

LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICES
OF
WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK.

CHAPTER I.

WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK was born near Montgomery Square, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of February, 1824. He is the son of Benjamin Franklin and Elizabeth Hancock; and has two brothers, Hilary, his twin brother, and John, who is some years younger.

When Winfield was four years old, Mr. Hancock removed to Norristown, the county seat of Montgomery County, and here the lad received his early education, amid scenes calculated to awaken the enthusiasm and foster the patriotism of any intelligent boy. Blessed by nature almost beyond parallel, Eastern Pennsylvania might well be called the garden of the Lord. Her rolling fields yield rich harvests to repay the husbandman's toil; her vast sweep of broad champaign and lovely glen, of tree clad mountain and bosky dell, ravish the eye of the tourist; her winding streams—the broad Susquehanna and Dela-