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**John Lambert, Parliamentary Soldier and
 Cromwellian Major-General, 1619-1684**

DAVID FARR

A biography of one of the most prominent soldiers in the New Model Army, who made Cromwell Lord Protector but stopped him becoming king.

Lambert first rose to prominence as a cavalry commander in the civil wars of 1642-51. He was a prominent upholder of power of the New Model Army through his creation of the Major Generals who ruled England in 1655. He was instrumental in Cromwell becoming Lord Protector in 1653 and was the originator of the Instrument of Government on which Cromwell's Protectorate was based, but prevented him becoming king in 1657. He emerged after the Protector's death as a possible successor, but his radical ideas seemed to threaten even 'his own side', and led to his imprisonment in the Tower. He escaped to stage a last desperate republican stand against the return of Charles II, and although subsequently convicted of treason, was not executed - sure recognition that his character, private actions and beliefs were something more than those of a military revolutionary.

DAVID FARR is head of history at Norwich School.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

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