

THE NATIONAL
CYCLOPÆDIA OF AMERICAN
BIOGRAPHY

BEING THE

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

AS ILLUSTRATED IN THE LIVES OF THE FOUNDERS, BUILDERS, AND DEFENDERS
OF THE REPUBLIC, AND OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE
DOING THE WORK AND MOULDING THE
THOUGHT OF THE PRESENT TIME

EDITED BY

DISTINGUISHED BIOGRAPHERS, SELECTED FROM EACH STATE
REVISED AND APPROVED BY THE MOST EMINENT HISTORIANS, SCHOLARS, AND
STATESMEN OF THE DAY

VOLUME II

NEW YORK
JAMES T. WHITE & COMPANY
1921

VEDDER, Commodore Perry, state senator, was born at Ellicottville, N. Y., Feb. 23, 1838. His ancestors were Dutch, and fought in the revolutionary war. They came to this country soon after Heinrich Hudson, and settled in the Mohawk Valley, where some of their descendants may still be found. Commodore was born in a log hut on a farm, where he lived and assisted his parents until



C. P. Vedder

he was thirteen. At that age, to assist his parents, who were poor, he drove a team on the Erie canal, and in the following year he was a raftsman on the Alleghany river for a while, and then shipped as sailor before the mast, and was soon promoted to mate, and at eighteen and nineteen years of age was captain of the vessel. All this time he was saving money, and at the outbreak of the war he was a student at the Springville Academy. Soon thereafter he enlisted as a private in the 154th New York volunteers, and was successively promoted to lieutenant and captain. At the battle of Lookout Mountain he was brevetted major in the United States or regular army for gallant and meritorious conduct.

At the battle of Rocky Faced Ridge he was wounded, but declined to go home on a furlough after leaving the hospital, and was appointed by President Lincoln and the secretary of war to examine applicants for commissions in colored regiments, with headquarters at Chattanooga. At the battle of Chancellorsville he was taken prisoner, and for two weeks endured the horrors of Libby prison. He was paroled and while under parole he had charge, by order of the secretary of war, of paroled prisoners near Alexandria, Va. He was with Gen. Sherman in his famous march from Atlanta to the sea and through the Carolinas, and was discharged by reason of the close of the war. He was promoted to be lieutenant-colonel of volunteers for bravery in battle in the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta. He participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Wauhatchie, Lookout Valley, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Rocky Faced Ridge, the siege of Savannah, in the campaign of the Carolinas, and was on the celebrated march of Gen. Sherman, in the winter of 1863, from Chattanooga to Knoxville, Tenn., for the relief of Gen. Burnside. After the war Col. Vedder resumed the study of law, was admitted to the bar in 1866, and soon became known as a successful lawyer and a brilliant orator. Before the war he was a democrat, but from the moment of the attack on Fort Sumter he has been a republican. In 1867 he was appointed register in bankruptcy, but resigned the office in 1875 to enter the senate. From 1872 to 1875 inclusive, he was a member of the assembly, and took a conspicuous part in the debates and deliberations of that body. As chairman of the committee to draft articles of impeachment against Judge Barnard, and as one of the managers on the trial of that official, he proved his legal ability. He was elected senator in 1875, and served as such during the sessions of 1876-77, and served as chairman of Indian affairs and internal affairs, and in 1880 he was appointed state assessor, and held that office until 1883. In 1884 he was elected to the senate, and was re-elected three successive terms thereafter. As chairman of taxation and retrenchment, of game laws, Indian affairs, privileges and elections, and of insurance, he made a splendid record. No man in the history of the state has done more than he has to relieve the landowners and the poor from the burdens of taxation. He drafted and introduced the

bill to tax gifts, legacies and collateral inheritances, which became a law in 1885. He drafted and introduced the bill taxing corporations for the privilege of organization, which became a law in 1886. He drafted and introduced the bill amending the collateral inheritance act of 1885, which amended act became a law in 1891, under which the succession by death of personal property of \$10,000 or more is taxed. Under the operation of these beneficent laws millions of dollars have been and will continually be paid into the treasury of the state, and to that extent relieving those least able to pay them from the necessary exactions of government. These laws have reduced the tax rate lower than it has been for many years. Senator Vedder is a member of the Holland Society and the Lawyers' Club; president of the united ice lines of New York; president of the State Bank of Norwood, N. Y.; president of the Elko Mining, Milling and Manufacturing Co., of New York, and a prominent member of the G. A. R.

BOND, Henry Herrick, lawyer, was born at Canterbury, Conn., June 2, 1847. Until he was sixteen years old he led the usual life of boys in a country village. In 1864 the family removed to Florence, Mass., where a brother had commenced the practice of law. For a year he was a pupil in his sister's school, and then spent two years in the study of law at Florence. In 1867 he entered Columbia Law School in New York city, and was the only member of his large class who never missed a lecture or a recitation during the two years' course. He was an expert stenographer, and greatly delighted Dr. Francis Lieber by presenting to him at the close of the course a verbatim report of the lectures that had been delivered by him to the class. He won the Lieber prize of \$200 in the department of political science. In 1869 he entered into partnership with the Hon. William Allen, now a justice of the supreme judicial court of Massachusetts, and his brother, D. W. Bond. When Judge Allen retired in 1872, he continued his association in business with his brother, and it lasted while he lived. In September, 1872, he began arguing cases before the full bench of the Massachusetts supreme court, and did so year by year, until 1878, when he made the argument in the last case on his list. Mr. Bond's presentation of his views upon questions of law was remarkably clear and forcible. He was always master of his case, and had thoroughly examined the principles of law with reference to questions at issue. He found time, however, notwithstanding his professional duties, to serve the community in which he lived in various ways. He was treasurer of the Florence Savings Bank; "The Homestead Fund," to aid the Florence mechanics to secure homes of their own, was under his care and direction. With his brother-in-law he established the Northampton (Mass.) "Journal," and gratified his literary tastes by work upon it. He was treasurer of the Florence Tack Co.; prepared a small handbook with reference to mechanics' liens under Massachusetts laws; wrote articles for legal magazines, and in a case involving the law of equitable set-off in that state, which was argued three times before the supreme court, he prepared the briefs for the arguments, and lived to know that his views were adopted by the court. He was married, in 1872, to Elizabeth M. Powell, of Ghent, N. Y. In 1878, his health having been impaired, he sought strength and recovery in the southern states, but died at Millboro, Va., Oct. 22, 1881.



H. H. Bond



David

A
ing
hill,
edu
for
a sh
ren
ces
adv
mov
at
shop
gre

and
pape
peri
shij
mar
now
Hal
pub
issu
from
trin
Thi