

GEN. JOHN A. LOGAN.

A Sketch of the Well-filled Life of the
Dead Statesman.



John Alexander Logan was born in Jackson county, Illinois, February 9, 1826, of Irish parentage.

He volunteered as a private in the Mexican war, and was soon made a lieutenant, and was promoted to adjutant of his regiment.

After his return from Mexico he studied law. In 1849 he was elected clerk of Jackson county; in 1852 graduated at the Louisville University, and was admitted to practice at the bar. The next fall he was elected to the Legislature, and the next year prosecuting attorney. In 1858 he was again elected to the Legislature, and was re-elected in 1856 and 1857.

He was a Presidential elector on the Buchanan and Breckenridge ticket in 1856. In 1858 he was elected to Congress from Illinois as a Douglas Democrat, and was re-elected in 1860. In the Presidential campaign of that year he supported Stephen A. Douglas.

In July, 1861, Logan, fired by the enthusiasm of the hour, left his seat, and fought with distinguished bravery in the ranks of Colonel Richardson's regiment at the disastrous battle of Bull Run, and was among the last to leave the field. Returning home the latter part of August, he resigned his seat in Congress, and organized the Thirty-first Illinois infantry. At Belmont he led a successful bayonet charge and had his horse shot under him. He took part in the attack on Ft. Henry, and while leading the assault at Fort Donelson was severely wounded.

On March 5, 1862, he was made a brigadier general. He took an important part in the movement against Corinth and subsequently was given command at Jackson, Tenn.

During General Grant's Northern Mississippi campaign General Logan commanded the Third division of the Seventeenth army corps, and was promoted to major general Nov. 20, 1862. He participated in the battles of Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson and Champion Hill. He succeeded McPherson to the command of the Army of the Tennessee.

In May, 1864, he joined General Sherman's army which was preparing for the Georgia campaign. He led the advance of the Army of the Tennessee in the fight at Resaca, repulsed Hardee's veterans at Dallas and carried the works at Kennesaw mountain. At Atlanta, July 22, where General McPherson fell, General Sherman says, in the report of that battle: "General Logan succeeded him and commanded the army of the Tennessee through this desperate battle with the same ability that had characterized him in the command of a corps or a division."

After the fall of Atlanta, Gen. Logan went home and took part in the presidential campaign. He rejoined his troops at Savannah and remained with Sherman's army until the surrender of Gen. Joseph E. Johnson.

He was elected to the Fortieth, Forty-first and Forty-second Congress, but before the Forty-second Congress convened he was chosen United States Senator, which he held at the time of his death.

Gen. Logan was a man of fine presence rendered striking by his jet black hair and strongly marked features. He possessed in a high degree those traits of character which win success—a strong personal magnetism, undaunted courage and untiring industry.

He was married in 1855 to Miss May S. Cunningham, a lady of superior education and rare social qualities, who always took deep interest in her husband's career, and who did much to aid in his advancement.