

Father of his Country." Yet we will not blot out the memory of the past, nor permit one luminary of the present day to eclipse the glories of the old regime; but choosing the immortal WASHINGTON as the bright particular star of our earlier hopes and civilization, and STONEWALL JACKSON of the present, dip our pen in the sunlight, and write them side by side in the unclouded sky of heaven's blue vault.

General THOMAS JONATHAN JACKSON was born in Clarksburg, Harrison county, Virginia, on the 21st day of January, 1824. His great-grandfather, John Jackson, and his great-grandmother, were of English birth.

They emigrated to this country at an early day, and settled on the south branch of the Potomac. Subsequently they removed to what is now Lewis county, in Northwestern Virginia. Their son Edward, (grandfather of Thomas J.,) was surveyor in Harrison county for many years, and subsequently represented the county of Lewis in the Legislature for several years. Jonathan Jackson, the father of Gen. Jackson, studied law under Judge John C. Jackson, in Clarksburg; and then commenced its practice, acquiring some reputation. He became embarrassed as security for his friends, and all his property was swept away before his death, which took place in 1827. He left four children, of whom Thomas, the youngest, was but three years old. An uncle, then residing in Lewis county, took the little orphan to live with him. Here Thomas, by going to school three months in the winter, and laboring on the farm the residue of the year, as was the custom with farmers' sons in Western Virginia, acquired the rudiments of a plain English education. About the age of seventeen he was appointed to a cadetship at West Point. He here graduated with high distinction, in 1846, being then in the 23rd year of his age.

War having broken out between the United States and Mexico, Jackson at once entered the military service under Gen. Zachary Taylor, with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant. When Gen. Scott was ordered to Mexico, Lieut. Jackson joined him at Vera Cruz. At the siege of that city he commanded a battery, and attracted attention by the coolness and judgment with which he worked his guns, and was promoted to the rank of first Lieutenant. After-