

Rear-Admiral George Collier Remey

ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

"Rear-Admiral George Collier Remey." *The Annals of Iowa* 7 (1906), 466-467.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.4597>

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ANNALS OF IOWA.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

REAR-ADMIRAL GEORGE COLLIER REMEY.

Our portrait of this distinguished naval officer was engraved some years since, but has never been published in these pages until now. It is nevertheless an excellent likeness. Admiral Remy was born in the city of Burlington, Iowa, August 10, 1841. He was appointed a cadet in the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, from which he graduated in 1859. His first assignment was to the sloop-of-war Hartford on the Asiatic station, in which he served until his return to the United States in 1861. His next duty was under an appointment as executive officer of the gunboat Marblehead, until 1863, when he was transferred to the steam sloop Canandaigua of the South Atlantic Squadron. While with these vessels he took part in several engagements with the enemy's batteries. He commanded the naval battery on Morris Island during the siege of Fort Wagner and the bombardments of Fort Sumter. In this last affair he was captured by the confederates and was for thirteen months a prisoner. During this period he was an occupant of various jails and of Libby prison. This imprisonment deprived him of the opportunity for the service he most desired. After he was paroled in November, 1864, he was appointed executive officer of the Mohongo on the Pacific station. He thereafter served as instructor in gunnery at the Naval Academy, was for a time on duty at the Naval Observatory at Washington, D. C., and filled several other important assignments until the war with Spain, when, having attained the rank of Commodore, he commanded the naval base at Key West, Fla. He was promoted Rear-Admiral in November, 1898. In March, 1900, he was ordered to the command of the Asiatic Squadron, which up to that time was the largest fleet ever commanded by an American



*Sincerely yours,
Geo. C. Remy.*

REAR-ADMIRAL GEORGE C. REMY.

Born in Burlington, Iowa, August 10, 1841; graduated from U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, 1859; after long and distinguished services afloat and ashore, promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral, 1895.

sailor. His service in the Far East was useful to his country and highly creditable to himself, meeting in all respects the approval of the naval authorities and the President. Soon after its conclusion he was placed upon the retired list and took up his residence in Washington, D. C.

Admiral Remy is a son-in-law of Charles Mason, pioneer Chief Justice of Iowa Territory, having in 1873 married his daughter, Mary J. While in command of the Navy Yard at Portsmouth, N. H., he interested himself in aiding the writer to procure the obsolete guns which now stand in front of our Capitol, and later on was instrumental in sending many valuable items to our Museum from the Far East. A fine oil portrait of the Admiral has been placed in the Iowa Historical Art Gallery.

WILLIAM F. COOLBAUGH.

The part Mr. Coolbaugh took in the early political and legislative history of Iowa was of signal importance. It was an invaluable contribution to the honor and credit of the State in a momentous national crisis. It antedates the very interesting recollections of Mr. Coolbaugh's life contributed to *THE ANNALS* by Mr. John T. Remy.

Milton D. Browning, a brother-in-law of Mr. Coolbaugh, was a member of the Senate in the First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth General Assemblies. He was a leading member of the Whig party, as Mr. Coolbaugh was a leading Democrat, and the brothers-in-law sometimes had sharp words in the political conflicts of the time. It was a period of party disintegration and reconstruction. Mr. Coolbaugh was elected to the State Senate the same year James W. Grimes was elected Governor.

While of opposite political parties, they were close personal friends, and enjoyed each other's confidence and respect. In Mr. Grimes' mind the cause of Freedom transcended party considerations, as in his whole public life he sunk the partisan in the patriot. Mr. Coolbaugh adhered strenuously to Stephen A. Douglas as a political leader, and Mr. Grimes as stren-

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