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of an elder brother, who was a clerk of court, and a man of considerable education. This renewed the boy's desire for an education, and being again refused any time to devote to study, he deliberately broke his leg again, that he might secure the leisure he wanted. Upon this his father withdrew his opposition, and the boy pursued his studies under his brother, who was his only teacher. He gained a thorough knowledge of the law, being quick to acquire and tenacious in retaining the information given in the text-books, and in 1818 was admitted to the bar. In 1822 he was elected to the state legislature, where he served seven years, distinguishing himself at the first session by a speech in opposition to the introduction of the whipping-post. In 1830 he was elected a representative in congress, where he soon became a whig leader. He remained in the house until 1840, when he was nominated by the whigs as a candidate for governor of Ohio. The campaign that followed was a remarkable personal contest. Corwin spoke two or three hours a day for over 100 consecutive days, with so much wit and eloquence that he carried the state on election day by a large majority. In 1845 he was chosen U. S. senator, and was exceptionally bitter and brilliant in invective against the supporters of the Mexican war. He was secretary of the treasury during the administration of President Fillmore, a representative in congress for two terms (1858–61), and U. S. minister to Mexico under President Lincoln from 1861 to 1864. In Mr. Corwin the social instinct was pre-eminent. It is said of him that so keen and brilliant was his wit that no one ever tired of his talk, and he often kept a party in constant laughter for hours at a time. He attributed whatever of talent he possessed to his Hungarian descent, of which he was extremely proud. The pronounced stand taken by him against the Mexican war hindered his political advancement, and he never had the faculty of saving money, so that in spite of his opportunities he died a comparatively poor man. He lived a busy life, was a faithful public officer, and was greatly loved in his adopted state. He died in Washington, D. C., Dec. 18, 1865.

CRAWFORD, G. W., secretary of war. (See Vol. IV., p. 371.)

CONRAD, Charles M., secretary of war, was born in Winchester, Va., in 1804. While he was a child his parents removed to Louisiana, and the boy was educated in New Orleans and afterward studied law, being admitted to the bar when he was twenty-four years old. He entered into political life, was elected to the state legislature through several terms, and in 1842 went to Washington as a member of the U. S. senate from Louisiana to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Alexander Mouton, who had been elected in 1837. Mr. Conrad remained in the senate until 1843, from which time until 1848 he continued to practice law in New Orleans. In the latter year he was elected a member of congress, and continued in the house of representatives until July 15, 1850, when he entered the cabinet of President Fillmore as secretary of war, and held that office until March 7, 1853, when he was succeeded by Jefferson Davis of Mississippi. Mr. Conrad returned to Louisiana and was practicing law at the time of the outbreak of the secession movement in 1860, when he began to exhibit a deep interest in the scheme of the southern Confederacy. In 1861 he attended the congress at Montgomery, Ala., as a member from Louisiana, and was also a member of the two Confederate congresses which existed during the war. In the course of this time, also, Conrad entered the Confederate army and rose to be brigadier-general. He died in New Orleans Feb. 11, 1878.

PRESTON, W. B., secretary of the navy. (See Vol. IV., p. 371.)

GRAHAM, William Alexander, secretary of the navy and governor of North Carolina (1845–49), was born in Lincoln county, N. C., Sept. 5, 1804, son of Gen. Joseph Graham. He was graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1824, became a lawyer, settled at Hillsborough, Orange Co., N. C., was much in the legislature from 1833, and several times speaker. In 1840 he was sent to the senate as a whig to complete an unexpired term and remained there until March, 1843. He filled the governor's chair 1845–49, and in the latter year declined a re-election and the mission to Spain. His services to the party were thought to be eminent, and Mr. Fillmore, on succeeding Gen. Taylor as president in June, 1850, called him into the cabinet to hold the portfolio of the navy. During his two years' tenure of this position he initiated Com. Perry's expedition to Japan. In 1852 he was the whig candidate for vice-president. After twelve years of retirement he entered the Confederate senate in 1864. In his last months of life he was a commissioner to adjust the northern boundary of Virginia. He died while on a visit to Saratoga, N. Y., Aug. 11, 1875.

KENNEDY, John Pendleton, secretary of the navy and author, was born in Baltimore, Md., Oct. 25, 1795. He came of prominent and wealthy ancestors, his mother, whose maiden name was Pendleton, being related to Judge Pendleton of Virginia and a descendant of Edmund Pendleton, who was a prominent member of the first Continental congress. From his youth up, young Kennedy had the advantages derived from the possession of wealth. He received a liberal education, graduating from the University of Maryland, at that time the Baltimore College, in 1812. He was in the United States service during the latter part of the war of 1812 with England, and studied law and was admitted to practice. From 1820 to 1823, he was a member of the house of delegates of Maryland. He was always a writer and during the early part of his life devoted his pen to the service of his political friends. He was a strong protectionist and wrote freely upon that subject. In 1838 he was elected a member of congress and again in 1841 and 1842. In 1846 he became again a member of the Maryland house of delegates and was elected speaker. On July 22, 1852, President Fillmore appointed Mr. Kennedy secretary of the navy, and he continued to occupy that position during the administration. The country was fortunate in having in this position, just at that time, a man of Mr. Kennedy's fine intelligence, education and broad grasp of affairs, as it was mainly through his efforts that Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan and the second Arctic Expedition of Dr. E. K. Kane were made feasible. After his retirement from active politics, Mr. Kennedy continued to show an interest in the political discussions of the day by occasional contributions to the Washington "National Intelligencer," among which, a number of years before the outbreak of the civil war were articles from his pen, uttering a warning note on the possibilities of the existing political irritation between the North and

the South, eventually resulting either in a dissolution of the Union or a sanguinary struggle between the two sections. When the southern states seceded Mr. Kennedy issued an appeal to the citizens of Maryland, showing how little that state had to gain by uniting its destinies with the South and how much by remaining steadfast to the Union. This appeal was described by Baron Gerolt, at that time minister from Prussia to the United States, as "one of the most statesmanlike and patriotic expositions of the subject he had seen." After the war Mr. Kennedy crossed the ocean and spent some time in England and on the continent, making three trips to Europe, altogether, before he died. He made the acquaintance of most of the literary men of the period and was especially intimate with Thackeray, being said to have written the fourth chapter in the fourth volume of "The Virginians" at the request of its great author, on account of his familiarity with the scenery of the part of Virginia described in it. Mr. Kennedy made his home in Baltimore when not in Washington or abroad and his residence there was a literary centre. He was a member of an organization styled the "Monday Club," which met every Monday at the house of some one of its members for social enjoyment and literary recreation. This club was peculiar in being composed of four doctors of law, four doctors of divinity, four doctors of medicine and four gentlemen of superior literary attainments and reputation. At the meetings of this club, Mr. Kennedy was said to be specially notable for the brilliancy of his conversational abilities. One of his earliest literary adventures, published in 1818, was the "Baltimore Red Book," a periodical publication, something after the style of Paulding and Irving's "Salmagundi." In this work Kennedy was associated with Peter Hoffman Cruse, who died of cholera in Baltimore in 1832. Kennedy at one time occupied as his town house the former residence of William Wirt; a curious coincidence, owing to the fact that he published his "Memoirs of the Life of William Wirt" prior to this period and that his occupying that particular house was purely accidental. Literature was more a pastime with Mr. Kennedy than a pursuit, and he never looked upon it as a source of pecuniary emolument. His first novel was "Swallow Barn," which was published in Philadelphia in 1832 and whose object was to give a description of the manners and customs prevalent in the "Old Dominion" during the last century. He was so careless, however, with regard to the success or reputation of his literary adventures, that when the first edition of his "Swallow Barn" was exhausted, he paid no attention to its republication, and it was not until some ten years later that a new edition of it appeared. His next novel was "Horse-Shoe Robinson. a Tale of the Tory Ascendency" (1835). These two books were written in his office in the city of Baltimore. In 1833 Kennedy was one of the umpires to decide as to the best tale contributed in answer to an offer of a prize on the part of a literary paper published in Baltimore, called "The Visitor." The prize was awarded to Edgar Allan Poe for his story, "A Manuscript Found in a Bottle." The prize was one hundred dollars and was the first success with which the gifted author of "The Raven" had been favored. He also gained at the same contest a prize of fifty dollars, offered for the best poem and which was won by his "Coliseum," but he was barred out on account of being the author of the successful tale. This incident brought Mr. Kennedy into an acquaintance with Poe, whom he recommended for an editorial position on the "Southern Literary Messenger," in which publication appeared some of his best stories. In 1838 Kennedy wrote and published his "Rob of the Bowl: A Legend of St. Inigoes." He also wrote "At Home and Abroad, a series of Essays, with a Journal in Europe in 1867–68" (1872), and published a large number of discourses, orations and newspaper contributions. The uniform edition of all of Mr. Kennedy's works was published in New York in 1870, in ten volumes. Of Mr. Kennedy's ability, so able a critic as Alexander Everett said "His talent in this respect is probably not inferior to that of Irving. Some of his smaller compositions, in which our author depends merely on his own resources, exhibit a point and vigor of thought, and a felicity and freshness of style that place them on a level with the best passages of the "Sketch Book." During the latter part of his life, Mr. Kennedy occupied a residence on the banks of the Patapsco a few miles from Baltimore and in the immediate vicinity of a large number of cotton manufactories, in one of which he was largely interested. Mr. Kennedy was a member and constant friend of the Maryland Historical Society and also a trustee of the Peabody Institute, founded in Baltimore by Mr. George Peabody of London. On Sept. 8, 1870, a fine tribute to his memory was delivered by Robert C. Winthrop, which was afterward published. In 1871 appeared in New York his Life, written by Henry T. Tuckerman. Mr. Kennedy died in Newport, R. I., Aug. 18, 1870.

EWING, Thomas, secretary of the interior. (See Vol. III., p. 39.)

STUART, Alexander Hugh Holmes, secretary of the interior, was born in Staunton, Va., Apr. 2, 1807. He was the son of a revolutionary soldier, Archibald Stuart, who is said to have studied law in the same office with Thomas Jefferson, and afterward rose to high positions in the councils of the state. Alexander Stuart, after having been prepared for a university course, went to William and Mary College for a year, and then attended the University of Virginia, where he took the law course, graduating at the age of twenty-one, and being admitted to practice at the bar in the same year. The young man took great interest in politics, being a strong adherent of Henry Clay. He was in successful practice in Staunton when, in 1836, he was elected a member of the lower house of the Virginia state legislature, and was continuously re-elected until 1839, when he declined to serve. In 1841 Mr. Stuart was elected a member of congress, and in 1844 was a presidential elector on the whig ticket, and filled the same position on the Taylor ticket in 1848. On July 22, 1850, he assumed the office of secretary of the interior, to which he had been appointed by President Fillmore, and in which he continued until the conclusion of that administration. Mr. Stuart was a member of the convention of 1856 which nominated Millard Fillmore for the presidency, and from 1857 to 1861 was in the Virginia state senate. He was a strong Union man in sentiment at the outbreak of the civil war and earnestly resisted the secession of his state, while he was one of the first of the southern leaders to promote reconciliation and political agreement after the war. But although elected a member of congress in 1865, he was unable to take his seat on account of the "iron-clad" oath. In 1868 Mr. Stuart was very active in his opposition and resistance to the objectionable features of the reconstruction acts. In 1876 he was elected rector of the University of Virginia, and, excepting a period of two years—between 1882 and 1884—he continued to fill that posi-