



COMMODORE DAVID D. PORTER.

Commodore DAVID D. PORTER, the officer in command of the Mortar Fleet, which is soon to operate against the enemy in some at present unknown section, is a Pennsylvanian. He entered the naval service of the United States as a Midshipman, February 2d, 1829, ranking the second of his class. He was commissioned as Lieutenant, February 27th, 1841.

He has seen nineteen years of sea service, eight years and nine months of shore duty, and out of thirty-two years service he has been unemployed only four years and nine months. Such is his record of devotion and industry.

Physically speaking, he is one of the most powerful men in the navy, and is noted for his fearless courage and daring. Being in the prime of life, having acknowledged abilities as an officer, we expect the most perfect success from his expedition.

He is a brother of WILLIAM D. PORTER, commander of the *Essex*, and lately injured in the engagement at Fort Henry.

Commodore PORTER, at the earnest solicitation of prominent gentlemen in New York, took command of the steamer *State of Georgia*, plying between New York and Aspinwall. This soon became the most popular steamer on the line, being noted for good order and discipline.

In the year 1855, he was sent to Smyrna, in

command of the storeship *Supply*, to bring to this country camels purchased by our Government for the purposes of army transportation. He performed this duty to the entire satisfaction of the Government, and safely landed in Texas these wanderers of the desert.

Major WAYNE, his companion on this voyage, a Paymaster in the army, and for some time stationed in this city, resigned his commission at the breaking out of the present rebellion, and joined the Rebel army.

During the visit of the Japanese Embassy Commodore PORTER, in conjunction with Com. DUPONT, the flag-officer of the Atlantic Squadron, and Captain SIDNEY SMITH LEE, brother of the Rebel General LEE, formed their escort and largely contributed to the comfort and enjoyment of the Ambassadors.

The Mortar Fleet will be composed of twenty-five or thirty schooners, each armed with mortars of the largest calibre, lately cast at Pittsburgh. Besides these mortars, each vessel will have an effective armament of rifled cannon or 32-pounders.

The destination of the fleet it is now impossible to ascertain, but suffice it to say that Com. PORTER will not only strike terror into Rebellion, but also add to his already well deserved reputation.



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