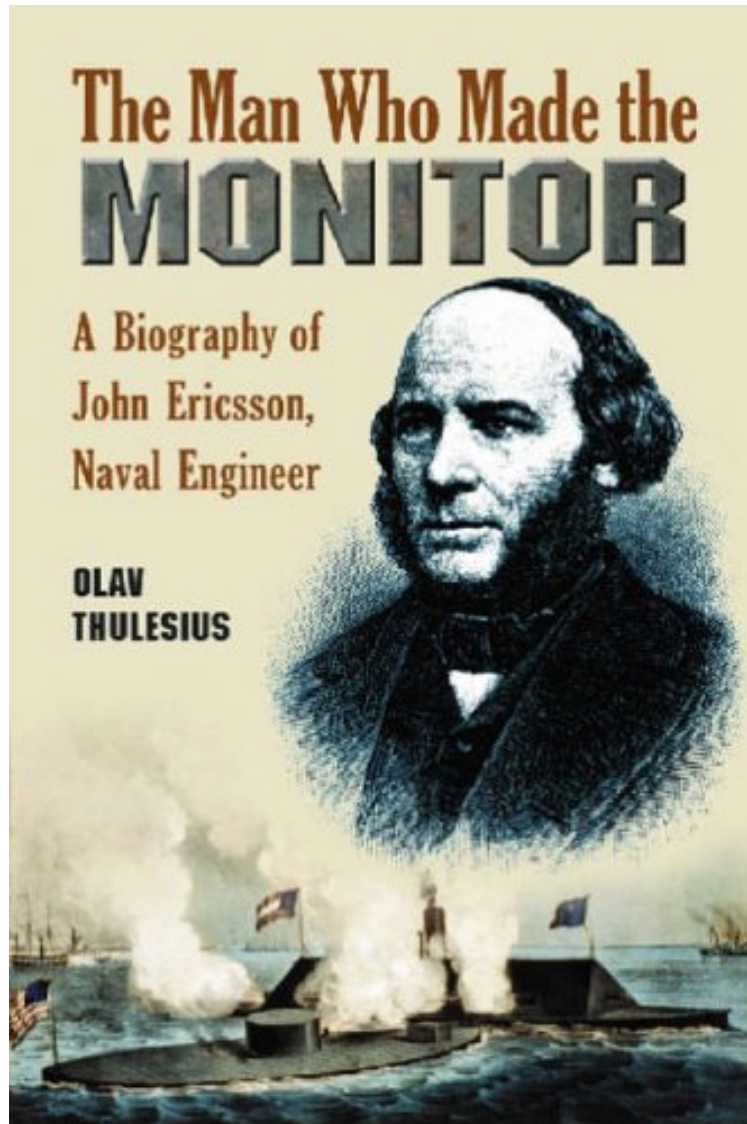


(Download ebook) The Man Who Made the Monitor: A Biography of John Ericsson, Naval Engineer

The Man Who Made the Monitor: A Biography of John Ericsson, Naval Engineer

Olav Thulesius

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Olav Thulesius : The Man Who Made the Monitor: A Biography of John Ericsson, Naval Engineer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Man Who Made the Monitor: A Biography of John Ericsson, Naval Engineer:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Man Who Made the MonitorBy JoelThis author has an appreciation for one of the great engineers of all time. He starts with his childhood and young years in Sweden and

helps us understand what made him the way he was. He then transitions to England where Ericsson tried to demonstrate a steam engine he had built but failed due to the coal in England being different than that of Sweden. Next he discusses his entry in the Rainhill train race and almost winning the title of Father of the Locomotive. The book moves chronologically through the rest of his life discussing the accomplishments. The author has pulled from the standard sources e.g. Church's Life of John Ericsson, to sources in Sweden. He emphasizes the incredible achievements (the Monitor) and failures (Caloric engine) that Ericsson had. New to me was Ericsson's forecast of the future and running out of coal and his development in solar energy. Ericsson was way ahead of his time. I have read several books on Ericsson and this one does an excellent job and it is about 1/5 as long as Church's rare two volume set. I only wish the book could have explored how Ericsson came to have such unique perspectives, creative thinking and brilliant mechanical sense. Excellent Bibliography.

Mention Civil War naval confrontations and the Monitor instantly springs to mind. The first of the ironclads, the Monitor not only took part in a major battle, it forever changed the face of naval construction. But who was the man behind the ship? Born in Filipstad, Sweden, in 1803, the brilliant and somewhat eccentric engineer John Ericsson spent his childhood observing his father's work in mining and later learned his engineering skills at the North Atlantic Baltic canal. As a young man Ericsson turned to a variety of projects. In England, he introduced the ship's propeller, built an Arctic expedition vessel and designed some of the first successful steam locomotives. Moving to New York in 1839, he soon teamed up with Harry Cornelius Delameter of the Phoenix foundry, a partnership which resulted in Ericsson's most famous work, the USS Monitor. Focusing on the man behind the inventions, this book tells the life story of John Ericsson. It details a number of Ericsson's inventions including a steam-powered fire engine, the first screw-propelled warship, a variety of "hot-air engines," and early experiments in solar power from the roof of his Manhattan home. The main focus is Ericsson's design and construction of the ironclad USS Monitor. One of the first viable armored warships, the Monitor revolutionized naval warfare the world over. The ship's battle with the CSS Virginia at Hampton Roads and its eventual fate off the coast of Cape Hatteras are covered. Ericsson's relationships with contemporaries such as Alfred Nobel and recent developments concerning the recovery of the wreck of the Monitor are also examined.

"wonderful period drawings of Ericsson's inventions"--Civil War News.About the AuthorOlav Thulesius was professor at Indiana University, University of Trondheim, and Kuwait University. The author of Harriet Beecher Stowe in Florida, 1867 to 1884 (2001), he divides his time between the United States and Sweden.