

ARMY AND NAVAL COMMANDERS OF ILLUSTRIOUS FIGHTING STOCK

Our Battleships and Regiments in Charge of Men Who Represent Old-Time Warriors Famous for Brave Soldierly



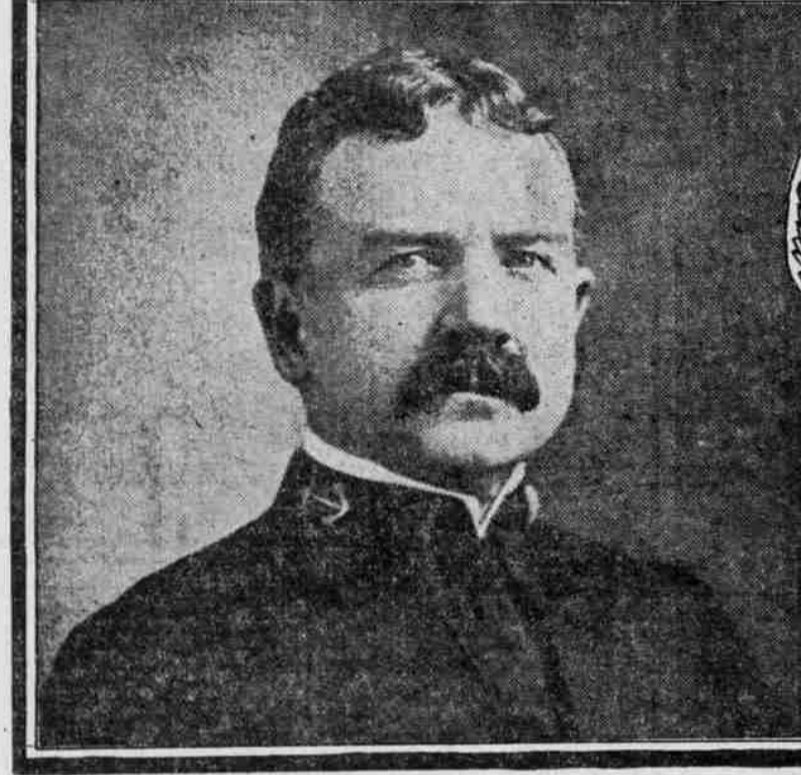
CAPTAIN FITZHUGH LEE REPRESENTS THE BATTLESHIP "LIGHT HORSE HARRY" DURING THE MANEUVERS AT WEST POINT, N. Y.



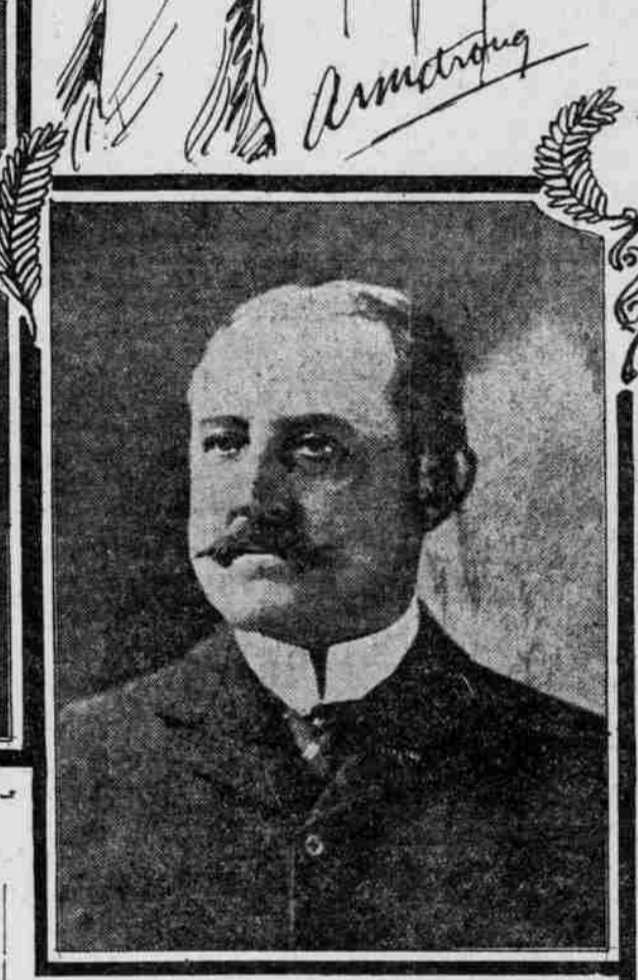
GEN. FRED D. GRANT, TAKEN DURING THE MANEUVERS AT WEST POINT, N. Y.



GEN. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE, OF THE CELEBRATED SERVICE FAMILY OF THAT NAME



LT. COMMANDER THOMAS WASHINGTON, A COLLATERAL DESCENDANT OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS SERVICE



CAPT. ALEXANDER SHARP, OF THE "WEST VIRGINIA," REPRESENTS GEN. GRANT



REAR ADMIRAL SILAS CASEY, REPRESENTING THE RHODE ISLAND FIGHTER OF THAT NAME



CAPTAIN JOHN C. FREMONT, COMMANDING THE "ALBATROSS" AND SON OF THE "PATHFINDER"

BY JOHN I. HARWOOD.

It is no exaggeration to say that the Army and Navy—for some months past probably more in the public eye than in any other time of peace—today literally swarm with representatives of practically all those old fighters who, in the years that are gone, made the Army and Navy world-famous in history by their stirring victories gained by daring strategy and equally daring personal bravery.

Many of these heroes of the Republic are represented in one or the other branch of the service, and sometimes in both, by men who bear the family name. Of such are the Stevenss, the Breckinridges, the Porters, the Biddies, the Grants and the Washingtons, collateral descendants of the immortal George. Others of the old-time warriors are represented through the female line; and not infrequently it happens that one officer will represent the blood of several famous warriors in the cause of liberty. The two Cravens now in the Navy, for example, have now in the fighting blood not only of the Cravens, but also of the Truxtons, the Beales, the Houstons and the Tingeyes. And not a few of the old fighters have been represented uninterruptedly in the service, directly or indirectly, right down to the present day. The Rodgers family, for one, has been in the Navy ever since there was a navy on this side of the water; and a Rodgers married a daughter of Oliver Hazard Perry, the hero of Lake Erie, so that the family represents the Perry blood in the service.

The Rodgers now in active service number eight, one is on the retired list, and all are in the Navy. They are Frederick Rodgers, Rear-Admiral, retired four years ago; Christopher Raymond Perry, a young ensign; Frederick, Jr., a midshipman; John, an ensign on the battleship Nebraska; John A., a captain, now on duty with the Light-house Board; Raymond Perry, chief of the Bureau of Intelligence; John, a midshipman; Thomas, a commander, now captain of the cruiser Dubuque; and William Lee, on special duty at the Naval War College at Newport. Rear-Admiral Frederick Rodgers was chief of the Board of Inspection and Survey during the Spanish War. He was graduated from the Naval Academy while the Civil War was going on and saw service in various blockade fleets. One of the many picturesque Rodgerses of years ago was that Captain John who commanded the frigate President in 1811. Captain Pechell, of the British frigate Guerriere—afterward destroyed by the Constitution—was boarded at sea the American brig Split-

fire and impressed a native American seaman. Naturally, the Yankees were indignant, and Captain Rodgers, when he heard of it, was especially so. To make matters worse, Captain Pechell had a big sign painted with the name of his ship on it and went sailing up and down the coast. Captain Rodgers got on board the President and went to that, for he opened with broadsides. The stranger proved to be the British man-of-war Little Belt, Captain Arthur Satt Bingham, and after standing by her all right and getting her captain on board to explain, Rodgers sailed away. Captain Rodgers' fire had killed 11 and wounded 21 on board the British.

The Rodgerses have had two Admirals on the list at the same time, Admiral Christopher and Admiral John. Admiral Christopher used to be called "the Chestnutfield of the American Navy."

The present Rear Admiral Holdup Stevens, retired, is the most prominent representative today of the several Stevenss, whose fighting fame is woven with that of the Rodgerses and the Perrys. There is a Stevens in the Army, but it is as a naval family that it is best known.

When the battle of Lake Erie was raging and veterans of Nelson's fleet were being loked by the sailors whom Perry had brought overland not only to build ships, but to fight them, Lieutenant Holdup ranked himself alongside of the Queen Charlotte. He was so close alongside that the Queen Charlotte could not bring her guns to bear—only a few of them—and Holdup was pumping iron into her hull as fast as his gunners could load. Down upon him bore the bigger ship, the brig Niagara, Master Commandant Elliot in command.

"Get away from there!" shouted Elliot through his trumpet; "let me tackle her."

Holdup made no reply except to urge his gunners to hasten their work. Elliot was afraid that the little Trippe would be sunk. Also his orders had "Get away from there!" he shouted; "I am going to sink her. Get away, or I will fire through you!"

"Fire and be damned!" answered Holdup, and the Queen Charlotte surrendered.

After the war of 1812 Captain Holdup added the name of Stevens to his own for family and financial reasons, and Hold-up Stevens the family has been ever since, though its members refuse to use the hyphen. Some one once asked Rear Admiral Thomas Holdup Stevens what the motto was on

his coat of arms. He had at the time a miniature of the old fighter of Lake Erie in his hands. "Fire and be damned," said the Admiral.

The elder Admiral Thomas Holdup Stevens was a valiant officer who kept good, as all his people have the traditions of the family. He was in command of the Ottawa in Dupont's expedition, the Winnebago in the battle of Mobile Bay, and, in fact, had a long and honorable career as a fighting man in the United States Navy. One of his sons went into the Army, another was secretary to Vice-Admiral Rowan, with the rank of lieutenant, and the other, the present Rear-Admiral Holdup Stevens, retired, who entered the Naval Academy in 1862. It was too late when he was graduated to play a part in the Civil War. In the years of peace that followed Stevens went through the usual course of a naval officer when no war is going on. He cruised in men-of-war all over the seven seas and studied his profession. He was one of the officers of the Franklin when that big sailing frigate, now the receiving ship at the Norfolk Navy-Yard, made her trip to Europe shortly after the Civil War, and once, in the North Sea, showed his seaman blood by the magnificent way in which, as officer of the deck, he handled her in a sudden gale.

Admiral Stevens has written some very good poetry. His father also wrote poetry, as did his brother Rowan, now dead. The Stevenss have a curious combination of the fighting sailor and the poet in their composition. When the war with Spain broke out the present Admiral was captain of the yard at Norfolk. He was sent out to the Philippines after Dewey's about and among the islands was made Naval Commandant at Manila, where he was on duty until his promotion and retirement a short time ago.

The celebrated Breckinridge family of Kentucky is a service family to the extent of generally keeping a representative in both the Army and Navy. Lieutenant H. B. Breckinridge distinguished himself in the War of 1812 by his defense of Craney Island, near Norfolk, and before that there were Breckinridges fighting in the War of the Revolution. In the Army, Inspector-General Breckinridge became well known in recent years, and there is also a Lieutenant Ethelbert L. D. Breckinridge of the Tenth Infantry. James C. Breckinridge is (or was a few years ago) an officer of the Marine Corps, and Lieutenant Casselman of the Navy is a nephew of the late Judge Breckinridge, of St. Louis. Take up an old Army and Navy list of the

past years and you will be sure to find the name of Breckinridge in it, no matter what the vintage of the list.

Inspector-General Breckinridge was a young man when the Civil War broke out. He chose the side of the North and went into the volunteers as a lieutenant. He was transferred shortly to the regular establishment, becoming a second lieutenant of artillery. He saw much service and so distinguished himself in the battles about Atlanta that he received the brevet of captain. When the war was over he was breveted major "for gallant and meritorious services during the war." When the Spanish War came on Breckinridge was brigadier-general and inspector-general. He was made a major-general of volunteers and went to the front. At one time, when the American Army lay before Santiago and General Joseph Wheeler was ill, there was a plan to give Breckinridge an active command commensurate with his rank. But before it was decided to give General Breckinridge General Wheeler's command "Old Joe," with the wonderful pluck and vitality which always permeated his meagre frame, recovered, and Breckinridge continued his inspector-general's duties. He was many times under fire, and had a horse shot under him in the fight of Santiago.

Another name more "august" even than Breckinridge is seldom absent from the Army or Navy lists. It is the name of Washington. The Army and Navy career of the Washington family seems to have begun on this side of the water when George Washington's brother Lawrence got his commission in the British navy and went with Admiral Vernon to fight at Cartagena. George took more to the Army than the Navy—with what results it is hardly necessary to say. But from the days of the Revolution until now the name of Washington appears again and again in naval and military lists.

It is the Washington collaterally related to the immortal George, of course, who now represent the family in the services. Some few years ago Paymaster Washington, of the Navy, represented the family. Now the best known representative of it in the service is Lieutenant-Commander Thomas Washington. The list also shows a Lieutenant Pope Washington, Lieutenant-Commander Thomas Washington, after graduating from the Naval Academy, began his nautical career as an officer of the Coast Survey. Then he was on duty in Washington and then he went to sea again. In the Spanish War he saw service with the fleet and

low of both getting out at once. "After you, sir," said Craven to the pilot. "But," says the pilot in telling the story, "there was nothing after me; the whole ship dropped from under me."

Like the Truxtons, represented by the Cravens, the Biddies of Philadelphia have been a Navy family from the earliest times of the Republic. In the war with Tripoli, in 1802, James Biddle, one of Bainbridge's officers, was taken prisoner and confined by the Bey for some time. It was this same James Biddle who afterward, in the War of 1812, commanded the American man-of-war Hornet and fought the British ship Penguin with her. But it was Nicholas Biddle who laid the foundations of the family's naval greatness.

The two Biddies now in the Navy are Clement C., medical inspector, and William P., a Colonel of marines. Colonel Biddle entered the Marine Corps in 1875 and has served about everywhere on land and sea since then. He saw sea service in the war with Spain and then went out to command the marines at Cavite and take such part as he could in suppressing the Filipino insurrection. The medical inspector has been in the service since 1878, taking the usual routine of land and sea service. During the war with Spain he was surgeon of the Texas.

Commodore Bainbridge, the famous sea fighter of the early days of the Republic, is now represented most directly in the service by Lieutenant-Commander Arthur Bainbridge Hoff. There is said never to have been a generation since the famous Commodore that the Bainbridges have not been represented in the Navy. Lieutenant-Commander Arthur Bainbridge Hoff entered the Naval Academy in 1885, making his final graduation six years later. His service has been varied and extensive, but as yet the opportunity has not been afforded him to emulate the deeds of his ancestors in sea battle. The exploits of the founder of the family are almost too well known to need referring to. He distinguished himself in the war against the Barbary States, and it was he who commanded the Constitution in the War of 1812, when she destroyed the British ship Java.

A family which for several generations has been in either the Army or the Navy, is that of the Caseys, of Rhode Island. Admiral Silas Casey, now retired, is a son of General Silas Casey of the Army. General Casey distinguished himself in the Civil War, and it was a brother of the Admiral, Edward Casey, who undertook to organize the Brule Sioux into a regiment of the regular Army and was killed by his own men. Casey had had great success way out was not large enough to al-