

LIFE SKETCHES

OF THE

STATE OFFICERS, SENATORS,

AND

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK,

IN 1867.

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PATRICK H. JONES,

CLERK OF THE COURT OF APPEALS.

Mr. JONES is a gentleman of slight proportions, but plainly possessing powers of great endurance. He has a mild, calculating eye, a pleasant face, and a courteous, modest mien. He was born in the county of Westmeath, Ireland, November 20th, 1830. At the age of seven, he was sent to a grammar school in the city of Dublin, where he remained for three years; and, in 1840, at the age of ten, he came to this country with his parents, who settled on a farm in the county of Cattaraugus, New York. He was sent by his parents to the Union School at Ellicottville, then presided over by Professor LOWELL of Middlebury College, Vermont, where he was well grounded in the common branches of school studies. In 1850, being then twenty years of age, he became connected with a leading journal of this State, and traveled through the Western States as its correspondent. He subsequently became the local editor of the "Buffalo Republic," and one of the editors of the "Buffalo Sentinel."

The pursuits of a journalist do not appear to have been congenial to the tastes of Mr. JONES, for, in 1853, he began the study of law in the office of Hon. ADDISON G. RICE, at Ellicottville, N. Y. Three years afterward, Mr. JONES was admitted to the bar, and commenced the practice of law in partnership with Mr. RICE; he continued this partnership until the outbreak of the Rebellion, when, like so many of his profession, he left the desk of a lawyer to enter the army, in which he was destined to rise to distinction. Much of the interest of this sketch, of course, centers

in his military career. It was his bravery which brought him so early into prominence, and secured his elevation by the voice of the people to high official position, as a spontaneous testimonial of approbation and thankfulness for services rendered to his country.

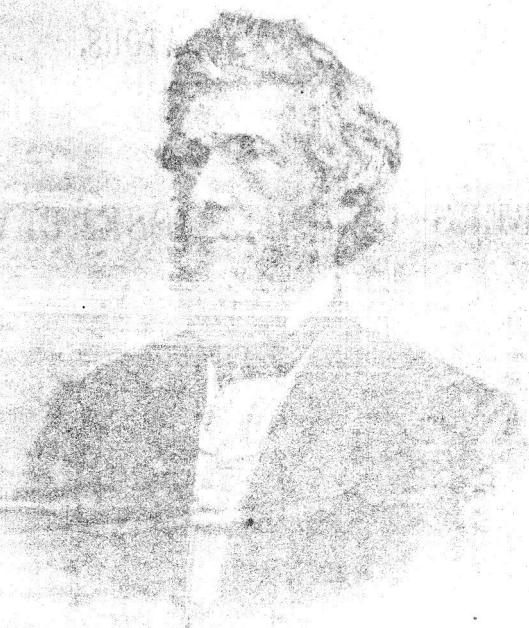
He entered the service in 1861, as Second Lieutenant in the 37th Regiment, New York Volunteers, commanded by Colonel J. H. McCUNN, now one of the judges of the Superior Court of New York city. His regiment was attached to the army of General McCLELLAN, and Lieutenant JONES served throughout the whole Campaign of the Peninsula, and was present at the battles of Williamsburgh, Fair Oaks, and the battles of the celebrated retreat to Harrison's Landing. For gallant conduct during this campaign, Lieutenant JONES was successively promoted Adjutant and Major of his regiment, before the close of the Peninsula Campaign. That the services of Lieutenant JONES' regiment, during these battles, were important, and the fighting severe, will appear from the fact that it formed a part of the command of the gallant KEARNEY, who fell at Chantilly. Major JONES was commissioned Colonel of the 154th Regiment, New York Volunteers, in October 1862. This regiment was raised in the counties of Cattaraugus and Chautauqua. Upon its arrival at Washington, Colonel JONES assumed command of it, having just left his old regiment, the 37th, in which he had so gallantly earned his promotion. He soon afterward reported to General SIGEL, whose command at that time, formed a part of the Army of the Potomac. Upon the retirement of General BURNSIDE in the new organization of the army, Colonel JONES' regiment was a portion of the command of General O. O. HOWARD, under whom he fought at Chancellorsville, where he fell severely wounded, fighting amidst the rout of his corps. He fell into the enemy's hands during the battle, but was soon

after exchanged. In the mean time, and while he was recovering from his wounds, General HOWARD's corps, the 11th, and SLOCUM's, the 12th, was ordered to the west under HOOKER, to relieve the starving army of THOMAS at Chattanooga, recently driven by BRAGG from the field of Chickamauga. Colonel JONES rejoined his regiment the day before the battle of Chattanooga, having hastened thither as soon as the nature of his wounds would admit, and thus had the honor of being present at that great battle which effectually turned the tide of rebel victory in the west, and plucked from BRAGG the laurels won at Chickamauga. Soon after, the corps of HOWARD and SLOCUM were consolidated by order of General GRANT, and formed thenceforth the 20th corps under General HOOKER. In the new organization, Colonel JONES was assigned with his regiment to the division of General J. W. GEARY (present Governor of Pennsylvania), a sagacious and skillful officer. He commanded a brigade under, General GEARY, during the terrible and glorious campaign of Atlanta, and in the great march of SHERMAN to the Atlantic; and entered Savannah in triumph, on the 22d of December, 1864, in the van of the army. It is well known that General GEARY's vigilance was rewarded on the occasion, by the discovery of the evacuation of the city by the enemy. He entered Savannah while the rest of the army were sleeping. Colonel JONES was stationed with his brigade in the city. For services during the campaigns of Chattanooga and Atlanta, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General, upon the recommendation of Generals HOOKER and HOWARD, approved by General SHERMAN himself. After the great review at Washington, active service being over, he resigned his commission and retired to civil life. He recommenced the practice of law, on his return home. He was elected on the Union Republican ticket of 1865, to the position of Clerk of the Court

of Appeals, and has, since January 1st, 1866, been discharging the duties of that office. Last summer General JONES removed to New York city, where he now is, when not engaged in official duties.

Such is a short account of the interesting history of this gentleman. So many men of the present day, fresh from the fields of strife, are worthy of admiration, that it seems almost invidious to eulogize any particular one; but we cannot refrain from adding that Mr. JONES' course, from boyhood to the present time, has been marked by integrity of purpose and bravery of spirit. Born in a land where the oppression of hundreds of years has not been able to crush out the longings of the people for liberty, and coming to a country where every man is a sovereign, and where eagerness for distinction, wealth and power, is remarkable, he has, in reality, "won his way" in a praiseworthy manner.

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