchre from non-Christian conquerors and give it back into Christian hands and establish a Christian kingdom there, where Christianity had its birth, that that gallant band proceeded on their unsuccessful but Utopian errand. If Palestine is to be liberated from the tyranny of the Turk and preserved from the 'peaceful penetration' of undesirable residents, then, in the name of justice to our gallant troops and in lasting memory of the Crusaders' chivalry, let it be given back into Christian custody and safeguarded against an enemy immigration.—I am, Sir, &c., M. BRODRICK, F.R.G.S. —*The Spectator*, London, March 16.

NEWS OF THE SEA

—According to a report published in the *Nautical Gazette*, the British steamship *Minnetonka*, 13,528 tons register, was sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean last February. The report came from the German Admiralty through neutral sources, and said that ten prisoners had been taken from the ship.

The *Minnetonka* was well-known to New York Harbor. She belonged to the Atlantic Transport Service, but had long been employed by the British Admiralty. Officers of the International Mercantile Marine Company, owners of the vessel, said they had received no official information of her loss.

The ship was launched in 1902, and was one of four passenger vessels of the line aggregating 55,099 gross tons, all of which have been sunk since the war began. The three others were the *Minneapolis*, sunk March 22, 1916; *Minnehaha*, sunk September 7, 1917, and *Minnewaska*, sunk November 29, 1917.

—San Francisco, Cal., April 13.—Word of the sinking in the Indian Ocean of a French liner and the rescue of 780 persons from a vessel whose port is San Francisco, was conveyed to-day in a dispatch from Singapore, according to a local newspaper. The name of the French liner was not mentioned, nor was the manner in which she was sunk given.

—London, April 13.—The German submarine which on April 10 bombarded Monrovia, capital of the African republic of Liberia, in addition to destroying the wireless telegraph station, sank the Liberian armed vessel, *President Grant*. A number of casualties were inflicted on shore by the shells from the U-boat. After a bombardment lasting an hour, the activities of the submarine were interrupted by a coastal steamer.

—An Atlantic Port, April 15.—Four lives were lost when the Leyland line steamer *Elonion* was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the Irish coast, March 23. Two of those killed were American horsemen, the others members of the fire room crew.

—Halifax, N. S., April 15.—The former Lunenburg schooner *Wantage*, purchased in Newfoundland, has been torpedoed. Six members of the crew were lost when a boat which had been adrift from the date of the sinking (March 27) was capsized just as the crew were about to effect a landing.

—London, April 17.—The losses to British shipping by mine or submarine in the past week totalled fifteen, according to the Admiralty report to-night. Eleven of the merchantmen sunk were 1,600 tons or over and four under that tonnage. One fishing vessel also was sunk.

Twelve vessels were unsuccessfully attacked. The arrivals numbered, 321; sailings, 2,456.

In the previous week only six British merchantmen were sunk by mine or submarine, four of them of more than 1,800 tons.

—Madrid, April 17.—The owners of the Spanish vessel *Lovisa*, have informed the government that the ship has been torpedoed. Three of the crew were lost.

NOTICE TO MARINERS

ALL WATERS

(36) Warning to vessels to keep clear of convoys

Masters of vessels are hereby warned that all Steam Vessels are to keep clear of Convoys that they may meet or overtake.

War Instructions for British Merchant Vessels are to be carefully observed. The practice of cutting through a convoy is not permitted.

UNITED KINGDOM

(37) Names of Vessels to be displayed on entering Ports

Notice is hereby given that on and after 1st March, 1918, each and every merchant ship entering a port within the United Kingdom shall display her name painted in white letters on a black board on the side on which she is approaching the Examination steamer and at such other times, and in such manner as may be directed by the Port Authorities.

The name shall be painted in block letters of such size as to enable the name to be read by the naked eye at a distance of twice the vessel's own length, in ordinary clear weather (visibility ≥ 10 in the scale) whether by day or under search-light beam at night.

Vessels of under 500 tons gross shall display one such board placed over the side in the vicinity of the vessel's bridge.

Vessels of 500 tons gross and over shall display two such boards, one in the vicinity of the vessel's bridge, and the other in the next most conspicuous position over the side.

Note.—The above order does not relieve a vessel of the necessity of complying with the Board of Trade requirements as to the proper equipment of signal flags.

CANADA'S TITLE HOLDERS

We reprint the following from the *Toronto Evening Telegram*. Canada's holders of titles number 108, divided:

Peereesses	2
Peers	5
Baronets (in Canada)	4
Baronets (non-residents)	5
Knights—G. C. M. G.	3
Knights—K. C. M. G.	28
Knights—K. C. B.	6
Knights—K. B. E.	3
Knights Bachelor	32

Herewith is a complete list of the titles now held by Canadians:

PEERS AND PEERESSES

Lord Shaughnessy.
Lord Atholstay.
Lord Aylmer.
Baroness Macdonald of Earncliffe.
Lord Mountbatten.
Lord Mount Stephen.
Baroness Strathcona and Mount Royal.
The three latter reside in England.

BARONETS RESIDENT IN CANADA

Sir Joseph Flavell, Toronto.
Sir Charles Stewart Tupper (on active service).
Sir H. Vincent Meredith, Montreal.
Sir Edward G. Johnson, Montreal.
Sir Edward R. Murry, Montreal.

BARONETS, NON-RESIDENTS

Sir John Beverley Robinson, New Jersey.
Sir Gilbert Parker, M. P., England.
Sir William Osler, M. D., England.
Sir Hamar Greenwood, M. P., England.

KNIGHTS (Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George).

Sir Wilfred Laurier.
Sir Robert Borden.
Sir Charles Fitzpatrick.
KNIGHTS (Knight Commander Order of St. Michael and St. George).
Sir Allen Aylesworth.
Sir Louis H. Davis.
Sir John M. Gibson.
Sir James A. Grant.
Sir Edward Kemp.
Sir Evariste Leblanc.
Sir William Mulock.
Sir Joseph Pope.
Sir Clifford Sifton.
Sir Frank S. Barford.
Sir Douglas C. Cameron.
Sir Robert A. Falconer.
Sir Percy Girouard.
Sir William H. Hearst.
Sir Louis A. Jette.
Sir James Loughheed.
Sir George H. Pereley.
Sir Rodmond Roblin.
Sir C. Hibbert Tupper.
Major-General Sir Sam Steele.
Sir Malachy B. Daly.
Sir Geo. E. Foster.
Sir Lomer Gouin.
Sir John S. Hendrie.
Sir Percy Lake.
Sir Daniel H. McMillan.
Sir William Peterson.
Sir Thomas White.

KNIGHTS (Commander of the Bath).

Major-General Sir John W. Carson.
Major-General Sir William D. Otter.
Major-General Sir Sam Hughes.
Major-General Sir David Watson.
Major-General Sir Arthur Currie.
Major-General Sir Richard E. W. Turner.

KNIGHTS (Knight of the Order of the British Empire).

Sir Frank Baille.
Sir Arthur Harris.
Sir Charles B. Gordon.

KNIGHTS BACHELOR.

Sir J. A. M. Aikins.
Sir John Aird.
Sir Auguste R. Angers.

EXECUTION OF BOLO PASHA

Paris, April 17.—Bolo Pasha has been executed at Vincennes. Reports of the supplementary investigation of the revelations made by him will be attached to the Humbert and Caillaux cases.

Standing before a firing squad in the forest of Vincennes early to-day, Paul Bolo Pasha, condemned traitor, lost entirely the attitude of indifference he had maintained subsequent to and during his trial. When the order to fire was given the rifles spoke and Bolo crumpled up with several bullets in his head.

Escorted by several guards Bolo left the State prison forty-five minutes before his execution. After leaving the automobile in which he was brought to the scene, he listened to the exhortation of a prison chaplain. Then his eyes were bandaged and he went without a struggle to his place before the firing squad.

'So much the better, I am delighted,' Bolo exclaimed when awakened this morning by Commandant Julien of the third court martial, who told him that the hour of execution had arrived. These were the only words spoken by Bolo except for instructions to the chaplain to take from his body a silk lace handkerchief which he placed on his chest, and give it to his brother, Monsignor Bolo.

The condemned man went to his execution in a new suit of clothes, brought to the prison by his brother, and wearing white gloves.

When Bolo was taken to the office to go through the formality of a prison removal from prison for the execution, he refused to sign the registers. The officials insisted, upon which Bolo cried in an authoritative tone: 'It is I who command here; no one has anything more to impose upon me, I think.'

The chaplain, after the execution, found lying over Bolo's heart two embroidered handkerchiefs which had been pierced by the bullets. One was given to Bolo's brother and the other to his widow.

Before setting forth from the prison Bolo asked to be permitted to take of Communion. After the execution the form of an interment at Vincennes was gone through, and then the body was turned over to Bolo's family.