



COLONEL JOHN W. GEARY.

Colonel JOHN W. GEARY, the commanding officer of the Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment, is one of the most gallant and fearless officers in the United States service.

He commanded the Second Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers in Mexico, and was noted for great firmness and the rigid discipline to which he subjected his men. When he first engaged in that war he was Lieutenant-Colonel of Colonel ROBERTS' regiment, and, at the battle of Chapultepec, where he held chief command of his regiment, was wounded, but, notwithstanding, led his men in the terrific battle fought at the Belen gate, just previous to the capture of the City of Mexico. For his gallantry on that occasion, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel, his commission bearing date November 3d, 1847.

He received special mention at Cerro Gordo. After the war, in 1848, he lived in San Francisco, of which place he was appointed Postmaster, and was afterwards elected the first Mayor of the city, holding his office for two or three terms prior to the organization of the Vigilance Committee. In the latter part of July, 1856, he was appointed by Mr. BUCHANAN Governor of Kansas, and in a few days after was confirmed by a unanimous vote of the Senate. Early in the following September, he proceeded to take charge of the office to which he had been selected, and remained as Chief Executive of the Terri-

tory until March 4th, 1857, when he resigned. After his return home he retired to Westmoreland county, in this State, where he remained enjoying the privacy of domestic life until the breaking out of the rebellion. His adventurous disposition then could not remain contented, and he came to Philadelphia to organize a regiment. Many of his old Mexican followers flocked to his standard from all parts of the State, and he has now one of the largest regiments in the United States service. Col. GEARY is a tall, powerful man, and of extraordinary military capacity.

Being connected with General BANKS' Division, he for a long time guarded the Upper Potomac, above the Point of Rocks, and upon several occasions afforded the Rebels an opportunity to judge of the accuracy of his guns.

When the order to advance was given, a few weeks since, the Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment was the first to cross the Potomac, and thence, by hasty marches, scouring the country as they passed along, invaded the Rebel stronghold at Leesburg and occupied it.

The cry of "GEARY is coming" is sufficient to insure the speedy retreat of the Rebels, while the best officers in the service are unanimous in their praise of his ability and distinguished services.

His nomination to a Brigadier-Generalship has recently been mentioned in military circles.