

# Henry Knox and Nathanael Greene



Nathanael

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

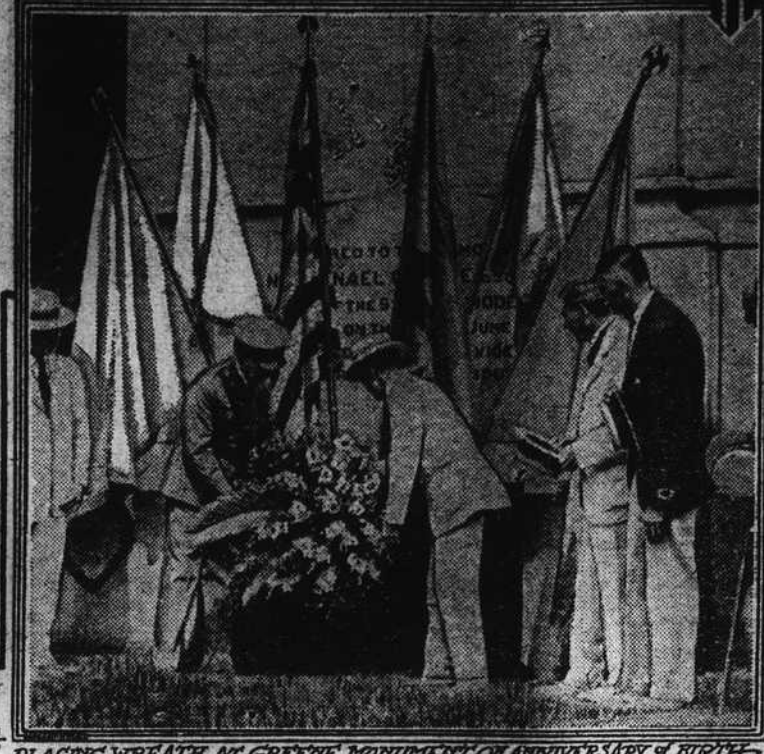
AS THE researches of our historians continue to make clearer an understanding of the Revolutionary struggle which was fast approaching its climax in 1777, just a hundred and fifty years ago, more and more are some of the lesser figures in that conflict coming into the limelight and looming up as of outstanding importance in the outcome of the fight for liberty. Particularly is this true of Gen. Henry Knox and Gen. Nathanael Greene whose right to fame has for so long been overshadowed by the all-important name of Washington. So it is gratifying to know that at last deserved, though tardy, honors are being paid to both men.

A short time ago a group of distinguished military men and civilians gathered before the equestrian statue of General Greene erected in Washington, and there on the one hundred and eighty-third anniversary of his birth paid homage to his memory. Now comes word that a memorial to General Knox is assured by recent gifts to a fund which has been raised for the purpose of erecting a reproduction of Montpelier, the Knox family home in Thomaston, Maine. This reconstructed mansion will be used as a repository for the historical and artistic treasures which were formerly in the Knox home and as a museum for Revolutionary relics, so that it will be not only a symbol of Maine's pride in one of her distinguished sons but a patriotic national shrine, as well.

The Revolutionary careers of Henry Knox and Nathanael Greene present one of those curious paradoxes of fate which calls a man from a simple civilian pursuit and brings out in him an unsuspected military genius. Unlike Washington, Putnam, Morgan, Stark and other prominent leaders, neither Knox nor Greene had had previous experience in war. But when the struggle for liberty opened these two New Englanders, Knox, the bookseller in Cornhill, Boston, and Greene, the Rhode Island blacksmith, plunged into it at once and their natural ability soon brought them into prominence.

No sooner had Washington taken command of the Continental army and besieged the British army in Boston than he appointed Knox commander of the artillery. Knox immediately went to Ticonderoga, where there were many cannon, and a little later the army saw him ride into camp at the head of 42 sleds, drawn by oxen, loaded with cannon, powder and balls with which to batter down the walls of Boston around the ears of the red coats. He became one of Washington's most beloved officers and as chief of artillery was his right hand man through all his campaigns. He went on that Christmas night march to Trenton and his cannon roared triumphantly at the surprise attack on the Hessians in salute to one of Washington's greatest victories.

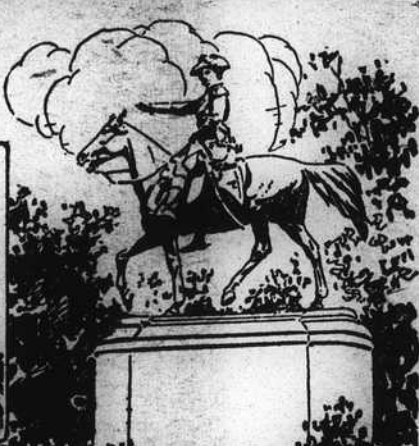
At the battle of Princeton it was Knox's cannon that swept the bridge over which Cornwallis sought in vain to hurl his soldiers against the Continental forces and sent them reeling back in defeat. He was at Brandywine and at Germantown, and in the darkest days of Valley Forge it was Knox's cannon which stood guard over the camp of



PLACING WREATH AT GREENE MONUMENT ON ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH



Knox



STATUE TO GEN. GREENE

freezing, starving men to prevent a surprise attack. His guns played an important part, too, at Yorktown, for it was their ceaseless battering of the British defenses that brought about the surrender of Cornwallis and the end of the war.

When Washington became President Knox was given the dual portfolio of secretary of war and navy and when his cabinet services ended, he retired to Thomaston, Me., where he built Montpelier in which to spend his declining years. He died in 1806 and was buried on the highlands overlooking the Georges river. For awhile Montpelier served as the home of his family. Then it passed into other hands and soon became but a shell of its former glory. Eventually it was torn down and its site occupied by business buildings. Now it is to be restored on a plot on Main street which was purchased by the General Knox chapter of the D. A. R. and a recent gift of \$50,000 by Cyrus H. K. Curtis, the Philadelphia publisher and a former resident of Thomaston, guarantees the completion of the project to make the new Montpelier a permanent memorial to Washington's right hand man and America's first secretary of war.

The career of Nathanael Greene is even more remarkable than that of Knox. His campaign in the Carolinas has been compared—and not unfavorably—to Washington's Trenton and Princeton campaign, and he has been called "after Washington—and not far after him—the ablest tactician, the most brilliant strategist and the greatest fighter of the Revolution, the man who could lose a battle and win a campaign."

Greene was the son of a Quaker preacher and he scandalized his brethren of that faith by being among the first to advocate forcible resistance to the British king. Although he was self-educated, he was elected a member of the Rhode Island assembly in 1770 at the age of twenty-eight. At the outbreak of the war he enlisted as a private in the Rhode Island troops but his rise was so rapid that he soon found himself a major general and he was never out of the service until the end of the war.

Greene fought in every battle, except one, in which Washington commanded until he was sent South in 1780. Although he performed brilliantly as a subordinate under the great commander in many of these engagements, it was not until he took charge of the Continental forces in South Carolina that he had an opportunity to display the military genius

that entitles him to rank not only with the great during the Revolution but with the great captains of all time.

The situation that faced Greene when he took charge in the South was one which might well have daunted any commander. The British had overrun Georgia and South Carolina and, with Lord Cornwallis in command, it seemed as though the provinces south of Virginia had been finally won back to the crown. Greene lacked sufficient men, he lacked money and all other necessities for carrying on war. But he had no sooner taken command than he launched an aggressive campaign which soon had Cornwallis worried and as time went on the Briton found even more to worry about.

A whole volume could be written about this campaign and the way in which Greene, naturally impetuous and dashing, became the incarnation of caution and resourcefulness in using his meager forces to the best advantage. He outmarched, outmaneuvered, outguessed and outwitted the British leader repeatedly. He lost battles, it is true, but the final result was what counted and in that final result Greene was victorious. Cornwallis, after falling to corner Greene, was forced to retreat to Yorktown. There he lay while Washington prepared to hurl his army like a thunderbolt from the north and Washington's deception of Sir Henry Clinton, the British commander in New York, and his rapid march south to crush Cornwallis was a fitting climax to the events of Greene's campaign.

Just how important was the contribution of this Rhode Islander to the winning of American independence has been revealed within the past year through researches into his papers and letters which have been acquired by the William L. Clements library at the University of Michigan. "These papers place Greene in his proper position as the organizer of victory in the Revolution," says Randolph G. Adams, custodian of the library. "Without his services the cause of liberty might not have survived."

At the close of the war Greene returned to Rhode Island, where he was given many honors. In 1785 he retired, to a large estate granted to him by the legislature of Georgia and there he died the following year. But Rhode Island, which gave him to the nation, claimed him at last. In recent years his body was brought back from Georgia and reinterred in his native soil. Rhode Island also bought the Greene homestead at Coventry and keeps it as a memorial to her greatest warrior.

## THE KITCHEN CABINET

(© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Life is a challenge and its laws  
Are rigid ones and stern;  
The splendid joy of real applause  
Each man must nobly earn.  
It makes us win its jewels rare,  
But gives us pain, if we're unfair,  
—Edgar Guest.

### EVERYDAY GOOD THINGS

When one has a small family and a recipe makes too much to consume before spoiling, this dozen doughnut recipe will be welcome:

**Doughnuts.**—Cream two tablespoonfuls of shortening with one-half cupful of sugar, add one beaten egg, three cupfuls of flour sifted with three teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one-half cupful of milk. Set out to chill, then roll one-half inch thick and cut with a large cutter.

**Mock Mince Pie.**—Take one cupful of bread crumbs, one cupful of raisins, one cupful of sugar, one cupful of cranberries cut into halves, one salt spoonful each of cinnamon, cloves, allspice and nutmeg, one cupful of hot water, one-half cupful of vinegar, and one tablespoonful of butter. Turn into a tin lined with flaky crust and bake with a top crust.

**Pumpkin Pie.**—Beat two eggs, add one-half cupful of sugar, a cupful of thick, well browned pumpkin, a pint of rich milk, one-half teaspoonful each of salt and ginger, a few drops of lemon extract and a dash of nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves. Bake in a moderate oven an hour.

**Indian Pudding.**—Measure two quarts of milk, two-thirds of a cupful of corn meal, one cupful of sugar, one teaspoonful of salt, one cupful of raisins, one cupful of finely chopped suet, nutmeg, cinnamon and two tablespoonfuls of flour. Scald one quart of the milk, add the corn meal mixed with a little cold milk and cook until smooth. Add the rest of the ingredients, beating the egg and pour into a deep earthenware bowl. Sprinkle the top with the flour; the suet will come to the top and form a beautiful brown crust when it is baked. Stir several times during the first hour of cooking.

### Something Different.

Those who enjoy sweet potatoes will like this combination: Fry rounds of sweet potato and apple and serve a round of apple on each round of potato.



**Baked Ham.**—Cut off the surplus fat from the outer part of a thick center cut of ham and chop it fine—sprinkle it over the top of the ham. Cover with quartered apples—any good baking apple—sprinkle with a half cupful or more of brown sugar and bake as usual.

**Raspberry Lacto.**—Take one quart of buttermilk, one and one-half cupfuls of sugar, one-fourth of a cupful of raspberry sirup and one egg. Separate the yolk and white of the egg and beat separately, mix and freeze; when half frozen add the juice of one lemon.

**Ice Box Pudding.**—Take one pound of vanilla wafers, one can of pineapple (a large can), one cupful of nutmeats, one-half pound of butter and four eggs. Cream the butter, add the sugar and one egg at a time until all are well blended. Put the nutmeats and wafers through the meat grinder. Prepare in layers and set in the ice chest for twelve hours.

**Koumiss.**—Take one quart of milk, one and one-half tablespoonfuls of sugar, one-fourth of a yeast cake, and one tablespoonful of warm water to dissolve the yeast. Heat the milk to lukewarm, add the sugar and dissolved yeast cake. Fill sterilized bottles to within two inches of the top, cork and shake. Invert bottles and keep them in a warm room for ten hours, then put in a cool place. Let stand in a cool place two days, shaking occasionally, then it is ready to use. Do not make more than is used at once as it does not keep longer than three days. This fermented milk is used in cases of extreme nausea, where food has not been retained in several weeks; it is also given where nourishment is needed in such form and plain milk is not agreeable.

**Spiced Drop Cookies.**—Take one-half cupful each of white and brown sugar, three-fourths of a cupful of lard and butter mixed, two and one-half cupfuls of flour, two eggs, one teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of baking powder, one cupful of raisins and one-half cupful of boiling water. Makes two dozen large cookies. Drop from a teaspoon on buttered sheet.

Nellie Maxwell

## ROAD BUILDING

### ENGINEERS AIDED BY SOIL EXPERTS

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Knowledge of the properties, constituents, and behavior of different types of soil has not only an agricultural bearing but is of great importance to the highway engineer. Hence it often becomes necessary for the specialists of the bureau of soils of the United States Department of Agriculture to co-operate with those of the bureau of public roads in investigations in localities having peculiar soil conditions to throw light on problems in highway engineering.

It has been shown, for instance, that the clay soils in the eastern part of Texas and in the Piedmont region possess the properties indicated by a low ratio of silica to iron plus alumina, and are probably the best to meet the requirements of good highway subgrade material. In southeastern Ohio, again, it was found that hillside slipping of masses of soil and subsoil material in the extensive area of Upshur soils of that region had completely demolished sections of recently laid concrete roads. Similar destructive sliding connected with this type of soil has occurred in southwestern Pennsylvania. The program seems to be one that will require serious attention from highway engineers. Another example of the co-operation between soil and road experts is the Black Waxy belt of Texas, where, in the opinion of the soil expert, the black clay of the region is not the best material upon which to lay hard surfacing. It tends to swell and shrink according to extremes of moisture. Other available road material is advised for use in the subgrade.

### Improved Highways Are Big Aid to the Farmer

Much has been written regarding the value of good roads to the farmer. Tax authorities have made elaborate statements as to cost of state highways to the ruralist and the advantages he gains in living adjacent to good roads. But these were mostly estimates with frail foundations and it was not until just recently that definite figures could be secured to prove the claims. And in this the newly developed roadside market appears to be the greatest contribution.

We are told that farm produce to the value of more than \$2,116,000 a month is now sold direct to motorists from roadside booths and counters in the rural districts of the United States. This new market which lends itself extremely well to the disposal of second-grade products, or fruits and vegetables too ripe for distant shipping, has grown to an unusual business of \$25,000,000 for the farmers fortunate enough to live along popular highways. This figure, it is stated, includes only the produce purchased direct from the small truck growers. The sale of fresh eggs, milk and butter to urban residents who drive to the farm, it is felt, would easily bring the figure to approximately \$50,000,000 annually.

Indiana, it is claimed, possesses more miles of improved roads than any state in the Union. For this we are grateful, for good roads carry many benefits to the farmer, and when the costs can be justly distributed, Indiana agriculture is highly in favor of keeping up our reputation as a good-roads state.—Indiana Farmer's Guide.

### Enormous Road Building Helps Develop Country

One of the countless direct results of the great development of the automobile industry is the enormous road-building program for the expenditure of \$1,000,000,000 a year, to say nothing of the enormous upbuilding of all suburban communities. In many American cities, so building records show, suburban construction is larger than in the urban district itself. This development is looked upon as the direct result of the automobile and makes this invention probably the most important factor, both from an economic and social standpoint, in modern life.

### Good Roads Hints

More than 300 miles of Texas is traversed by the Old Spanish trail.

The day is not far distant when grade crossings on trunk line roads will be a thing of the past.

A concrete bridge has been completed on the Lincoln highway 17 miles north of Laramie, Wyo. The improved roads about Laramie are reported to be in first-class condition.