



SCOTT, Winfield, soldier, b. in Dinwiddie county, near Petersburg, Va., 13 June, 1786; d. at West Point, N. Y., 29 May, 1866. He was educated at William and Mary college, studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1806, and in 1808 entered the army as a captain of light artillery. While stationed at Baton Rouge, La., in 1809, he was court-martialled for remarks on the conduct of his superior officer, Gen. Wilkinson, and was suspended for one year, which he devoted to the study of military tactics. In July, 1812, he was made lieutenant-colonel and ordered to the Canada frontier. Arriving at Lewiston while the affair of Queenstown heights was in progress, he crossed the river, and the field was won under his direction; but it was afterward lost and he and his command were taken prisoners from the refusal of the troops at Lewiston to cross to their assistance. In January, 1813, he was exchanged and joined the army under Gen. Dearborn as adjutant-general with the rank of colonel. In the attack on Fort George, 27 May, he was severely hurt by the explosion of a powder-magazine. In the autumn he commanded the advance in Wilkinson's descent of the St. Lawrence—an operation directed against Montreal, but which was abandoned. In March, 1814, he was made a brigadier-general, and established a camp of instruction at Buffalo. On 3 July, Scott's and Ripley's brigades, with Hindman's artillery, crossed the Niagara river and took Fort Erie and a part of its garrison. On the 5th was fought the battle of Chippewa, resulting in the defeat of the enemy, and on 25 July that of Lundy's Lane, or Bridgewater, near Niagara Falls, in which Scott had two horses killed under him and was twice severely wounded. His wound of the left shoulder was critical, his recovery painful and slow, and his arm was left partially disabled. At the close of the war Scott was offered and declined a seat in the cabinet as secretary of war, and was promoted to be major-general, with the thanks of congress and a gold medal for his services. He assisted in the reduction of the army to a peace establishment, and then visited Europe in a military and diplomatic capacity. He returned to the United States in 1816, and in 1817 married Miss Mayo, of Richmond, Va. A part of his time he now devoted to the elaboration of a manual of fire-arms and military tactics. In 1832 he set out from Fort Dearborn (now Chicago, Ill.) with a detachment to take part in the hostilities against the Sacs and Foxes, but the capture of Black Hawk ended the war before Scott's arrival on the field. In the same year he commanded the Federal forces in Charleston harbor during the nullification troubles, and his tact, discretion, and decision did much to prevent the threatened civil war. In 1835 he went to Florida to engage in the war with the Seminoles, and afterward to the Creek country. He was recalled in 1837 and subjected to inquiry for the failure of his campaigns, the court finding in his favor. In 1838 he was efficient in promoting

the peaceful removal of the Cherokees from Georgia to their present reservation beyond the Mississippi. The threatened collision with Great Britain, growing out of the disputed boundary-line between Maine and New Brunswick, was averted in 1839, mainly through the pacific efforts of Scott, and the question was finally settled by the Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842.

By the death of Gen. Macomb in 1841 Scott became commander-in-chief of the army of the United

States. In 1847 he was assigned to the chief command of the army in Mexico. Drawing a portion of Taylor's troops operating from the Rio Grande, and assembling his force at Lobos island, on 9 March he landed 12,000 men and invested Vera Cruz. The mortar-battery opened on the 22d, and the siege-guns two days later, and



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on the 26th the city and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa capitulated, after nearly 7,000 missiles had been fired. The garrison of 5,000 men grounded arms outside of the city on the 29th. On 8 April, Scott began his march toward Jalapa, and on the 17th reached the Mexican army under Santa-Anna, which occupied the strong mountain-pass of Cerro Gordo, in a defile formed by the Rio del Plan. On the following morning at sunrise the Americans, 8,500 strong, attacked the Mexican army of more than 12,000, and at 2 p. m. had driven the enemy from every point of his line, capturing 5 generals, 3,000 men, 4,500 stand of arms, and 43 cannon, and killing and wounding more than 1,000, with a loss of less than 500. Paroling his prisoners and destroying most of the stores, Scott advanced on the next day to Jalapa, which he captured on 19 April. Perote was occupied on the 22d, and Puebla on 15 May. Here the army remained, drilling and waiting for re-enforcements till 7 Aug. Gen. Scott had vainly asked that the new troops should be disciplined and instructed in the United States before joining the army in Mexico, and the failure to do this gave Santa-Anna an opportunity to create a new army and fortify the capital. Scott began on 7 Aug. to advance toward the city of Mexico by the National road, and, while diverting the attention of the enemy by a feint on the strong fortress of El Peñon on the northwest, made a detour to San Augustin on the south. He then attacked and carried successively Contreras and Churubusco, and could have taken the capital, but an armistice till 7 Sept. was agreed upon to allow the peace commissioner, Nicholas P. Trist, an opportunity to negotiate. At its close, operations were resumed on the southwest of the city, defended by 14,000 Mexicans occupying Molino del Rey, and Gen. Worth's loss was in storming Molino del Rey before the attack on the wooded and strongly fortified eminence of Chapultepec. On 8 Sept., Gen. Worth with 3,500 men attacked Molino del Rey, capturing much matériel and more than 800 prisoners, but losing one fourth of his command, including fifty-eight officers. On the 13th Chapultepec was stormed and

carried, and on the morning of the 14th Scott's army marched into the city and occupied the national palace. There was some street-fighting and firing upon the troops from the buildings, but this was soon suppressed, order was established, and a contribution levied on the city of \$150,000, two thirds of which Gen. Scott remitted to the United States to found military asylums. Taxes were laid for the support of the army, and a civil organization under the protection of the troops was created. The treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, negotiated by Mr. Trist and other commissioners, Judge Clifford, afterward of the supreme court, of the number, was signed on 2 Feb., 1848, and soon after Mexico was evacuated by the U. S. troops. A court of inquiry into the conduct of the war only redounded to the fame of Scott. In 1852 he was the candidate of the Whig party for the presidency, and received the electoral votes of Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky, and Tennessee, all the other states voting for the Democratic candidate, Gen. Pierce. In 1859 Gen. Scott as commissioner successfully settled the difficulty arising from the disputed boundary-line of the United States and British America through the Straits of Fuca. Age and infirmity prevented him from taking an active part in the civil war, and on 31 Oct., 1861, he retired from service, retaining his rank, pay, and allowances. Soon afterward he made a brief visit to Europe, and he passed most of the remainder of his days at West Point, remarking when he arrived there for the last time: "I have come here to die." Two weeks he lingered, and then fell for a short time into a stupor, from which he aroused, retaining entire possession of his mental faculties and recognizing his family and attendants to the last. A few minutes after eleven on the morning of 29 May he passed away so calmly that the exact moment of his death was not known. As Frederick the Great's last completely conscious utterance was in reference to his favorite English greyhound, Scott's was in regard to his magnificent horse, the same noble animal that fol-



lowed in his funeral procession a few days later. Turning to his servant, the old veteran's last words were: "James, take good care of the horse." In accordance with his expressed wish, he was buried at West Point on 1 June, and his remains were accompanied to the grave by many of the most illustrious men of the land, including Gen. Grant and Admiral Farragut.

Gen. Scott was a man of true courage, personally, morally, and religiously brave. He was in manner, association, and feeling, courtly and chivalrous. He was always equal to the danger—great on great occasions. His unswerving loyalty and patriotism were ever conspicuous and of the loftiest character. All who appreciated his military genius regretted, when the war of the rebellion began, that Scott was not as he had been at the period of his Mexican victories. He had not the popularity of several of his successors among the soldiers. He was too stately and too exacting in his discipline—that power which Carnot calls "the glory of the soldier and the strength of armies."

It was to these characteristics that Scott owed his title of "Fuss and Feathers," the only nickname ever applied to him. Physically he was "framed in the prodigality of nature." Not even Washington possessed so majestic a presence. As Suwarrow was the smallest and physically the most insignificant looking, so was Scott the most imposing of all the illustrious soldiers of the 19th century, possibly of all the centuries. The steel engraving represents him at upward of threescore



and ten. The vignette is from a painting by Ingham, taken at the age of thirty-seven. A portrait by Weir, showing Scott as he was at the close of the Mexican war, is in the U. S. military academy. The statue by Henry K. Brown stands in Scott circle, Washington. Gen. Scott was the author of a pamphlet against the use of intoxicating liquors (Philadelphia, 1821); "General Regula-

tions for the Army" (1825); "Letter to the Secretary of War" (New York, 1827); "Infantry Tactics," translated from the French (3 vols., 1835); "Letter on the Slavery Question" (1843); "Abstract of Infantry Tactics" (Philadelphia, 1861); "Memoirs of Lieut.-Gen. Scott, written by Himself" (2 vols., New York, 1864). Biographies of him have been published by Edward Deering Mansfield (New York, 1846); Joel Tyler Headley (1852); and Orville James Victor (1861). See also "Campaign of Gen. Scott in the Valley of Mexico," by Lieut. Raphael Semmes (Cincinnati, 1852).—His son-in-law, **Henry Lee**, soldier, b. in New Berne, N. C., 3 Oct., 1814; d. in New York city, 6 Jan., 1886, was graduated at the U. S. military academy in 1833, and entered the 4th infantry as 2d lieutenant. After three years' service in the Gulf states he took part in the war against the Seminoles, and in 1837-'8 was engaged in removing Cherokees to the west, after which, until 1840, he served with his regiment as adjutant. In 1842 he was appointed aide-de-camp to Gen. Winfield Scott, whose daughter, Cornelia, he had married, and accompanied him to Mexico in the capacity of chief of staff. He attained the rank of captain on 16 Feb., 1847, and for his gallantry in the siege of Vera Cruz, the battles of Cerro Gordo and Churubusco, and the capture of the city of Mexico, received the brevets of major and lieutenant-colonel. After the war he was acting judge-advocate of the eastern division in 1848-'50, and senior aide-de-camp to Gen. Scott from 1850 till 1861. He had been made lieutenant-colonel on the staff on 7 March, 1855, was promoted colonel on 14 May, 1861, and was inspector-general in command of the forces in New York city until 30 Oct., 1861, when he was retired. Col. Scott took no part in the civil war, but was accused of disloyalty to the National cause in having communicated important military information to the enemy before Washington while on a visit to his father-in-law, Gen. Scott. He tendered his resignation on 31 Oct., 1862, but it was not accepted until four years later. He was the author of "A Military Dictionary" (New York, 1861).





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Scott, Winfield, major-general, was born in Petersburg, Va., June 13, 1786. After spending two years in William and Mary college he studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1806, and the following year went to Charleston with the intention of settling there, but before he had fairly entered upon the practice of his profession, Congress, in view of imminent hostilities with England, passed a bill to enlarge the army and he obtained a commission as captain of light artillery and entered upon his career as a soldier. Recruiting a company he was stationed at Baton Rouge, La., in the division commanded by Gen. Wilkinson. War having been declared against Great Britain in June, 1812, Capt. Scott was made a lieutenant-colonel in the 2nd artillery the following month, and was stationed at Black Rock with two companies of his regiment. Taking part in the battle of Queenstown heights, the field was at first won under his direction; but it was finally lost and himself and his command taken prisoners, from the refusal of the troops at Lewiston to cross to their assistance. Exchanged in Jan., 1813, immediately after the capture of York, Upper Canada, Scott rejoined the army on the frontier as adjutant to Gen. Dearborn, with the rank of colonel. He took part in the expedition against Fort George; landed his men in good order and scaled a steep height in the presence of the enemy, carrying the position at the point of the bayonet. He served well in Wilkinson's campaign, was made a brigadier-general in March, 1814, and immediately thereafter established a camp of instruction at Buffalo, where his own and other officers were drilled into thorough and accurate discipline. He now served a vigorous and brilliant campaign, being present at the taking of Fort Erie, winning the battle of Chippewa, and doing good service at Lundy's lane, where he was twice severely wounded. For his gallant conduct Scott was brevetted major-general, his commission dating July 25, 1814, the day of the battle of Lundy's lane. He also received a gold medal from Congress, and was tendered a position in the cabinet as secretary of war, which he declined. He led the troops in the Black Hawk war of 1832, and the latter part of the same

year went south to command the national troops at Charleston and elsewhere, during the nullification excitement, where his prudence, tact, and discretion, saved the country from what seemed the inevitable danger of intestine war. In 1835 he was ordered to Florida, but recalled and employed in the Creek war, and afterward sent before a court of inquiry, but dismissed with honor. In the frontier troubles connected with the Canadian rebellion of 1837, and subsequently with the disputes two years later on the north-eastern boundary line, and with the removal of the Cherokees from Georgia in the 30's, Gen. Scott was efficient, conciliating and useful, as an officer and negotiator. In 1841, upon the death of Gen. Maccomb, Gen. Scott was placed at the head of the army as general-in-chief, with full rank as major-general, and upon the outbreak of the war with Mexico he was ordered thither. The battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, and Monterey having been fought he took the field in time for the projected capture of Vera Cruz, which he invested on March 12, 1847, commencing the bombardment on the 22nd. On the 26th overtures of surrender were made, and ten days later the army moved on to Mexico; defeated the Mexican army under Gen. Santa Anna, at Cerro Gordo on April 18; entered Jalapa the day after; occupied the strong castle and town of La Perote on the 22nd, and the city of Puebla May 15. Contreras, San Antonio, and Churubusco, strong fortifications, were each taken in turn at the point of the bayonet. Molino del Rey and Casa de Mata, dependencies of Chapultepec, were carried by assault on Sept. 8, and, after a determined siege of several days a breach was finally effected in the strong walls of the military college at the castle of Chapultepec, and the following night Santa Anna marched out with the small remnant of his army, and the city of Mexico was at the mercy of Scott. This virtually ended the war, and the honors bestowed upon the successful commander by his country were numerous and enthusiastic, and included a vote of thanks by Congress. In 1848 Gen. Scott was a candidate for the Whig nomination for the presidency, and in 1852 was nominated, but he was defeated at the election by Gen. Franklin Pierce. In Feb., 1855, he was brevetted lieutenant-general, to take rank from March 29, 1847, in commemoration of his bravery in Mexico. The Civil war found him still in command of the army, and every inducement was offered him by the South to join their cause; but his loyalty was proof against them, and he threw the weight of his well-earned reputation upon the side of the government. During the early part of the war Gen. Scott was much in consultation with the government, and did his best to perform his official duties as general-in-chief, but he was now too infirm for so colossal a charge, and on Oct. 31, 1861, he retired from office, retaining, by special act of Congress, his pay and allowances. He died at West Point, N.Y., on May 29, 1866.

Scott, Winfield.

[Born in Va. Appointed from Va.]

Captain Light Artillery, 3 May, 1808. Lieut. Colonel 2nd Artillery, 6 July, 1812.

Colonel, 12 March, 1813. Brigadier Genl., 9 March, 1814. Major Genl., 25 June,

1841. Retired 1 Nov., 1861. Died 29 May, 1866. *Brevet Rank*:—Brevet Major

Genl., 25 July, 1814, for distinguished service in the Battles of Chippewa, Nia-

gara, etc. Brevet Lieut. Genl., 29 March, 1847, for eminent service in the war

with Mexico.