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The **LION**
of the
NORTH

G.A.HENTY.



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The LION of the NORTH

G. A. HENLY



IT WAS 1630, THE TWELFTH YEAR OF THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR. LATE ON A SPRING AFTERNOON, A SIXTEEN YEAR OLD LAD STOOD GAZING ACROSS THE SWOLLEN WATERS OF THE NITH RIVER IN THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND. ALL ABOUT HIM THE HILL-TOPS WERE COVERED WITH MASSES OF CLOUDS, AND A FIERCE WIND SWEEPED THE DRIVING RAIN BEFORE IT.

AS THE LAD WATCHED THE TORRENT, TWO HORSEMEN RODE UP TO IT FROM THE OPPOSITE SIDE.

THESE MUST BE THE MEN MY UNCLE SAID WERE COMING TO SEE HIM.

YOU CANNOT CROSS HERE!
YOU MUST GO HIGHER UP!

THE WIND SWEEPED HIS WORDS AWAY, BUT HIS GESTURES WERE UNDERSTOOD.

THE BOY IS TELLING US TO GO HIGHER UP.

SO HE IS, BUT IF WE WERE TO CROSS HIGHER UP WE MIGHT LOSE OUR WAY.

SEEING THAT THE RIDERS WERE HESITATING, THE LAD RAN UP THE RIVER BANK.

I WILL CROSS AND GUIDE THEM TO A SAFER PLACE.

HE DASHED INTO THE WATER AND BEGAN SWIMMING FOR THE OPPOSITE SHORE.

GO BACK!

THE CURRENT CAUGHT HIM, AND HE DISAPPEARED AMONG THE FOAMING WAVES.

THE BOY WILL BE DROWNED!



HOWEVER, HE WAS SOON IN GALMER WATER AND IN ANOTHER MINUTE, STOOD DRIPPING BEFORE THE MEN.

WHO ARE YOU, LAD?



MALCOLM GRAEME, I LIVE WITH MY UNCLE, NIGEL GRAEME.



THAT IS THE MAN WE SEEK.



IF YOU WILL FOLLOW ME, I WILL SHOW YOU A SAFER PLACE TO FORD THE RIVER. MY UNCLE'S HOUSE IS ONLY A FEW MILES ON THE OTHER SIDE.



MALGOLM LED THE HORSEMEN ACROSS THE RIVER, AND IN A LITTLE WHILE ALL THREE WERE AT NIGEL GRAEME'S DOOR.

WELCOME, HUME AND MUNRO. I DID NOT THINK YOU WOULD COME ON SUCH A NIGHT.

WE WOULD NOT BE HERE, GRAEME, EXCEPT FOR THIS BRAVE BOY WHO SWAM THE RIVER TO SHOW US THE BEST WAY TO CROSS. I CONSIDER WE OWE HIM OUR LIVES.

HE IS A GOOD LAD WHO HAS BEEN WITH ME SINCE HIS FATHER DIED. I INTEND TO SEND HIM TO SCHOOL AT ST. ANDREW'S NEXT YEAR AND THEN PERHAPS TO THE COURT AT LONDON.

THAT IS NO CAREER FOR A LAD OF SPIRIT. WE CAN OFFER HIM A BETTER ONE.

WE ARE COMMISSIONED BY THE KING OF SWEDEN TO OBTAIN MORE SCOTTISH TROOPS FOR THE WAR IN GERMANY. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO RAISE A COMPANY OF MEN IN THIS DISTRICT AND JOIN US. BRING THE LAD, TOO.



COULD WE GO, UNCLE?



TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS QUARREL IN GERMANY.

IN THE TWELVE YEARS THE WAR HAS BEEN GOING ON, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL FACTIONS. NOW THE STRUGGLE RESTS BETWEEN KING GUSTAVUS OF SWEDEN, CALLED THE LION OF THE NORTH BECAUSE OF HIS BRAVERY, AND FERDINAND OF AUSTRIA.



THERE ARE ALREADY TEN THOUSAND SCOTS MEN IN THE SWEDISH ARMY. COME AND FIGHT BY OUR SIDE. I'M SURE YOU CANNOT BE CONTENT TO RUST OUT YOUR LIFE HERE AS A SCOTTISH LAIRD.



VERY WELL, THEN I WILL GO WITH YOU. AND MALCOLM SHALL COME, TOO.



NIGEL GRAEME HAD NO DIFFICULTY RAISING A COMPANY OF MEN. THEY BECAME PART OF THE GREEN BRIGADE.

WE ARE TO BE GARRISONED
HERE IN NEW BRANDENBURG.



BUT WHY MUST WE BE
SHUT UP HERE WHILE
THE REST OF THE ARMY
IS MARCHING AWAY TO
WIN VICTORIES IN THE
FIELD?



GUSTAVUS MUST BE AFRAID
THAT TILLY WILL TRY TO
RETAKE NEW BRANDENBURG
SO AS TO THREATEN THE
REAR OF OUR ARMY AS
IT MARCHES FORWARD.



IS TILLY THE
GREATEST OF
THE IMPERIALIST
COMMANDERS?

TILLY OR WALLENSTEIN
'TIS A QUESTION WHICH IS
THE GREATER. WALLENSTEIN
IS IN RETIREMENT AT
PRESENT. BUT YOU MAY
BE SURE WE SHALL HEAR
OF HIM AGAIN.



MALCOLM WAS QUARTERED WITH A FAMILY IN THE TOWN. ONE DAY...

TILLY IS APPROACHING WITH A LARGE ARMY! ALL MEN ARE ORDERED TO THE WALLS!



GOD GO WITH YOU, MALCOLM.

DO NOT LET TILLY TAKE OUR CITY, FOR HE AND HIS SOLDIERS WILL BURN US AND DESTROY IT IF THEY CAN.



SOON TILLY'S CANNON BEGAN A STEADY BOMBARDMENT.



AFTER SIX DAYS THE WALLS WERE BREACHED IN MANY PLACES. THE IMPERIALISTS ADVANCED TO THE TOWN.



THE SCOTS FOUGHT VALIANTLY AND AGAIN AND AGAIN THE ENEMY RECOILED.



BUT TILLY'S ARMY WAS SO STRONG THAT AT LAST HIS SOLDIERS FORGED THEIR WAY INTO THE TOWN.



THE SCOTS, MALCOLM AMONG THEM, FOUGHT ON WITH DESPERATE TENACITY.



FINALLY THEY WERE GATHERED IN THE MARKET PLACE, SURROUNDED ON ALL SIDES BY THE ENEMY



DESPERATE HAND-TO-HAND CONFLICT RAGED. HOPE WAS AT AN END.



MALCOLM, IN THE MIST OF THE MELEE, FOUND HIMSELF FOR A MOMENT IN A DOORWAY.



HE TURNED THE HANDLE AND SLIPPED INTO THE HOUSE.



IT WAS NOT FAR FROM THE ONE IN WHICH HE HAD BEEN QUARTERED.



IF I CAN REACH MY HOST'S HOUSE, HE MAY HELP ME.

A FEW MINUTES LATER, MALCOLM DROPPED INTO THE COURTYARD.

CAN YOU SHELTER ME AWHILE? I BELIEVE THAT ALL MY COUNTRYMEN HAVE BEEN KILLED.

WE WILL DO OUR BEST, MY LAD. I'LL GET YOU THE CLOTHES OF ONE OF THE SERVANTS.



WHEN IMPERIALIST SOLDIERS BURST IN, MALCOLM WAS ATTIRED AS A SERVING MAN.

GIVE US FOOD AND DRINK!



ALL NIGHT THE IMPERIALIST SOLDIERS ORANK AND PLUNDERED, SLAUGHTERED INNOCENT CITIZENS AND BURNEO THEIR HOUSES. WHEN MORNING CAME THEY STAGGERED AWAY TO JOIN THE COLUMNS WHICH WERE MARCHING OUT OF THE RAVAGED CITY.



SOME OF THE INHABITANTS WERE FORCED TO ACCOMPANY THE TROOPS AS WAGON DRIVERS. AMONG THESE WAS MALCOLM.

YOU, THERE. COME ALONG!



IN THE CONVOY MALCOLM KEPT TO HIMSELF, AND NO ONE TOOK ANY SPECIAL NOTICE OF HIM.



SOON HE OVERHEARD SOME IMPORTANT NEWS.

WE'RE GOING TO ATTACK MAGDEBURG. WE'LL CAPTURE THE TOWN BEFORE GUSTAVUS CAN MARCH TO ITS ASSISTANCE.



I WILL HAVE TO GET AWAY AND INFORM THE KING OF THIS.



THAT NIGHT MALCOLM WAITED UNTIL THE CAMP BECAME QUIET.



HE THEN SLIPPED UP TO A GROUP OF HORSES WHICH WERE TETHERED TO A WAGON NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CAMP.



HE UNFASTENED THEIR BRIDLES AND GAVE TWO OF THEM A PRICK WITH HIS DAGGER.



THEY DASHED THROUGH THE SENTRIES AND OUT OF THE CAMP.



IN THE CONFUSION, MALCOLM GREPT QUIETLY AWAY.



TRAVELING WITH GREAT CAUTION, HE MANAGED TO REACH GUSTAVUS' CAMP.

IS IT YOU, MALCOLM GRAEME? WE THOUGHT YOU HAD FALLEN AT NEW BRANDENBURG!



NO, BUT THAT IS A STORY I WILL TELL YOU LATER. FIRST I SHOULD LIKE TO SEE THE KING AS I HAVE SOME INFORMATION FOR HIM.



MALCOLM WAS QUICKLY BROUGHT BEFORE GUSTAVUS.

WHAT IS YOUR NEWS, SIR?



TILLY IS BESIEGING MAGDEBURG, SIRE, WITH HIS WHOLE STRENGTH.

THIS IS IMPORTANT, INDEED. TELL ME HOW YOU CAME TO KNOW THIS.



MALCOLM RELATED BRIEFLY ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM.

YOU HAVE SHOWN GREAT PRUDENCE AND FORETHOUGHT, NOT TO BE LOOKED FOR IN SO YOUNG A SOLDIER.



UNFORTUNATELY, POLITICAL REASONS FORGED GUSTAVUS TO DELAY HIS MARCH, AND TILLY TOOK MAGDEBURG. MEANWHILE, GUSTAVUS' TROOPS WERE QUARTERED IN AN UNHEALTHY, SWAMPY REGION.



AH, MALCOLM, MY YOUNG FRIEND, SO YOU, TOO, ARE ILL WITH FEVER.

THESE MEN WILL NEVER RECOVER IN THIS UNHEALTHY ATMOSPHERE. THEY MUST BE SENT AWAY.



I KNOW OF A PLACE IN THE HILLS, ABOUT THREE DAYS' MARCH FROM HERE. GET THEM READY TO MOVE OUT.



THE FOLLOWING MORNING, THEIR ARMS WERE PLACED IN A WAGON. THEN THE FEVER-STRICKEN BANDO FORMED UP BEFORE IT.

YOU ARE IN CHARGE OF THESE MEN, MALCOLM. REJOIN US WHEN YOU HAVE RECOVERED YOUR HEALTH.



THE WAGON SET OUT, AND IN THREE DAYS THE MEN REACHED THE HILL TOWN OF GLOGAU. THE SOLDIERS WERE WELL RECEIVED BY THE PEASANTS AND IN A MONTH HAD RECOVERED COMPLETELY.

WE MUST LEAVE SOON, LADS,
TO REJOIN THE ARMY.



THE EVENING BEFORE THEY WERE TO MARCH AWAY, A MESSENGER RODE INTO THE VILLAGE.

A PARTY OF IMPERIALIST DRAGOONS IS RAIDING THE DISTRICT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HILLS. IT IS HEADED TOWARD MANSFELD.



THE COUNT OF MANSFELD IS A BRAVE NOBLEMAN, BUT THERE ARE SCARCELY TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY MEN IN THE TOWN CAPABLE OF BEARING ARMS.



HOW FAR IS IT
FROM HERE?

TWENTY-FOUR MILES
BY THE PATH ACROSS
THE HILLS.



THEN WE WILL MARCH TO MANSFELD AT ONCE. I HAVE, OF COURSE, NO ORDERS FOR THIS, BUT THE KING CAN HARDLY BLAME ME FOR STRIKING A BLOW AGAINST THE IMPERIALISTS.



MALCOLM AND HIS MEN SET OFF AND ARRIVED AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING. THEY WERE MET BY THE COUNT OF MANSFELD.

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME, SIR. I THANK YOU FOR COMING TO OUR ASSISTANCE.

MY PARTY IS A SMALL ONE, BUT EACH MAN CAN BE RELIED UPON.



THIS IS MY WIFE, THE COUNTESS OF MANSFELD, AND THIS IS OUR DAUGHTER, THEKLA.



I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU. BUT I HAD THOUGHT THE SCOTS WERE SUCH BIG, FIERCE SOLDIERS, AND YOU ARE BUT A BOY.



I HAVE SOME YEARS TO GROW YET, SEEING THAT I AM SCARCELY EIGHTEEN. THEN PERHAPS I SHALL COME UP MORE NEARLY TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS.



PLEASE FORGIVE MY DAUGHTER'S IMPUENCE, SIR. WE WOULD BE HAPPY IF YOU WOULD JOIN US AT BREAKFAST.



JUST AS THE MEAL CAME TO AN END, THE ALARM BELLS BEGAN TO RING. MALCOLM AND THE COUNT HURRIED TO THE WALL.

THERE THEY ARE-- ABOUT THREE HUNDRED OF THEM, I SHOULD THINK



THEY ARE GOING TO TRY TO BLOW OPEN THE GATES WITH PETARDS. WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WILL PUT MY MUSKETEERS ON THE WALL TO HELP THE TOWNSFOLK THERE.



THE IMPERIALISTS OPENED FIRE AND CAME FORWARD AT A RUN.



THE SCOTS PICKED OFF THEIR MEN WITH STEADY AIM, BUT A FEW SUCCEEDED IN REACHING THE GATE.



ON THE WALL ABOVE THEM, MALCOLM SAW A PARAPET THAT WAS OLD AND ROTTEN.

COME, LADS, PUT YOUR STRENGTH TO THIS SHOVE!



THE PARAPET TOTTERED, THEN FELL WITH A TREMENDOUS CRASH, BURYING THE IMPERIALIST SOLDIERS AND THE PETARD.



THE OTHER IMPERIALISTS WITHDREW, BUT SOON RETURNED WITH REINFORCEMENTS AND GANNON.



WE MIGHT REPULSE SEVERAL ATTACKS, BUT IN THE END THEY WILL SURELY BREAK IN, AS THE WALLS ARE OLD AND WEAK.



THEREFORE, LET US WITHDRAW TO THE CASTLE, WHICH I BELIEVE WE CAN DEFEND.



THE DEFENDERS FELL BACK TO THE CASTLE, LEAVING THE TOWN TO THE INVADERS.

HAVE YOU NOT SOME MEANS OF EXIT FROM HERE BESIDES THE WAY INTO THE TOWN?

YES, THERE IS A FOOTPATH DOWN THE ROCK ON THE OTHER SIDE.



THEN AS SOON AS THE IMPERIALIST SOLDIERS ARE OCCUPIED IN PLUNDERING AND DRINKING, WE WILL HAVE A SURPRISE FOR THEM.



SOON SHOUTS AND SONGS FROM THE TOWN SHOWED THAT THE SOLDIERS WERE DEEP IN REVELRY. MALCOLM CALLED TOGETHER THE MEN IN THE CASTLE.

FIFTY OF YOU WILL STAY HERE. THE REST WILL FOLLOW ME.



NOISELESSLY THEY LEFT THE CASTLE BY A BACK DOOR AND DESCENDED THE STEEP PATH.



THEY CIRCLED AROUND OUTSIDE THE WALLS AND, AT A SIGNAL, BURST INTO THE TOWN.

GUSTAVUS!

GUSTAVUS!



THE IMPERIALIST SOLDIERS WERE CAUGHT COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE.



HUNDREDS WERE CUT DOWN, OR FLED, IN HALF AN HOUR NOT ONE IMPERIALIST WAS LEFT ALIVE IN THE TOWN.



THE OVERJOYED PEOPLE FLOCKED BACK TO THEIR HOMES.

I AM DEEPLY IN YOUR DEBT, MY FRIEND. YOUR COURAGE AND GOOD COUNSEL HAVE SAVED OUR TOWN.



THE FOLLOWING DAY MALCOLM AND HIS PARTY MARCHED AWAY TO REJOIN THE SWEDISH ARMY.

WELCOME BACK, MALCOLM! THE CHANGE HAS DONE WONDERS FOR YOU.

I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN. IS THERE ANY NEWS?



NO NEWS OF IMPORTANCE, BUT THE KING IS RATHER PUZZLED A PRISONER WAS TAKEN TODAY WHO SAYS AN IMPERIALIST FORCE WAS DEFEATED BY THE SWEDISH ARMY AT MANSFELD. BUT THERE ARE NO SWEDISH TROOPS ANYWHERE IN THAT DIRECTION.



I CAN EXPLAIN THE MATTER, COLONEL. IT WAS MY DETACHMENT THAT HAD THE HONOR OF REPRESENTING THE SWEDISH ARMY AT MANSFELD.

THE KING MUST HEAR OF THIS!



MALCOLM TOLD HIS STORY TO GUSTAVUS.

YOU WILL MAKE A GREAT LEADER SOMEDAY IF YOU DO NOT GET KILLED IN ONE OF THESE ADVENTURES, YOUNG SIR. YOU HAVE DONE GOOD SERVICE TO THE CAUSE, AND I THANK YOU.



THE SWEDISH ARMY WAS SOON ON THE MARCH, AND DEFEATED THE ENEMY IN SEVERAL BATTLES. THEN WORD CAME THAT WALLENSTEIN HAD AGAIN JOINED THE IMPERIALISTS AND WAS MARCHING TOWARD NUREMBERG. GUSTAVUS HURRIED TO THE CITY'S DEFENSE. HE HAD SEVENTEEN THOUSAND MEN TO MEET SIXTY THOUSAND IMPERIALISTS.



GUSTAVUS BUILT STRONG DEFENSE WORKS AROUND THE CITY. WHEN WALLENSTEIN ARRIVED HE SAW GUSTAVUS' POSITION WAS ALMOST UNASSAILABLE.

WE WILL SURROUND THE TOWN AND STARVE THEM OUT.



THE DAYS PASSED DREARILY IN THE BE-LEAGUERED CITY. MALCOLM, TO PASS THE TIME, GOT PERMISSION FROM ONE OF THE TOWN'S GLOCKMAKERS TO WORK IN HIS SHOP



THREE MONTHS PASSED.

DO YOU THINK THE CITY CAN HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER, MALCOLM?



I DON'T KNOW. PROVISIONS ARE TERRIBLY SCARCE, AND THE WATER OF THE RIVER HAS BEEN TAINTED.



FINALLY, FACED WITH STARVATION, GUSTAVUS ORDERED HIS TROOPS TO MARCH OUT AND DRIVE WALLENSTEIN AWAY.



IT WAS A TERRIBLE POSITION WHICH THEY WERE ADVANCING TO STORM.



EVERY REGIMENT IN THE ARMY, EACH IN TURN, ATTEMPTED TO OVERCOME THE IMPERIALISTS, BUT THEY WERE ALL DRIVEN BACK WITH GREAT LOSSES.



GUSTAVUS DREW BACK TO A NEW POSITION. HE REMAINED THERE FOR FOURTEEN DAYS. THEN, HIS SUPPLIES EXHAUSTED, HE MARCHED AWAY FROM THE CITY.



SOME TIME LATER, GUSTAVUS AND WALLENSTEIN MET AGAIN AT LUTZEN.



THE SWEDS FOUGHT HEROICALLY, BUT IN WAIN, STEP BY STEP THEY WERE DRIVEN BACK.



GUSTAVUS GALLOPED AMONG HIS MEN, URGING THEM ON. SUDDENLY HE WAS STRUCK IN THE BACK. HE FELL FROM HIS SADDLE, MORTALLY WOUNDED.



THE NEWS SPREAD RAPIDLY THROUGH THE RANKS.

THE KING IS DEAD!
LET US AVENGE HIM!



BURNING WITH FURY, THE MEN SURGED FORWARD, MALCOLM AMONG THEM.



SUDDENLY A SHOT STRUCK HIM, AND HE FELL UNCONSCIOUS.



WHEN HE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS, ALL WAS STILL AROUND HIM.

HOW COLD IT IS! I FEEL AS IF I WERE FREEZING TO DEATH!



HE FOUND THAT HIS WOUNDED LEFT ARM WAS FROZEN TO THE GROUND.



HE MANAGED TO PULL LOOSE AND SIGNAL TO SOME SOLDIERS WHO WERE SEARCHING THE FIELD FOR THE WOUNDED.



THEY PUT HIM ON A STRETCHER AND CARRIED HIM AWAY TO CAMP.



MALCOLM'S WOUNDS WERE SERIOUS. HE LAY FOR THREE WEEKS BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH. FINALLY HE BEGAN TO RECOVER, AND ONE DAY WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THE GOUNT OF MANSFELD STRIDE INTO HIS TENT.

AH, MY YOUNG FRIEND, I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.



I HAVE BEEN AT LEIPZIG AND, UPON INQUIRING FOR YOU, HEARD THAT YOU WERE WOUNDED. SO I HAVE COME TO TAKE YOU BACK TO MANSFELD FOR REST AND CARE UNTIL YOU SHALL BE WELL ENOUGH TO FIGHT AGAIN.

I THANK YOU INDEED, BUT MY DUTY



YOU NEED NOT BE AFRAID OF NEGLECTING YOUR DUTY, FOR THERE WILL BE NO FIGHTING UNTIL THE SPRING. EVERYONE IS NEGOTIATING AT PRESENT.



A LITTER WAS BROUGHT UP, MALCOLM WAS PLACED IN IT, AND THE PARTY SET OFF FOR MANSFELD.



NEVER HAD MALCOLM SPENT A MORE PLEASANT TIME THAN THE MONTHS WHICH HE PASSED AT MANSFELD.



EARLY IN 1633 HE REJOINED HIS REGIMENT, THE MONTHS PASSED UNEVENTFULLY, THEN ONE DAY IN DECEMBER...

CAN YOU DIRECT ME TO CAPTAIN GRAEME?



I AM CAPTAIN GRAEME. WHAT DO YOU WISH?

I AM THE BEARER OF THIS LETTER FROM THE COUNTESS OF MANSFELD.



MALCOLM READ THE LETTER AND HURRIED TO COLONEL MUNRO.

MAY I HAVE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE, SIR, TO GO TO THE AID OF SOME FRIENDS OF MINE?

WHAT HAS HAPPENED, MALCOLM?



THE COUNTESS OF MANSFELD HAS WRITTEN ME THAT SHE AND HER HUSBAND AND DAUGHTER ARE PRISONERS OF THE IMPERIALISTS AT PRAGUE.



THE COUNT IS ILL, AND THE COUNTESS WILL NOT LEAVE HIM. BUT THEY PRAY THAT I MIGHT SOMEHOW AID THEIR DAUGHTER, THEKLA, WHOM THE EMPEROR HAS THREATENED TO TAKE FROM THEM AND GIVE IN MARRIAGE TO ONE OF HIS MEN.



THIS IS A PERILOUS BUSINESS, MALCOLM, YET I WILL NOT STAY YOU IN YOUR ENTERPRISE.



YOU WILL HAVE TO PASS THROUGH WALLENSTEIN'S ARMY WHICH LIES INACTIVE, NEGOTIATING WITH BOTH SIDES. IF YOU CAN FIND OUT WHAT WALLENSTEIN'S PLANS ARE, YOU WILL DO GOOD SERVICE TO OUR CAUSE, HOWEVER LONG YOUR ABSENCE FROM CAMP MAY BE.



MALCOLM SET OUT DRESSED IN GARMENTS SUITABLE FOR A CRAFTSMAN, AND THREE WEEKS LATER ARRIVED IN PRAGUE.

THE FIRST THING I MUST DO IS FIND OUT WHERE THE COUNT AND HIS FAMILY ARE BEING HELD.



THIS PROVED EASY, AS THE COUNT WAS WELL KNOWN.

THE COUNT AND HIS FAMILY ARE KEPT IN THAT HOUSE. THERE IS ALWAYS A SENTRY AT THE DOOR.



MALCOLM WATCHED THE DOOR CONSTANTLY, AND PRESENTLY A SERVANT CAME OUT.



HE FOLLOWED HER UNTIL SHE CAME TO A STREET WHERE THERE WERE FEW PEOPLE ABOUT.

YOU ARE THE ATTENDANT OF THE COUNTESS OF MANSFELD?

I AM, BUT WHAT IS THAT TO YOU?



I AM A FRIEND OF HERS AND THE COUNT'S AND I MUST GET IN TO SEE THEM. CAN YOU HELP ME FIND A WAY TO DO THIS?



NO ONE IS ALLOWED IN UNLESS HE HAS SOME GOOD EXCUSE AND A PASS.



I HAVE AN EXCELLENT EXCUSE. LET US SAY THAT A CRAFTSMAN IS NEEDED TO FIX THE CLOCK IN THE COUNT'S CHAMBER. THAT IS A TRADE I KNOW. COULD YOU MANAGE TO GET ME A PASS?



I WILL SEE WHAT I CAN DO. MEET ME HERE TOMORROW.



THE WOMAN HURRIED OFF, AND MALCOLM SET ABOUT BUYING TOOLS, A SUIT OF PEASANT'S CLOTHES FOR HIMSELF, SOME TRADESMAN'S CLOTHES FOR A YOUNG BOY, AND A CART AND OXEN.

KEEP THE CART HERE UNTIL I CALL FOR IT.



THE NEXT DAY HE AGAIN MET THE SERVANT, WHO GAVE HIM A PASS. HE PRESENTED IT TO THE SENTRY AND WAS ADMITTED TO THE GOUNT'S APARTMENTS.

MY BRAVE FRIEND!
WELCOME!



WHAT DANGERS YOU MUST HAVE ALREADY ENCOUNTERED FOR US! THE RISK IS TOO GREAT, YET I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU.



I WILL GO ABOUT FIXING THIS CLOCK, AS THAT IS THE EXCUSE WHICH GOT ME HERE, AND YOU CAN TELL ME HOW BEST I CAN AID YOU.



FOR OURSELVES, WE CARE LITTLE
OUR ANXIETY IS FOR THEKLA.



I HAVE THOUGHT OF A WAY TO GET HER AWAY FROM HERE, IF YOU WILL COMMIT HER TO MY CARE.



WE KNOW YOU TO BE FAITHFUL AND HONORABLE, MALCOLM. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?



HERE IS A SUIT OF BOYS GARMENTS WHICH I MUST PRAY THEKLA TO DON. THEN, AS MY APPRENTICE, SHE WILL GO OUT WITH ME. WE WILL WAIT UNTIL THE SENTRY HAS BEEN CHANGED SO THAT HE WILL NOT KNOW THAT TWO ARE LEAVING WHERE ONLY ONE PERSON ENTERED



I WILL THEN HIDE HER IN A CART I HAVE BOUGHT AND TAKE HER TO NUREMBERG WHERE MY FRIEND, THE CLOCKMAKER, WILL WELCOME HER INTO HIS FAMILY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE WAR IS OVER AND YOU CAN REJOIN HER.



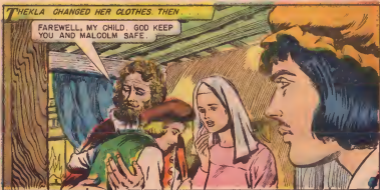
THE PLAN IS A GOOD ONE. WHAT SAY YOU, THEKLA? ARE YOU READY TO RUN THE RISK OF SUCH A JOURNEY UNDER THE PROTECTION ONLY OF THIS BRAVE SCOTTISH GENTLEMAN?



I AM READY, FATHER.

THEKLA CHANGED HER CLOTHES THEN.

FAREWELL, MY CHILD. GOD KEEP YOU AND MALCOLM SAFE.



THEKLA FOLLOWED MALGOLM OUT OF THE HOUSE. THEY WERE STOPPED BY THE SENTRY.

THERE IS ONLY ONE PASS, AND THERE ARE TWO OF YOU.



POOH! YOU SEE FOR YOURSELF THE OTHER IS ONLY A YOUNG BOY, MY APPRENTICE.



WELL, GO ALONG THEN.



AFTER STOPPING AT HIS LODGINGS TO CHANGE TO HIS PEASANT'S CLOTHES, MALGOLM LED THEKLA TO THE PLACE WHERE THE GART AND OXEN WERE WAITING.

I WILL MAKE A BED FOR YOU IN THE STRAW. YOU MUST STAY HIDDEN IN CASE WE ARE PURSUED.



THEY SET OUT AND TRAVELED ALL NIGHT THE NEXT DAY THEY WERE OVERTAKEN BY A PARTY OF CAVALRY

HAVE YOU SEEN ANYTHING OF TWO YOUNG CRAFTSMEN JOURNEYING ALONG THE ROAD?

I HAVE SEEN NO ONE



THE SOLDIERS RODE ON, AND MALGOLM CONTINUED HIS JOURNEY. ONE DAY HE WAS STOPPED BY A PARTY OF IMPERIALIST HORSEMEN.

HALT!



WE HAVE ORDERS TO REQUISITION ALL CARTS TO GARRY PROVISIONS FOR WALLENSTEIN'S ARMY. YOU MUST COME WITH US.



MALGOLM KNEW IT WAS USELESS TO RESIST, SO HE WENT WITH THE SOLDIERS TO THE ARMY SUPPLY WAGONS AT THE CITY OF PILSEN.



WHEN HE WAS LEFT ALONE, MALGOLM WENT TO THE BACK OF THE WAGON TO SPEAK TO THEKLA.

WE MUST SLIP AWAY AND LOOK FOR A PLACE TO STAY IN PILSEN, WHICH IS WALLENSTEIN'S HEADQUARTERS. NO ONE WILL THINK OF LOOKING FOR US HERE.



DRESSED IN HIS CRAFTSMAN'S CLOTHES, MALGOLM SOUGHT LODGINGS IN THE TOWN.

I MUST HAVE TWO ROOMS, AS MY YOUNG BROTHER IS ILL.

VERY WELL, SIR, I HAVE WHAT YOU WANT.



WITH THEKLA SAFE IN HER ROOM, MALCOLM WENT OUT INTO THE TOWN.

PERHAPS I CAN DISCOVER SOME INFORMATION REGARDING WALLENSTEIN'S PLANS.



IT IS EVEN POSSIBLE THAT WALLENSTEIN MIGHT NEED THE SERVICES OF A CLOCKMAKER.



ACCORDINGLY, HE PRESENTED HIMSELF AT THE CASTLE WHERE WALLENSTEIN WAS STAYING AND SPOKE TO THE STEWARD.

YOU ARE THE VERY MAN WE SEEK. SEVERAL OF OUR CLOCKS NEED REPAIRING. FOLLOW ME.



MALCOLM SET TO WORK. SOME TIME LATER WALLENSTEIN ENTERED

IT IS HARD TO FIND A GOOD CLOCKMAKER THESE DAYS. I WILL TAKE YOU INTO MY PERMANENT SERVICE.



I WOULD BE VERY PLEASED, YOUR EXCELLENCY, IF ONLY I MAY GO AT NIGHT TO MY LODGINGS IN TOWN AS I MUST CARE FOR A SICK BROTHER.

VERY WELL.



MALCOLM BECAME A MEMBER OF WALLENSTEIN'S HOUSEHOLD. MINGLING WITH THE SOLDIERS IN THE CASTLE, HE HEARD RUMORS THAT WALLENSTEIN WAS NEGOTIATING WITH THE SWEDISH CHANCELLOR, OKENSTIERN, TO GO OVER TO HIM, BUT THAT OKENSTIERN DOUBTED THE GENERAL'S SINCERITY.

IT IS INDEED DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT FERDINAND'S GREATEST GENERAL WOULD TURN AGAINST HIM.



THEN ONE DAY, THE CHIEF GENERALS OF THE IMPERIALIST ARMY BEGAN ARRIVING AT THE CASTLE.

WALLENSTEIN MUST HAVE CALLED THEM UPON SOME IMPORTANT MATTER.



A MEETING WAS TO BE HELD THAT NIGHT. MALCOLM STOLE INTO THE ROOM AND HID BEHIND A HANGING.

I MUST FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT.

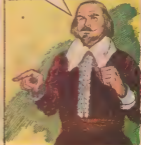


SOON THE ROOM WAS FILLED WITH GENERALS. ONE, A CONFIDANT OF WALLENSTEIN'S, ROSE AND SPOKE OF THE INJUSTICES WALLENSTEIN HAD SUFFERED AT THE HANDS OF FERDINAND.

WALLENSTEIN HAS SERVED THE HOUSE OF AUSTRIA FOR TWENTY-TWO YEARS. NOW HE IS TO BE DISGRACEFULLY DISMISSED.



HOWEVER, BEFORE THIS HAPPENS, HE WILL RESIGN. THIS IS WHAT HE WANTS ME TO MAKE KNOWN TO YOU.



AN OUTCRY AROSE, AND THE GENERALS SENT A DELEGATION TO WALLENSTEIN URSING HIM NOT TO WITHDRAW FROM THEM. SOON.

THE GENERAL SAYS HE WILL RELUCTANTLY YIELD TO YOUR REQUEST.



BUT YOU MUST EACH GIVE A WRITTEN PROMISE TO TRULY AND FIRMLY ADHERE TO HIM AND TO SHED YOUR LAST DROP OF BLOOD IN HIS DEFENSE.



THE GENERALS AGREED, AND WENT INTO THE NEXT ROOM FOR A BANQUET.



MALGOLM LEFT HIS HIDING PLACE.

I AM SURE, NOW, THAT WALLENSTEIN REALLY MEANS TO CHANGE SIDES, AND WANTS TO BIND HIS GENERALS CLOSELY TO HIM.



I MUST TELL OXENSTERN OF THIS. BUT I WILL NEED WALLENSTEIN'S HELP IN ORDER TO GET TO HIM SAFELY.



THE NEXT DAY MALCOLM SAW WALLENSTEIN ALONE.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, WHAT I AM ABOUT TO SAY MAY ANGER YOU, BUT I IMPLORE YOU TO HEAR ME TO THE END.



I AM NO CLOCKMAKER, BUT A SCOTTISH OFFICER IN THE SERVICE OF SWEDEN. I KNOW THAT YOU WISH TO JOIN WITH OXENSTIERN, AND I KNOW THAT HE IS CAUTIOUS AND SUSPICIOUS.



BUT IF YOU WILL HELP ME GET TO HIM WITH THE NEWS OF YOUR INTENTIONS, I AM SURE HE WILL BE CONVINCED OF YOUR SINCERITY.



YOU ARE A BRAVE MAN TO SPEAK TO ME THUS. I WILL IMMEDIATELY ORDER A SQUADRON OF HORSE TO ESCORT YOU TO THE SWEDISH ARMY SO THAT YOU MAY INFORM OXENSTIERN OF AFFAIRS HERE.



MALCOLM HURRIED TO HIS LODGINGS FOR THEKLA AND RETURNED TO THE CASTLE, WHERE THE SQUADRON AWAITED THEM. WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE SWEDISH LINES, MALCOLM IMMEDIATELY SOUGHT OUT OXENSTIERN AND TOLD HIM ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED.

YOU HAVE DONE WELL.



THERE CAN NO LONGER BE THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT OF WALLENSTEIN'S INTENTION, THOUGH IT IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE SUCH MONSTROUS TREACHERY IS POSSIBLE. HE OWES EVERYTHING TO FERDINAND, YET HE IS PREPARING TO TURN AGAINST HIM.



HOWEVER, WALLENSTEIN IS NOW OUR ALLY. I WILL WRITE TO HIM PROMISING ACTIVE AID. WILL YOU UNDERTAKE TO CARRY MY DESPATCH?

WILLINGLY, SIR



GOOD. AND STAY NEAR HIM FOR A TIME. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SEND ME NEWS OF WHAT IS PASSING AROUND HIM.



AFTER SEEING THAT THEKLA WAS PLACED WITH SOME FRIENDS, MALCOLM RETURNED TO WALLENSTEIN.

HERE IS A DESPATCH FROM CHANCELLOR OXENSTIERN.



IT SAYS HE IS SENDING DUKE BERNHARD AND SWEDISH TROOPS TO MY ASSISTANCE. THAT IS WELL, FOR FERDINAND HAS FOUND OUT MY INTENTIONS AND HAS ORDERED MY ARREST.



I SHALL MARCH WITH MY MEN TO EGRA. THERE I SHALL EFFECT A JUNCTION WITH DUKE BERNHARD.



THAT SAME AFTERNOON THE MARCH TO EGRA BEGAN.

WALLENSTEIN APPEARS CONFIDENT, BUT THE OUTLOOK IS GLOOMY. MOST OF HIS MEN HAVE CHOSEN TO LEAVE HIM AND REMAIN LOYAL TO FERDINAND.



WALLENSTEIN ARRIVED AT EGRA BEFORE DUKE BERNHARD. ONE EVENING A BANQUET WAS GIVEN FOR WALLENSTEIN AND HIS OFFICERS, BUT WALLENSTEIN DID NOT ATTEND.

SOMETHING IS WRONG
I FEEL A SENSE OF
DANGER



SUDDENLY ARMED MEN BURST INTO THE HALL.

LONG LIVE FERDINAND!



THEY FELL UPON WALLENSTEIN'S CHIEF OFFICERS AND SLEW THEM.

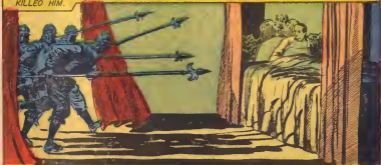


MALCOLM SPRANG TO HIS FEET, BUT HE WAS PUSHED BACK.

KEEP YOURSELF QUIET, SIR.
IF YOU DRAW SWORD TO
DEFEND THESE TRAITORS,
YOU MUST SHARE THEIR
FATE.



WALLENSTEIN KNEW NOTHING OF WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE AT THE BANQUET. HE HAD JUST RETIRED TO BED WHEN A BAND OF SOLDIERS BURST INTO HIS APARTMENT AND KILLED HIM.



MEANWHILE, MALCOLM HAD BEEN MADE PRISONER AND CONDUCTED TO A DUNGEON.

IN THEIR HASTE, THEY FORGOT TO TAKE MY SWORD AND DAGGER. I WILL CONCEAL THEM IN THE STRAW.



A SOLDIER BROUGHT HIM HIS FOOD.

WELL, THE TRAITOR WALLENSTEIN IS DEAD. DUKE BERNHARD WILL BE HERE TOMORROW, SUSPECTING NO DANGER. WE WILL SET A RARE TRAP FOR HIM.



THAT NIGHT MALCOLM TOSSED RESTLESSLY ON THE STRAW.

IF DUKE BERNHARD IS CAPTURED, IT WILL BE A HEAVY BLOW TO OUR CAUSE. HOW CAN I GET AWAY TO WARN HIM?



SUDDENLY HE HEARD HIS DOOR BEING OPENED. HE GRASPED HIS SWORD AND SPRANG TO HIS FEET.



IT WAS WALLENSTEIN'S STEWARD.

I WILL HAVE VENGEANCE ON THOSE WHO MURDERED MY MASTER, AND FOIL THEIR PLOT.



WHAT ARE THE TRAITORS DOING?

THEY FEASTED AND DRANK UNTIL THEY FELL INTO A DRUNKEN SLUMBER, AND I WAS ABLE TO GET THE KEY TO YOUR DUNGEON.



HERE IS YOUR HELMET. I WILL LEAD YOU TO THE STABLE, WHERE I HAVE SADDLED THE BEST AND FASTEST OF MY MASTER'S HORSES.



WHEN THE GATES ARE OPEN IN THE MORNING, RIDE TO MEET DUKE BERNHARD. TELL HIM MY MASTER HAS BEEN MURDERED AND EGRA IS IN THE HANDS OF THE IMPERIALISTS.



BID HIM MARCH ON THIS PLACE WITH HIS FORCE, TAKE IT BY ASSAULT, AND LEAVE NOT ONE OF THE ASSASSINS LIVING WITHIN ITS WALLS.

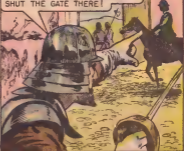


THE STEWARD LED MALCOLM TO THE STABLE. WHEN MORNING CAME AND THE GATES WERE OPENED, HE MOUNTED HIS HORSE AND RODE BOLDLY OUT.



NEAR THE GATE, AN OFFICER RECOGNIZED HIM.

CAPTAIN GRAEME! TREACHERY!
SHUT THE GATE THERE!



MALCOLM PARRIED THE OFFICER'S BLOW AND STRUCK HIM TO THE GROUND.



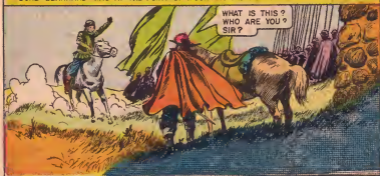
HE DASHED ON AND REACHED THE GATE JUST AS IT WAS SWINGING CLOSED.



HE GALLOPED THROUGH IT AND OVER THE DRAWBRIDGE AS BULLETS WHIZZED AROUND HIM.



HE RODE AHEAD AT FULL SPEED AND IN HALF AN HOUR REACHED THE SWEDISH LINES. DUKE BERNHARD WAS AT THE POINT OF MOUNTING HIS HORSE.



I AM CAPTAIN GRAEME AND I HAVE RIDDEN TO WARN YOUR EXCELLENCY OF TREACHERY. WALLENSTEIN HAS BEEN MURDERED AND YOU ARE MARCHING INTO A TRAP.

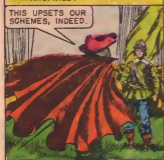


WALLENSTEIN MURDERED? HOW?



MALCOLM GAVE HIM THE FULL DETAILS OF ALL THAT HAD TRANSPIRED.

THIS UPSETS OUR SCHEMES, INDEED.



MUCH AS I WOULD LIKE TO FIGHT THESE TRAITORS, I MUST FIRST COMMUNICATE THIS NEWS TO CHANCELLOR OXENSTIERN.



THE SWEDISH FORCE FELL BACK, AND MALCOLM RODE OFF TO REJOIN HIS REGIMENT.

NOW I MUST ASK PERMISSION TO LEAVE AGAIN. I MUST TAKE THEKLA TO NUREMBERG, AS I PROMISED.

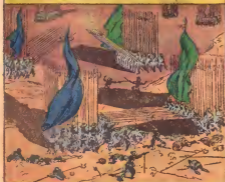
VERY WELL. I WILL GIVE YOU AN ESCORT TO GET YOU THERE SAFELY.



WHEN MALCOLM RETURNED, HE FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE OF NORDLINGEN. IT WAS A TERRIBLE DEFEAT FOR THE SWEDISH ARMY.



AFTER THIS, THE SWEDISH ARMY PLAYED ONLY A SECONDARY PART, AS FRANCE TOOK THE FIELD IN EARNEST.*



*The story of the rest of the Thirty Years War is told in G. A. Henty's **WON BY THE SWORD**.

MALCOLM, WEARY OF WAR, RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION. HE MARRIED THEKLA AND SETTLED IN SCOTLAND, WHERE THEY LIVED QUIETLY AND HAPPILY.



THE END

NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ THE CLASSIC'S ILLUSTRATED EDITION, DON'T MISS THE ADDED ENJOYMENT OF READING THE ORIGINAL. OBTAINABLE AT YOUR SCHOOL OR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

GEORGE ALFRED HENTY



A CONTEMPORARY of George Alfred Henty once described him as a man of strong will, reasonable ambitions and a hard, steady worker. He also said that Henty was a burly man with a good-humored English sort of face, who always smoked a short, well-colored clay pipe.

Henty was born on December 8, 1832 at Trumpington, near Cambridge, England. He was the eldest son of a stockbroker. He was educated at Westminster School and at Cambridge, where he enrolled in 1852, but he left without obtaining a degree.

With the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854, Henty and his brother joined the British Army. They were put on the commissariat staff of a hospital, where they were concerned with supplying food for the staff and patients. In 1855, they were sent to the Crimea. The following year, Henty's brother died of cholera.

Henty wrote about some of his war adventures in a series of letters which described the siege of the Russian fortress of Sevastopol. The letters were accepted for publication by a newspaper, but Henty did not show any interest then in writing as a career.

During his service in the Crimea, Henty was stricken with a fever and sent home. When he recovered, he was honored for distinguished service and given a promotion. He was selected to organize the Italian hospitals during the war between Austria and Italy. After this, he held posts in the commissariats at Belfast, Ireland and Portsmouth, England.

When Henty began to tire of this work, he

resigned his commission and returned home. He got a job assisting his father in the management of a coal mine in Wales. But after being sent to Sardinia to manage another mine, Henty found he did not like this type of work either, and he decided to become a professional writer.

In 1865, he began writing articles for a British newspaper called *The Standard*. The following year, the paper sent him to cover the continuing Austrian-Italian conflict. He also saw some of the Franco-Prussian War and was at the opening of the Suez Canal. His adventures continued with his presence in Russia during a revolution and in Africa with a British expedition.

— In 1874, Henty reported on guerrilla warfare in Spain. The following year, he went on a tour of India with the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII of England. And a year after that, Henty was watching warfare between the Turks and the Serbians.

When not reporting, Henty was writing books. His first book for boys, *Out on the Pampas*, was published in 1868. After this he became quite well known, and he felt he had finally found his true occupation.

Henty wrote about eighty books for boys. A young man who worked as his secretary for two years said that Henty used to walk up and down his study smoking his clay pipe and reeling off stories just as fast as the secretary could take them down. Henty's books include: *In Freedom's Cause*, *Under Drake's Flag*, *In Times of Peril*, *The Lion of the North* and *In the Reign of Terror*.

In his later life, Henty took a trip to the gold fields of California, but it wore him out. His last years were spent quietly. He died aboard his yacht on November 16, 1902.

SWEDEN ON THE DELAWARE

ICY BLASTS of air swirled around a sailing vessel as a man appeared at the rail on the deck. He took a long look at New Amsterdam, a city which had been his home for seven years, a city later to be called New York.

It was early in 1632 and the man was Peter Minuit, Director General of New Netherland, the Dutch colony in America. Relieved of his duties, he was sailing home to Europe, a continent aflame in the fourteenth year of the Thirty Years' War.

Minuit had learned much about America in the last seven years. And he knew that Sweden wanted to expand its trade. He wondered if the Swedes would like to establish a colony in America.

As soon as he arrived in the Netherlands, he wrote to Sweden's Count Axel Gustavsson Oxenstiern telling him that the English, French and Dutch already had colonies in America. Now, he wrote, was the time to found New Sweden. By 1637, the Swedes were ready to support Minuit's plan. He was called to Stockholm, the capital of Sweden. Two small but sturdy ships awaited him there. One was the *Kalmar Nyckel*, the other the *Fogel Grip*.

In the middle of August, the ships sailed into the Baltic sea, around the southern tip of Scandinavia and up to Gothenburg for loading. In November, they sailed out of the harbor for America. For one month the two ships were tossed about by giant waves. They were forced to stop at Texel, an island northwest of the Netherlands. Leaks sprouted everywhere. The *Kalmar Nyckel* lost her prow.

The crews, a handful of soldiers and a small band of hardy settlers made the repairs. They set out again on December 31, the last day of the year.

Sixteen weeks later a sailor shouted from

high in the crow's nest, "I see the great Delaware bay ahead!" There were whoops of joy from both ships.

Minuit guided the vessels to the Minquas river near what is now Wilmington, Delaware. When he sighted a natural wharf of rocks near the shore he ordered the anchors dropped nearby. Then his soldiers fired their cannon twice in honor of Sweden.

Minuit decided to take some men and go ashore to explore the woods near the river. They saw no one. But when they returned they found several Indian chiefs standing on the bank looking at the ships. The Indians had heard the cannon and wondered what the shooting was all about.

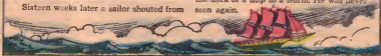
The Indians and Minuit soon discussed the sale of land. Minuit knew how to deal with Indians. Not many years before he had bought Manhattan for the Dutch for \$24. He did as well for the Swedes. He bought thousands of acres of land for trinkets and pieces of cloth.

In the years that followed, New Sweden expanded into what are now the states of Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland. The settlers cleared the ground, built forts and some of the earliest log cabins in America. And they became friendly with the Indians.

By 1654, however, the Dutch, to the north, became worried about the Swedes and their growing power and influence.

Governor Peter Stuyvesant of New Netherland told his followers, "We must conquer New Sweden." And in 1655, he and his Dutch soldiers did just that.

What became of Peter Minuit? He did not have to face the sad end of his new-found colony. Just three months after arriving on the Delaware, Minuit was swept from the deck of a ship in a storm. He was never seen again.



A STORM OF STONES

IN A TINY, crude, thirteenth century laboratory in London, a bearded doctor mixed some charcoal, sulphur and nitre in an iron bowl. Suddenly a stiff breeze blew through the room. A candle near the doctor flickered and a spark fell into the bowl. There was a thunderous explosion.

"What happened?" shouted the doctor's young assistant as he ran into the laboratory. "You are cut and bleeding!" The doctor could not answer. He had been as surprised as everyone by the explosion.

Although the physician did not know it, other doctors, drug makers and chemists were experiencing similar misfortunes. Soon they began to experiment with these strange explosions.

A few tried placing a stone over the mixture in the bowl. Then a tiny hole was cut in the bottom of the bowl and the mixture was lighted through the hole. The familiar explosion resulted. But something more important happened. The stone flew out of the bowl and landed a few yards away.

The Moors were among the first to recognize that these experiments had uncovered a weapon which they could use in battle. In their forts in Spain, they built large iron buckets about the size of a wastebasket. They loaded these buckets with a pound or two of the mixture and then placed a dozen or more stones in. When the commander shouted, "fire!" the gunners lighted the hole in the bottom of the bucket. The stones shot over the walls of the fort and rained on the enemy below.

This storm of stones, with its smoke and loud noise, caused many armies to flee from the Moors. Soon the leaders of other armies were using these bucket-type cannon. But they were not good enough. "We need something that will shoot straight into a charging army," the generals said.

By the year 1300, gun makers were forging long, iron, tube-like devices which could be mounted on wheels or wooden frames. These were the first real cannon.

It was not long before cannon makers were building their tubes of brass and bronze. With better metal and better designs, cannon became popular nearly everywhere in Europe. Most cities had two or three big ones. Some of the more powerful cities had hundreds.

Early in the fifteenth century, army commanders wanted a smaller, lighter cannon which could be carried easily by their soldiers. The big cannon could destroy forts and castles, but they were too heavy for fast-moving armies.

Gun makers knew what was needed. They developed a cannon that could be carried by hand and used in man-to-man fighting.

At close range, these new hand cannon could wipe out unarmed enemy troops. In hand-to-hand combat, their shells even went through armor. The life of the hand cannon was cut short, however, by the development of the rifle and pistol. These were even easier to carry and soon became more accurate.

Big cannon were used mostly to defend or attack cities and forts until the Thirty Years' War. In that war, the Swedish king, Gustavus Adolphus, found ways in which cannon could be used to support his foot soldiers. He discovered how to make these heavy cannon easier to move, and how they could be fired faster and more accurately.

Through the years since Gustavus Adolphus' time, weapon makers have done even more to make their products more effective. Today, missiles can destroy targets thousands of miles away.

