



DAVIES, Charles, mathematician, was born in Washington, Litchfield county, Conn., Jan. 22, 1798. He was the second son of Thomas John Davies. Until he was fifteen years of age he attended the public schools in the neighborhood of his home, Black Lake, N. Y., where his parents had settled when he was quite young. During the war of 1812 Gen. Swift, chief of engineers of the U. S. army, visited his father's house, and became interested in the lad. Perceiving at once his evident talent and ambition, he urged that he should be sent to the U. S. military academy at West Point, and interested himself in securing his appointment. He entered the academy in 1814, but did not complete the course, as the necessities of the war demanded an increase of officers, and Dec. 11, 1815, he was graduated and commissioned brevet second lieutenant of light artillery, and acted with this rank in garrison at the New-England posts. Aug. 31, 1816, he was transferred to the engineer corps with rank of second lieutenant, and in 1816 resigned this office to accept a position as instructor in the U. S. military academy, and for a period of twenty-one years continued his connection with the institution, serving as assistant professor of mathematics, of natural and experimental philosophy, and as professor of mathematics. During his stay at West Point he married Mary Anne, daughter of Jared Mansfield, lieutenant-colonel of U. S. engineers, and professor at West Point. In 1836 he went to Europe on account of his health, and consequently resigned his position at West Point. In 1837 he returned to America, and was appointed professor of mathematics at Trinity college, Hartford, Conn., where he remained four years. In 1841 he served as a member of the board of visitors to the Military academy, West Point, and Nov. 17th, the same year, was reappointed in the army as paymaster, with rank of major, and remained at West Point until Sept. 30, 1846, when he resigned, and settled in New York city. In 1848-49 he filled the professorship of mathematics and philosophy in the University of the city of New York. In 1857 he accepted the chair of higher mathematics in Columbia college, New York city, which position he retained until 1865, when he retired from duty after an active career of forty years spent in teaching and developing the science of which he was an acknowledged master. Upon his retirement he was appointed emeritus professor. He, like the rest of his family, was an ardent Episcopalian, and took part in the founding of St. Luke's church, to which he donated liberally, and was a member of the vestry. He has written a series of mathematical text-books, which are remarkable for their lucidity. These books cover the entire ground from primary arithmetic to the highest mathematics, and are still in use as the standard of instruction in mathematics at the Military academy. In 1849 he was awarded the degree of doctor of laws from Geneva college, New York. The portrait of Prof. Davies is from an original furnished by A. S. Barnes & Co. He died at Fishkill-on-Hudson Sept. 17, 1876.

DAVIES, Henry Ebenezer, jurist, was born at Black Lake, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., Feb. 8, 1805, the son of Thomas John and Ruth (Foote) Davies. At the age of fourteen he went to Canandaigua, N. Y., to obtain broader educational facilities than those afforded by the district schools in the neigh-

borhood. Here he became a member of the family of Judge Alfred Conkling, and the judge particularly directed his attention to the legal education of the boy. In April, 1826, soon after he had completed his twenty-first year, he was admitted to the bar in Albany county, and selected Buffalo, then a small town on the western frontier, as a place to begin his professional career. In the winter of 1829-30, he removed to New York city, where he became a partner of his uncle, Samuel A. Foote, which connection he retained until 1848, when Mr. Foote retired from practice. He next formed a partnership with William Kent, which continued until he was elected to the bench. He was a whig in politics, and had much renown as a platform orator, and in 1840 was elected assistant alderman of the city of New York, from the fifteenth ward, and the following year was made alderman, and was also appointed chairman of the committee selected to celebrate the introduction of Croton water into the city of New York. In 1850 he was appointed corporation counsel, and retained the position three years. He was a warm personal friend and the confidential adviser of Millard Fillmore, and in 1855, after Mr. Fillmore's retirement from office, accompanied him abroad. Upon his return to America he was nominated for justice of the supreme court of the state of New York, to supply the vacancy caused by the demise of Judge R. H. Morris, and was elected. In the fall of 1859 he was elected to the court of appeals for a term of eight years, during the last two of which he filled the position of chief justice. He declined re-election at the completion of his term, and resumed the practice of law in New York city, in partnership with Noah Davis. He was counsel for the Mutual life insurance company, and a member of other large corporations, but employed himself chiefly in chamber practice, and as referee in important cases, for which he was particularly fitted through his long experience on the bench. On July 1, 1835, he married Rebecca Waldo Tappan, a daughter of John Tappan, a well-known merchant of Boston, Mass. He was faithful to the church of his ancestors, and a prominent member of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal church, Matteawan, Dutchess county, N. Y. He was for a long period a director of the Institution for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, and was its president during the last year of his life. In 1870 he accepted the position of Dean of the law school of the University of New York, which place he held until his death. He received the degree of LL.D. from the university and also from Amherst college. He died in New York city Dec. 17, 1881.

DAVIES, Thomas Alfred, soldier and civil engineer, was born at Black Lake, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., Dec. 3, 1809, the youngest child of Thomas John and Ruth (Foote) Davies. His youth, up to the age of sixteen years, was passed on his father's farm. He then secured an appointment as cadet in the U. S. military academy at West Point, which institution he entered July 1, 1825, and after completing the full course, was graduated in 1829, and was at once commissioned as brevet second lieutenant of the 1st regiment of infantry, U. S. army. He served for one year with this rank at Fort Crawford, in what was then the territory of Wisconsin, at that time considered to be on the extreme western frontier of the United States, and was subsequently ordered to West Point, where



he remained until 1831, filling the position of quartermaster of the post most of the time. He then resigned his commission in the army, and entered the mercantile house of Goodhue & Co., New York city, with which he was connected until the panic of 1837, when he accepted a position as civil engineer in the construction of the Croton aqueduct, and also took a leading part in the erection of the High Bridge across the Harlem river. Aug. 24, 1844, he married Mrs. Maria White of New York city. He was among the first to offer his services to the government at the outbreak of the civil war, and May 13, 1861, was appointed colonel of the 16th regiment of New York volunteers. He was subsequently assigned to the command of the 2d brigade of the 5th division of the army of the Potomac, and led the advance on the march to Centreville. March 7, 1862, he was brevetted brigadier-general of volunteers, and ordered to the western armies under command



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of Gen. Halleck. June 11, 1865, he was commissioned brevet major-general of volunteers for "gallant and meritorious service," and the war having been successfully terminated, he resigned his commission and returned to his home in New York city, where he resided until his death. In later years he devoted considerable attention to philosophic and theological speculations, publishing a series of works for the purpose of refuting theories advanced by the materialistic school of philosophy and of maintaining the text of the Bible to be authentic and inspired. These books are: "Cosmogony; or, The Mysteries of Creation" (1859); "Adam and Ha-Adam" (1859); "Genesis Disclosed" (1860), and an "Answer to Hugh Miller and Theoretical Geologists" (1861). He was married, Aug. 24, 1844, to Mrs. Maria White, of New York, who died in 1891 without issue. He died at Black Lake, near Ogdensburg, N. Y., Aug. 28, 1899.

DAVIES, Henry Eugene, soldier, was born in New York city July 2, 1836, the eldest son of Judge Henry E. Davies. He received his preparatory education at private schools in New York, and subsequently attended Harvard and Williams colleges, and was graduated with distinction from Columbia law school, in the class of 1857, and in July of that year was admitted to the bar as attorney and counselor of the supreme court of the state of New York, and immediately commenced the practice of his profession in that city. He was married at Fishkill-on-Hudson Aug. 10, 1858, to Julia, daughter of John S. Rich and Julia Van Voorhies. He entered the United States service at the commencement of the civil war. As captain of the 5th New York volunteer infantry, August, 1861, he was



promoted a major of 2d New York cavalry, and served as major, lieutenant-colonel and colonel, until September, 1863, when he was brevetted brigadier-general U. S. volunteers, and appointed to the command of a brigade of cavalry in the army of the Potomac, and served in this capacity until the termination of the war, after which he returned to New

York city, and resumed his law practice. He was Public Administrator of New York city for a period of three years, closing his term Jan. 1, 1869. From 1870 to 1873 he was assistant district attorney of the United States, after which he refused to hold office, and has devoted himself exclusively to the practice of his profession. He resided at Fishkill-on-Hudson, at the country seat inherited from his father, where he died, Sept. 6, 1894.

DAVIES, Charles Frederick, soldier, was born in the city of New York June 27, 1838, second son of Judge Henry E. Davies. He received an education intended to fit him for commercial pursuits, and at an early age entered the Australian Shipping House, of which Sir Roderick W. Cameron was then and is now the chief. In this business he continued for several years, and his energy and fidelity to duty gave him every promise of a successful business career, but at the breaking out of the civil war he felt it his duty to abandon these prospects and devote himself to the service of his country. He first accepted a position as lieutenant in the 5th New York volunteers, the regiment in which his elder brother held a commission as captain, but his business experience and ability as an accountant were soon recognized, and in July, 1861, he was appointed major and paymaster of U. S. volunteers. He served through the war, and not only performed the duties of his office with such intelligence and fidelity as won the praise of his immediate superiors, but on occasions when opportunity afforded, was distinguished by the personal gallantry which he displayed in battle, when acting as volunteer aide to general officers, with whom he was at the time serving. For his excellent service during the war he received in June, 1865, the brevet of lieutenant-colonel, and in recognition of his marked ability he was assigned to the arduous duty of mustering out of service and making final payment to the great host of New York volunteers whom the close of the war had discharged from service. For the period of four months he was actively engaged in this service at Albany, and obliged to labor so continuously that he had no opportunity for rest or even sleep, and finally breaking down from exhaustion went home to his father's house, where after a short illness his life was closed. His lamented and untimely death was the immediate result of exposure in the field, and subsequent and exhausting labor in the discharge of his official duties, and his name is numbered among the many heroes who in those trying days were required to give their lives to their country. He died at Fishkill-on-Hudson, N. Y., Dec. 3, 1865.

NIEDRINGHAUS, Frederick G., representative in congress, was born in Suebbeckke, Westphalia, Germany, Oct. 21, 1837, received a school education, and was placed in his father's shop and trained in general mechanics, particularly in glazing, painting, and tinning. He emigrated to the United States, reaching St. Louis, Mo., at the age of eighteen years. Here he began work at the tinner's bench, at \$4 per week, of which he saved \$1.50. Joined by a brother the two worked for two years at the bench, and then started business for themselves, which was a success from the beginning, the addition of two branches being speedily called for. In 1862 they began the stamping of tinware; in 1866 their business was incorporated under the name of St. Louis Stamping company, of which Mr. Niedringhaus is president. In 1874 they entered upon the making of "granite ironware." In 1881 they established extensive rolling mills, and in all their works they now employ about 1,200 people. He was elected as representative to the fifty-first U. S. congress as a republican, receiving 14,210 votes against 13,020 for all others. He has made for himself in his congressional service, a good name, as a shrewd and practical legislator.