



### MAJOR-GENERAL JOSEPH HOOKER.

**M**AJOR-GENERAL JOSEPH HOOKER, of the Volunteer forces, and Brigadier-General of the Regular Army of the United States, was born at Hadley, Massachusetts, during the year 1815. He is a descendant of Thomas Hooker, the founder of the city of Hartford, and son of Joseph Hooker, of Enfield, Mass. During his early days, young Joseph acquired his primary education at a district school, after which he entered Hopkins' Academy; and having there attracted the attention of Hon. G. C. Kellogg, that gentleman gained for him an appointment as cadet at West Point, which institution he entered during 1833, much against the wishes of his parents. After spending four years at the Military Academy, he graduated, on June 30, 1837, and the next day entered the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant of the First Regiment of Artillery. After sixteen months' service, he was, on November 1, 1838, promoted to First Lieutenant, and served with his section until July, 1841, when he was selected to act as Adjutant of the United States Military Academy, holding that position until the following October. On the 3d of that month he was appointed the Adjutant of his regiment, and remained as such until the Mexican war broke out in 1846, when he was ordered to join the forces on the Rio Grande, where he was selected to act as Aid to General Harner.

During the battles at Monterey, September 21, 22 and 23, 1846, Lieutenant Hooker behaved so gallantly as to gain the brevet of Captain from the last date; and, when the forces were transferred to the command of General Scott, he was appointed an Assistant Adjutant-General, with the staff rank of Captain, dating from March 3, 1847. He participated in the whole campaign, from Vera Cruz to the Mexican Capital. During the affair at the National Bridge, on June 11, 1847, he so distinguished himself as to gain the brevet of Major from that date for gallant and meritorious conduct, and by his gallantry at Chapultepec obtained another brevet, Lieutenant-Colonel, dating from September 13th, 1847.

Upon his return to the United States, he was promoted to the rank of Captain of Artillery, to date from October 29, 1848; but on the same day he vacated his regimental commission, retaining the position of Assistant Adjutant-General, with