

## John McGregor Stratton Died 1<sup>st</sup> November 1914

**Died: 1<sup>st</sup> November 1914 ~ Battle of Coronel**

### **John McGregor STRATTON**

Blairlogie's first loss was on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1914 when 19 year old Able Seaman John McGregor Stratton J/19424, lost his life on HMS Monmouth at the battle of Coronel. John was the son of John and Jessie Stratton, of Milestone Cottage, Menstrie, Stirling.

Young Able Seaman John McGregor Stratton can be seen standing in the photograph on the right. This photograph was published at the following website where further details of the Stratton family can be found:

<http://www.menstrie.org/mb201004.html>

HMS Monmouth was initially commissioned into the home fleet but later transferred. Sunk by gunfire on 1st November 1914 by the German armoured cruisers SMS Scharnhorst and SMS Gneisenau off the Chilean Coast during the battle of Coronel, the entire crew was lost. HMS Monmouth, built in Glasgow was launched in 1901 and commissioned in 1903. The armaments of the ship were 14 x 15.2 cm (2 twin and 10 single mounts); 10 x 12 pounder; 3 x 3 pounder and 45.7 cm (submerged) torpedoes. The ship's crew was between 550 and 600, all of whom were lost on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Two months after the loss of John, his parents received a short telegram which contained these words: "THIS IS TO CERTIFY that according to the records of this department JOHN MCGREGOR STRATTON Able Seaman, official number: J/19424 lost his life when "HMS Monmouth" was sunk on 1<sup>st</sup> November 1914." And was signed by the Accountant General for the Navy. The telegram may seem surprisingly blunt and lacking in sympathy or compassion.

For further information on the Battle of Corronel, please click on the following link:

[www.coronel.org.uk](http://www.coronel.org.uk)



**Image supplied by  
Mr Alexander Stratton**