

BAIRD, Absalom, soldier, b. in Washington, Pa., 20 Aug., 1824. He was graduated at Washington college in 1841 and studied law. In 1845 he entered the West Point academy, was graduated in 1849, and served as second lieutenant in the Florida hostilities from 1850 to 1853. He was promoted first lieutenant 24 Dec., 1853, and from 1853 to 1859 was stationed at West Point as assistant professor of mathematics. In March, 1861, he took command of the light battery for the defence of Washington, and on 11 May was brevetted captain and appointed assistant in the adjutant-general's department. In July, 1861, he served as adjutant-general of Tyler's division in the defence of Washington and in the Manassas campaign, being present at Blackburn's Ford and at Bull Run. He was promoted captain 3 Aug., 1861, served as assistant adjutant-general and was promoted major 12 Nov., 1861, and served as assistant inspector-general and chief of staff of the fourth army corps in the peninsular campaign, where he was engaged in the siege of Yorktown and the battle of Williamsburg. He commanded a brigade of the Army of the Ohio from May to September, 1862, and was engaged in the capture of Cumberland Gap. From October, 1862, to June, 1863, he commanded the 3d division of the Army of Kentucky about Lexington and Danville and in the operations of Gen. Rosecrans in Tennessee, being engaged at Tullahoma, the capture of Shelbyville, Dutch Gap, Pigeon Mountain, and Chickamauga. For gallant and meritorious services in the last action he received the brevet of lieutenant-colonel. In operations about Chattanooga he commanded a division of the 14th army corps and gained the brevet rank of colonel. He was engaged in the battle of Missionary Ridge, was in numerous skirmishes in pursuit of the enemy in the invasion of Georgia, and was present at the surrender of Atlanta. He was brevetted major-general of volunteers for services in the capture of Atlanta, in the pursuit of Hood's army and the march to the sea, and the capture of Savannah. He participated in the march through the Carolinas, was engaged at Bentonville and Raleigh, and was present at the surrender of Johnston's army at Durham station. For his services in the Atlanta campaign he received the brevet rank of

brigadier-general in the regular army on 13 March, 1865, with that of major-general for services during the rebellion. He served as inspector-general of the department of the lakes from 1866 to 1868, of the department of Dakota till 1870, of the division of the south till 1872, and subsequently as assistant inspector-general of the division of the Missouri.

Military History.—Cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from July 1, 1845, to July 1, 1849, when he was graduated and promoted in the Army to

BVT. SECOND LIEUT. 2D ARTILLERY, JULY 1, 1849.

Served: in garrison at Ft. Monroe, Va., 1849-50,—and Ft. Columbus, N. Y.,

(SECOND LIEUT. 1ST ARTILLERY, APR. 1, 1850)

1850; in Florida Hostilities, against the Seminole Indians, 1850-51, 1852-53;

(FIRST LIEUT., 1ST ARTILLERY, DEC. 24, 1853 to MAY, 14, 1861)

at the Military Academy, 1853-59, as Asst. Professor of Mathematics, Jan. 19, 1853, to Sep. 9, 1856,—and Principal Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Sep. 9, 1856, to Aug. 31, 1859; on frontier duty at Ft. Brown, Tex., 1859-60,—and Ringgold Barracks, Tex., 1860; and in garrison at Ft. Monroe, Va., 1860-61.

Served during the Rebellion of the Seceding States, 1861-66: in command of Light Battery, in Defense of Washington, D. C., Mar. 10 to May 11, 1861;

(BVT. CAPT. STAFF—ASST. ADJUTANT-GENERAL, MAY 11, 1861)

as Assistant in the Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, D. C., May 11 to July 2, 1861; as Adjutant-General of General Tyler's Division in the Defenses of Washington, and in the Manassas Campaign, July 2-25, 1861, being engaged in the Action of Blackburn's Ford, July 18, 1861,—and Battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861; as Assistant in the Adjutant-General's Department, July 25, to Nov. 21, 1861; on

(CAPT. STAFF—ASST. ADJUTANT-GENERAL, AUG. 3, 1861)

Inspection duty in the War Department, Nov. 21, 1861, to Mar., 1862; as In-

(MAJOR STAFF—ASST. INSPECTOR-GENERAL, NOV. 12, 1861)

spector-General and Chief of Staff of the 4th Corps (Army of the Potomac), in the Virginia Peninsular Campaign, Mar.-May, 1862, being engaged in the Siege of Yorktown, Apr. 5-May 4, 1862,—and Battle of Williamsburg, May 5, 1862;

(BRIG.-GENERAL, U. S. VOLUNTEERS, APR. 28, 1862)

in command of 27th Brigade (Army of the Ohio), May-Sep., 1862, being engaged in the Capture of Cumberland Gap, June, 1862,—and its Occupation, till evacuated, Sep., 1862; in command of 3d Division (Army of Kentucky), about Lexington and Danville, Oct., 1862, to Jan., 1863; in Operations in Tennessee,

Baird, Absalom, brigadier-general, was born in Washington, Pa., Aug. 20, 1824, and graduated at West Point in 1849. He served in 1850-51 as second lieutenant during the Seminole war. In 1853 he was promoted to first lieutenant and served until 1859 as assistant professor of mathematics at the military academy, spending the next two years on frontier and garrison duty. In March, 1861, he took command of the light battery for the Department of Washington, and on May 11 was brevetted captain. In July, 1861, he served as adjutant-general in the defense of Washington and in the Manassas campaign, engaging later in the siege of Yorktown and the battle of Williamsburg. He commanded a brigade in the Army of the Ohio from May to Sept., 1862, and was engaged in the capture of Cumberland gap. From Oct., 1862, to June, 1863, he commanded the third division in the Army of the Kentucky, and was, for gallant action at Chickamauga, brevetted lieutenant-colonel. He also held important commands in the operations about Chattanooga, the battle of Missionary ridge, the march to the sea, the capture of Atlanta, and the march through the Carolinas, being present at the surrender of Johnston's army at Durham station. For his services in the Atlanta campaign he received the brevet rank of brigadier-general in the regular army, while distinguished services throughout the war won him that of brevet major-general, U. S. A. Since the war, Gen. Baird has served as inspector-general of various departments.

Baird, Absalom.*

[Born in Penn. Appointed from Penn.]

Brevet 2nd Lieut. 2nd Artillery, 1 July, 1849. 2nd Lieut. 1st Artillery, 1 April, 1850. 1st Lieut., 24 Dec., 1853. Brevet Captain Asst. Adj. Genl., 11 May, 1861. Vacated commission of 1st Lieut. Artillery, 14 May, 1861. Captain Asst. Adj. Genl., 3 Aug., 1861. Vacated 14 Nov., 1861. Major Assist. Inspector Genl., 12 Nov., 1861. Brig. Genl. Vols., 28 April, 1862. Brevet Lieut. Col., 20 Sept., 1863, for gallant and meritorious services in the Battle of Chickamauga, Ga. Brevet Colonel, 24 Nov., 1863, for gallant and meritorious service in the Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn. Brevet Major Genl. Vols., 1 Sept., 1864, for faithful services and discreet conduct during the Atlanta campaign, and particularly in the Battles of Resaca and Jonesborough, and for general good conduct in the command of his division against Savannah. Brevet Brigadier Genl., 13 March, 1865, for gallant and meritorious service in the capture of Atlanta, Ga. Brevet Major Genl., 13 March, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services in the field during the war. Mustered out of Volunteer service, 1 Sept., 1866. Lieut. Colonel Assist. Inspector Genl., 13 June, 1867, with pay from 16 June, 1874, (Act 16 June, 1874.)