

July, 1861, and thereafter in nearly every important battle of the Army of Northern Virginia. The first year of the war his company formed part of the First Virginia Cavalry. The second year he joined the First Maryland Cavalry Regiment, commanded by Colonel Ridgley Brown, and continued with this regiment till the close of the war. After the death by wounds received in battle of Captain Augustus F. Schwartz, of Baltimore County, Captain Ditty succeeded to the command of Company F of that regiment. This company was armed, mounted, and equipped by its officers. On the surrender of Lee at Appomattox Court-house the First Maryland Cavalry with a considerable part of Fitz-Lee Division, under command of General Mumford, broke the Federal lines and did not surrender with the rest of the army, but formed in line of battle on the Lynchburg road. Late in the afternoon the cavalry was attacked by a large force of Federal cavalry, which was promptly checked by a charge of the First Maryland. This was the last blow struck by the Army of Northern Virginia. They then retired to Lynchburg. Captain Ditty with a portion of the First Maryland then started to join General Johnston in North Carolina, but after a few days learned that Johnston had surrendered. During the war, at the battle at Old Church, Hanover County, Virginia, in 1864, Captain Ditty was severely wounded. After the close of the war he returned to Baltimore, and in October, 1865, resumed the practice of law, in which he is still engaged. In 1868 he married Sophia L., daughter of Henry Schwartz, and sister of the before mentioned Captain Augustus F. Schwartz, of Baltimore County. Their children are Augusta Fredericka, Sophia Leypold, Henry Schwartz, George Irving, and Roberta Lee. In 1872 Mr. Ditty removed to "Irvington," a property on which he has expended large sums of money in grading lots and streets, building houses, etc. This property is beautifully located near Loudon Park, a short distance from Baltimore City, accessible by railroad half hourly. Politically Mr. Ditty came of old Whig stock, but cast his first vote for Breckenridge and Lane, because he could not affiliate with the American party, and was Southern in his sympathies. He condemned the policy, but believed in the right of secession. Hence when the war broke out he was true to his convictions and went into the field to fight for them. From 1865 to 1875 Mr. Ditty took no active part in politics. He accepted the issues of the war as final, and as he conceived the leaders of the Democratic party in Maryland did not so accept them, he could not heartily support that party. On the other hand the employment of troops to sustain State governments in the South was so obnoxious to him that he could not approve the policy of the Republican party. Hence he seldom voted, and when he did it was for individuals and not party. In 1875 the dissatisfaction in the Democratic party in Maryland culminated in the Reform movement, in which Mr. Ditty took an active part, and spoke at public meetings almost daily during that campaign. In 1876 the attitude

of the Republican party, looking towards leaving the Southern States to manage their own State affairs without military interference, and having declared in favor of resumption and a sound financial policy, which Mr. Ditty considered as the then great leading issues, and regarding the Democratic party as abandoning its time-honored doctrines in supporting paper money and advocating inflation, Mr. Ditty joined the Republican party and was laboriously active for its success in the campaign of 1876, and has continued to co-operate with that party ever since. At the request of President Grant Mr. Ditty went to Louisiana in November, 1876, to witness the count of the vote of that State. In his published report he stated that neither party had been free from blame, undisputed facts in his opinion, fairly considered, showed that that State had gone Republican by a large majority. Since 1875 Mr. Ditty has spoken and written a great deal on matters connected with politics.

JOHNSON, REVERDY, Lawyer and Statesman, was born in Annapolis, Maryland, May 21, 1796. His family on his father's side was of English descent, and on that of his mother French. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers in Maryland, several of them having held prominent positions under the Colonial Government. His father, John Johnson, was an eminent lawyer, who after serving in both houses of the General Assembly was successively Attorney-General, one of the judges of the Court of Appeals, and Chancellor of the State. His mother was a daughter of Reverdy Ghise-Jin, who was long known as Commissioner of the Land Office at Annapolis. Reverdy Johnson received his education at St. John's College, and at the age of sixteen years commenced the reading of law under the direction of his father, and was subsequently a student in the office of the late Judge Stevens. In 1815, when only twenty years of age, he was admitted to the bar, and began practice in Prince George's County in the village of Upper Marlborough. Shortly after he was appointed by the Attorney-General of the State his Deputy for the Judicial District, and performed the duties of that office in the most creditable manner until November, 1817, when he removed to Baltimore and started in his career as a lawyer. He at once took an excellent position, and was soon recognized by lawyers and laymen as a man of unusual ability. He was the professional associate and intimate companion of Luther Martin, Robert Goodloe Harper, William Pinkney, Roger B. Taney, and William H. Winder. Soon after going to Baltimore Mr. Johnson was appointed Chief Commissioner of Insolvent Debtors. In 1821 he was elected to the State Senate for a term of five years, and re-elected for another term. After serving two years of the second term he resigned, and devoted himself exclusively to his

practice from that time until 1845, when he was elected to the Senate of the United States by the Whig party. In the debates upon the question of the war with Mexico Mr. Johnson differed from the sentiments of his party, and was among the supporters of the Democratic administration of President Polk in the advocacy of that war. In 1849 he resigned his seat in the Senate to accept the position of Attorney General tendered him by President Taylor. On the accession of Mr. Fillmore he retired and resumed the practice of his profession. He was retained in almost every important cause in the courts of Maryland and in the Supreme Court. His advice and services were sought from distant States, and in 1854 he was employed by an English house to argue a case involving a claim of great magnitude against the United States Government before the joint English and American Commissioners. He was associated professionally in this matter with Lord Cairns, then in the House of Commons, and a leading member of the chancery bar, and subsequently Lord Chancellor under the Disraeli administration. During his sojourn in England Mr. Johnson received much attention from the public men and members of the English bar. Returning home he unceasingly engaged in his practice, and took no active part in politics until the winter of 1860-61. He was sent as one of the delegates from Maryland to the Peace Convention which assembled at Washington. He avowed himself a Union man, and utterly repudiated the doctrine of secession, believing it to be in violation of the letter of the Constitution, and inconsistent with the spirit and stability of our Government. He was conspicuous in the Convention by his earnest and eloquent efforts to avert the threatening calamities of civil war by measures of compromise and conciliation. When all hope of a peaceful settlement of the sectional difficulties had vanished Mr. Johnson advocated the preservation of the Union by the military power of the General Government. In 1861 he was sent from Baltimore County to the State Assembly. After the capture of New Orleans he was sent to that city by President Lincoln as Special Commissioner to revise the decisions of the military commandant, General Butler, in regard to several important matters involving our peaceful relations with foreign governments. He deemed it necessary and proper to reverse all those decisions, and for the good effect of so doing he received the thanks of the administration. In the winter of 1862-63 he was elected to the United States Senate, and in March, 1863, resumed his seat in that body after an absence of fourteen years. He voted for the Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery. After the surrender of the Southern Army Mr. Johnson advised the immediate readmission of the seceding States and an unconditional amnesty to their people. In 1868 he was appointed Minister to the Court of St. James, and the appointment was immediately confirmed. In England he was the recipient of attentions never before paid to an American ambassador. In the

chief commercial and manufacturing towns bouquets were given him, and so general was this demonstration that Lord Clarendon, writing to a friend in America and referring to the matter, expressed his belief that "Mr. Johnson was the only diplomatic representative that had ever brought out the true friendly feeling of the British people for those of the United States." Nor was it alone in his official relation that he was so cordially received. His fame as a distinguished American lawyer and jurist brought him into the most agreeable intercourse with the justices and leading barristers of England. In a few months after his arrival in England Mr. Johnson succeeded in negotiating a treaty between the two nations for the settlement of the questions in dispute growing out of what was known as the "Alabama Claims." The Senate, however, refused to ratify the treaty, although it was privately acknowledged by Mr. Sumner and other leading men to secure all that our Government had a right to ask or any reason to expect. Mr. Johnson returned from England in June, 1869, and resumed his practice in Baltimore and Washington. Throughout his professional career Mr. Johnson enjoyed uninterrupted success. In private life he was a genial, unassuming gentleman. He was one of the most conspicuous men Maryland ever produced, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1876, ranked not only at the head of his profession but as one of the most eminent of American statesmen. For the substantial facts embraced in this sketch we are indebted to the work entitled *Baltimore, Past and Present*.

WILLIAMS, THOMAS H., A.B., was born near Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland, April 4, 1845. His father was William Williams, who married Annice Fooks in 1828. Thomas was the youngest of eight children. He was but six years old when his father died, and during the ensuing six years five of his brothers and sisters died. He received his early education at the Salisbury Academy, and in 1865 entered Yale College in the Sophomore Class, from whence he graduated in 1868, his mother having in the meantime, in 1867, died whilst he was on a visit to her. After acting as teacher in the district school for a short while he was invited to take charge of the Classical Institute at Laurel, Delaware, which he conducted for a half year. In the fall of 1871 he was elected, without solicitation on his part, to the tutorship of the Salisbury Academy, which position he accepted. A year after entering upon its duties the Academy was converted into the Wicomico County High School, and Mr. Williams was earnestly requested by the County School Commissioners to serve as the Principal thereof, which position he still occupies, and in which he has been eminently successful as an educator. Professor M. A. Newell, Superintendent of the State Board of Education,