

## THE LATE GENERAL RIPLEY.

FROM THE CLINTON LOUISIANIAN.

Gen. RIPLEY was born at Hanover, in the State of New Hampshire, in the year 1783. His father, the Rev. SYLVANUS RIPLEY, was Professor of Divinity in Dartmouth College; and his maternal grandfather, the Rev. ELEAZER WHEELLOCK, was the founder of that venerable and useful institution, and was alike eminent as a divine and philanthropist. Professor RIPLEY was accidentally killed in early life, leaving a large family to the care of his afflicted widow, who applied herself to the education of her children with a mother's ardent affection, aided by a mind highly cultivated and improved. At the age of eighteen, General RIPLEY received from Dartmouth College, at the time of his graduation, the highest honors of the institution, and immediately commenced the study of the law, and subsequently entered upon the active duties of his profession at Waterville, at that period within the jurisdiction of Massachusetts. In the year 1807, he was returned as a member of the Legislature of that State; and in the year 1811 was elected to preside over the deliberations of the House of Representatives, upon the Speaker's chair becoming vacated by the appointment of the Hon. JOSEPH STORV to a seat upon the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Having removed his place of residence to Portland, he was elected, in 1812, to represent the conjoined counties of Cumberland and Oxford in the State Senate. The difficulties which existed between this country and Great Britain having finally produced an open rupture, he received, in March, 1812, an appointment in the army of the United States; but, prior to entering upon his duties, he took his seat for a limited time in the Legislature, and exerted great influence in effecting an adjustment of the difficulties that existed at that period in relation to the moneyed institutions of the State. To delineate the conspicuous part which he performed during the war would require us to write the history of the campaigns upon the Northern frontier, and to enter into particulars which would become too prolix for the space to which we are necessarily limited. They are embodied in the history of our own country; and after-ages will offer up the tribute of admiration and gratitude to the memory of his name whose military genius conceived, and whose personal efforts contributed so much to the success of that brilliant and daring achievement which rendered the battle of Niagara so glorious to the American arms, and crowned the brave soldiers engaged in it with imperishable fame. The most gratifying tokens of esteem were tendered to him; and, upon the reduction of the army at the return of peace, he was retained in service with the rank of Major General, and was actively employed, in addition to his other duties, in planning and superintending the construction of the numerous fortifications upon our Southwestern frontier.

He subsequently resigned his commission, and resumed the practice of his profession in the State of Louisiana with distinguished success. He was afterwards elected to represent this and the adjoining parish in the State Senate; and, in 1834 and 1836, was returned as a member of Congress from the 3d Congressional District of this State, but ill-health precluded his being a candidate for re-election at the recent canvass. And at last, with his feelings deeply lacerated by the harassing and protracted controversy attending the attempt at an adjustment of his military accounts, and upon which a most triumphant verdict was rendered in his favor by a jury of his country, with his health, in its enfeebled state, receiving an additional shock by the brutal murder of his gallant and only son under the unfortunate Fanning; his naturally iron constitution, impaired by the wounds received in the service of his country, has surrendered up the noble spirit by which it was animated, and the still breeze of Heaven whispers over the grave of the lamented patriot and soldier. He is gone; and, while his bereaved widow mourns over the departure of a kind and affectionate husband; while his daughter grieves at the loss of a tender and beloved father; and while kindred and society lament the decease of one who was open to the warmest sympathies of our nature, patriotism will shed the tear of sorrow over the urn of her champion, and the memory of the gallant and beloved RIPLEY will endure as long as the brightest pages of American history and the recollection of the honors due and awarded to the brave.