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Bomford

and the *Christian World* (1861-90). He was a skilled controversialist and an able speaker. Even though at times his arguments appear to have been more personal than logical his sincerity need not be questioned. He had an engaging personality, great social talents, and a mind tempered with imagination and sentiment.

[*Franklin and Marshall Coll. Obit. Record*, vol. I; *John H. A. Bomberger* (Ursinus College, 1917); *New Schaff-Herzog Encyc. of Religious Knowledge* (1910); *Reformed Ch. Mess.*, Aug. 28, 1890.] G. F. M.

BOMFORD, GEORGE (1782-Mar. 25, 1848), soldier, was born in the city of New York. His father was an officer of the Continental army in the Revolution. He was appointed a cadet in the army on Oct. 24, 1804, commissioned as second lieutenant of engineers, July 1, 1805, and for the next seven years was engaged upon fortification work in New York Harbor and Chesapeake Bay. He was promoted first lieutenant in 1806, captain in 1808, and major in 1812. Upon the outbreak of the war with Great Britain he was assigned to ordnance duty, for which he proved to have a special talent. Knowledge of the manufacture of ordnance was rare in this country, and his exceptional abilities made him indispensable. The howitzer or shell gun named the Columbiad, from Joel Barlow's epic poem, was Bomford's invention. He was appointed lieutenant-colonel of ordnance in 1815, and in 1832 was made colonel and chief of ordnance of the army. Upon the death of Mrs. Barlow, whose sister he had married, he bought the famous estate of Kalorama, which lay just outside the limits of the city of Washington as then constituted, between the present location of Florida Avenue and Rock Creek. It is commonly associated with Joel Barlow, who owned it, however, for only five years, during part of which time he was absent on a diplomatic mission in France, while it was Bomford's for nearly thirty. During his occupancy it was famous as the resort of statesmen and diplomats. The trees and plants collected there from all parts of the world, under Mrs. Bomford's judicious direction, made it one of the most notable botanical gardens in the country. The failure of a large cotton mill which Bomford had established on Rock Creek crippled his fortunes, already impaired by unfortunate investments in Washington real estate, and late in life he was obliged to sell Kalorama to settle his liabilities. He died at Boston, where he had gone to witness the casting of some heavy guns. Bomford was the greatest ordnance expert of his time in the United States, an inventor of note, and an able organizer and administrator. A good writer and speaker, his opinions carried great weight both in

Bonaparte

the executive departments and in Congress. "His official papers in particular were models of reserve force, lucid argument, and fluent style" (Dutton). He was a public-spirited citizen, interested in religious, philanthropic, and artistic activities in the District of Columbia, notably in the movement which led to the building of the Washington Monument.

[G. W. Cullum, *Biog. Reg.* (3rd ed., 1891), I, 58-59; article by C. E. Dutton in *The Army of the United States* (1896), ed. by T. R. Rodenbough and W. L. Haskin; Conra Bacon-Foster, "The Story of Kalorama," in *Columbia Hist. Soc. Records*, XIII, 98-118.] T. M. S.

BONAPARTE, CHARLES JOSEPH (June 9, 1851-June 28, 1921), lawyer, municipal and civil service reformer, attorney-general, was the son of Jerome Bonaparte and Susan May Williams. His grandfather was that Jerome, King of Westphalia, who married Elizabeth Patterson of Baltimore [q.v.], and subsequently separated from her, at the command of his august brother, the Emperor Napoleon. Any pride of French ancestry that Charles Joseph might have paraded was inhibited by the good sense of his mother who came of New England stock and was intensely American. He was educated first in a French school near Baltimore, his birthplace, and then under private tutors. He was regarded as a brilliant scholar, a reputation which he seems to have sustained at Harvard College. Graduating in 1872, he at once entered the Harvard Law School where he took a keen interest in current politics as they were discussed in the debating society. Two years later he graduated from the Law School, was admitted to the bar, and began to practise in Baltimore. Possessed of ample wealth, he experienced none of the initial hardships of a young lawyer; and from the outset he put his legal talents at the service of litigants who, or whose causes, appealed to his ardent desire for justice. His fellow practitioners regarded him as a skillful and resourceful attorney. It was public causes, however, which appealed most strongly to him. He identified himself with the reform party which was trying to purge Baltimore of its corrupt ring; he was one of the founders of the Baltimore Reform League and became its chairman; he helped to found and support *The Civil Service Reformer*, the organ of the Maryland Civil Service League; and he was also one of the founders of the National Civil Service Reform League. His interest in civil service reform brought him into contact with Theodore Roosevelt, then civil service commissioner, who later as president repeatedly sought his services, first as member of the board of Indian commissioners charged with the investigation of conditions in the Indian Territory, and then as special coun-

self to prosecute alleged frauds in the postal service.

In 1905 he was invited to enter President Roosevelt's cabinet as secretary of the navy, with the expectation of succeeding to the attorney-generalship on the retirement of William H. Moody. The appointment stirred more than ordinary public interest. Even the Republican press indulged in good-natured railery at the thought of the grand-nephew of the Little Corporal becoming head of the United States navy. He afterward described his manifold administrative duties in an article contributed to the *Century Magazine* (March 1910), which revealed not only his high ideal of public service but his unflinching good-humor in the discharge of duty. In December 1906 he was appointed attorney-general and transferred his abundant energies to the more congenial duties of the Department of Justice at a time when President Roosevelt needed a hard-hitter in his fight with "bad trusts." During his term of office he appeared personally before the Supreme Court in more than fifty cases. Aside from the prosecutions begun by his predecessors, he instituted twenty suits under the anti-trust laws, of which eight were eventually decided in favor of the government. His most notable achievement was the dissolution of the American Tobacco Company, though the decree was not issued until after he had left office.

Bonaparte went out of office with President Roosevelt in March 1909 and returned to his somewhat desultory law practice in Baltimore. His dominant interest was still good government. He was one of the founders of the National Municipal League and later its president. An effective public speaker, he was much in demand wherever the cause of civic reform needed a fearless champion. He was, in short, as Senator Gorman once contemptuously called him, a "professional reformer." Nominally a Republican, he did not hesitate to act as an independent in politics. He had attacked the war policy of President McKinley; he followed Roosevelt in the Progressive party of 1912; but he labored to prevent a rupture in the Republican party in 1916 when he believed that a united party was necessary to defeat the Wilson administration. Bonaparte bore little resemblance to his famous ancestor. He was taller, of sturdier build, with large strong neck and massive head. "A vast, round, rugged head," observed one of the newspaper correspondents who delighted to interview him, "with curious rises over the temples. . . . Beneath the forehead lurks the Bonaparte smile. It is there all the time" (*Baltimore Sun*, June

29, 1921). On Sept. 1, 1875, he had married Ellen Channing Day of Hartford, Conn., and a few years later he established a country estate at "Bella Vista," not far from Baltimore. There, after a lingering illness, he died as he had lived, a devout and loyal communicant of the Catholic Church.

[J. B. Bishop, *Chas. Jos. Bonaparte, His Life and Public Services* (1922) is a laudatory biography but gives the main facts of his career. There is an informing obituary in the *Baltimore Sun*, June 29, 1921, as well as an editorial comment. See also the *Baltimore American*, June 29, 1921, and the *Baltimore News*, June 28, 1921. The trust prosecutions are listed in *Administration of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law* (1926).]

BONAPARTE, ELIZABETH PATTERSON (Feb. 6, 1785-Apr. 4, 1879), wife of Jerome the brother of the Emperor Napoleon, was born in Baltimore, the daughter of William and Dorcas (Spear) Patterson. Her father emigrated to that city from County Donegal, Ireland, in 1766, dealt shrewdly in arms and munitions during the Revolution, and as merchant, banker, and land-owner became one of the wealthiest men in Maryland. His daughter was early famous for her beauty, and was ambitious and headstrong as well as beautiful. She made a conquest of the nineteen-year-old Jerome Bonaparte when he visited Baltimore; and on Christmas Eve, 1803, with the reluctant consent of her father, she married him. Expecting trouble, her father tried to protect her by a special marriage contract and, though himself a Presbyterian, had the ceremony performed by the ranking Catholic ecclesiastic in the United States. The father's foreboding was justified; Napoleon, refusing to recognize the marriage, ordered his brother to return to France alone. When the truant finally did return in 1805, it was on a ship of his father-in-law's and accompanied by his wife. At Lisbon they parted, Jerome hastening to Paris to negotiate a reconciliation, while Elizabeth, forbidden to land on European soil, proceeded ultimately to England, where her son, Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, was born at Camberwell, July 7, 1805. In his brother's presence Jerome's resolution melted. Pope Pius VII declined to annul the marriage, but a French council of state was more pliable, and Jerome as the last reward of his compliance was married to the Princess Catharine of Württemberg and was made king of Westphalia. To his first wife, who wasted no pity on herself, Napoleon gave an annual pension of 50,000 francs, on condition that she stay in America and renounce the Bonaparte name. She vegetated in Baltimore until the Napoleonic fabric crashed in 1815. Then she secured a divorce from Jerome by a special act of the Maryland legisla-