



BRIGADIER-GENERAL JOHN A. McCLELLAND.

Brigadier-General JOHN A. McCLELLAND was an active leader of the Douglas party in the House of Representatives of 1860, and also in the Charleston and Baltimore Democratic Conventions. He was strongly opposed to BRECKINRIDGE and his party, and as a Douglas man was elected to Congress. He left his seat to take up arms in defence of that Government which he so strongly supported by his speeches in Congress. There is an interesting circumstance in connection with his appointment to the position of Brigadier-General. He had, during the late extra session of Congress, been making, while in his seat, a strongly-worded speech in support of the action of the Government in these troubles, and in the course of some remarks, at the conclusion, he in effect stated that, notwithstanding the thousands of Douglas Democrats who had enlisted

in the cause and service of the United States, not one of them had been honored with any high military appointment; other parties had had their appointees, but his party had not, and he thought it somewhat unfair, &c. A leading Republican took up the question after McCLELLAND had finished, and, complimenting him highly on the patriotic tone of his remarks, intimated that he did not know of a man more entitled to a position than his honored friend from Illinois. Shortly after this discussion in the House, the name of JOHN A. McCLELLAND appeared on the list of those who were appointed Brigadier-Generals of Volunteers.

In the Belmont fight he manifested that he possessed good military capacity, and during his administration of military affairs at Cairo he secured the good-will of the men under his command. Gen. McCLELLAND is about forty-four years of age, and rather tall in stature.