

# On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 1810

WASC 1810



ES

Lion Gate Press

7, St. Jude's Avenue  
Belfast 7

7/5/84

Dear Sir,

I wonder if you could help me. I am preparing material for a book on Ulster Inventors, and would interest including:

Major-General William Henry Noble (1834-1892)

who, according to the Dictionary of National Biography invented, or contributed to the invention of, cordite propellant. I am unable from other sources, however, to confirm this invention. I also note that the DNB is incorrect in describing him as an F.R.S. - I have checked this with the Royal Society.

I have a copy of his patent for improvements in gunpowder (Patent 16,595; 1886).

Would you have any further information on Noble in your files regarding his work on explosives? I would be grateful for any biographical or bibliographical material you might be able to give me. Also, I am very keen to obtain a portrait of the man, if such is available. If you do not possess one, perhaps you could direct me to a likely source?

S. J. P. (S)



I am, of course, more than willing to pay for such  
photographs etc you might be able to send me;  
full acknowledgements of help given will naturally be  
given in my publication.

Thanking you for your time - hoping for a  
favourable reply.

Yours sincerely,

Jack McCoy

---