

## The Drowned Officers.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel JOHN MARSHALL WASHINGTON, of the United States Army, who was swept from the deck of the *San Francisco* soon after her troubles commenced, was one of the most useful, as he had made himself one of the most distinguished artillery officers belonging to the service. He was a native of Virginia, and must have attained the age of fifty-eight or sixty years. He graduated as a cadet at West Point in the class of 1813; was commissioned Third Lieutenant in the Artillery in 1817, and rose, rank by rank, to his majority in the Third Artillery, in 1847, February 16. In a week from this promotion he won his brevet as Lieutenant Colonel, by gallant and meritorious conduct on the hotly-contested field of Buena Vista. He was a thorough tactician in the Artillery service, and as early as 1824 was made instructor in the Artillery School for practice at Fort Monroe.

After the battle of Buena Vista, and at the close of the Mexican War, in 1848, Major WASHINGTON was appointed to command an expedition across the plains of Mexico, *via* El Paso, to the Pacific Ocean, which he accomplished amidst the greatest physical difficulties, and the rigors of the climate. His command was to the ninth military department, and from October, 1848, to October, 1849, he acted as the Military Governor of New-Mexico. He has since, we believe, been chiefly attached to the service on the Pacific, and it was while in charge of an additional Artillery force destined for that distant region, that he lost his life, on an element and by a calamity so different from the scenes of danger in which it had been his pride as a soldier to risk it.

Major GEORGE TAYLOR was a cadet of the class of 1833. He won his first brevet—that of Captain—in the Florida War, in 1840, and was commissioned Captain in February, 1847. In 1842 he served as Assistant Professor of Mathematics at West Point. In October, 1847, he won his brevet of Major by gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Huamantla, in Mexico; and in July, 1848, distinguished himself in action at Atlixco. He was a native of Georgia. Mrs. TAYLOR was lost with him, from the wreck of the *San Francisco*.

Captain HORACE B. FIELD was of New-York—a graduate at West Point of the class of 1836. He was made Brevet Captain for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Huamantla, in Mexico, in October, 1847. He first entered the 3d Artillery in July, 1840, as a Second Lieutenant.

Lieutenant RICHARD H. SMITH was of Tennessee, appointed to one of the additional infantry regiments authorized in 1847—the 14th—as a Second Lieutenant, and was transferred to the 3d Artillery in June, 1848.