

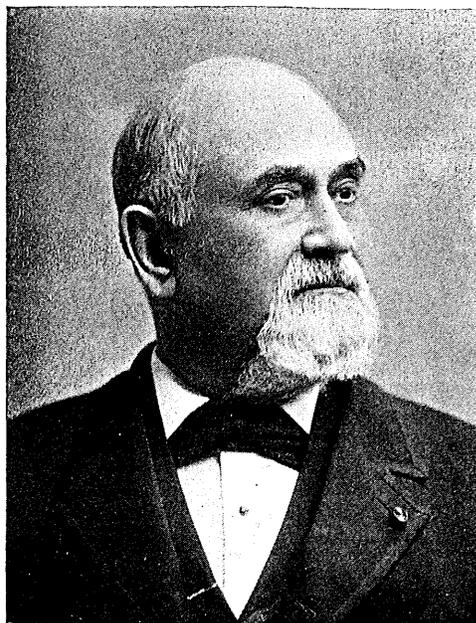
molding the business and political destinies of his city and state, but in the councils and the national conventions of his party. He was a man of large, robust physique, and possessed a personality that was both magnetic and impressive. His numerous business enterprises did not deter him from studious habits formed in youth, and few men were his conversational equals on such a diversity of topics. The sterling qualities of his character were such as to endear him to men in all walks of life, and his death is mourned by a large circle of sincere and devoted friends. His name has been honored by having two towns named for him, viz.: Langdon, in North Dakota, and Langdon, in Minnesota. Mr. Langdon was for some time president of the Minneapolis Club. In his religious faith he was an Episcopalian, and up to the time of his death was a vestryman of St. Mark's Church. He was married in 1859 to Miss Sarah Smith, a daughter of Dr. Horatio A. Smith, of New Haven, Vermont. In 1866 he brought his family to Minneapolis, where they have ever since resided. The family consists of three children, Cavour S. Langdon, Mrs. H. C. Truesdale and Mrs. W. F. Brooks, all three of whom are married and live in Minneapolis.

JOHN B. SANBORN.

Of the many gallant soldiers whom Minnesota gave to the armies of the North during the war for the preservation of the Union, General John B. Sanborn, of St. Paul, is one of the most eminent, and to the glories of a military career he has added those of an equally brilliant civil career. As a lawyer and statesman he has occupied a conspicuous place in the life of Minnesota for more than a generation. He was born in Epsom, Merrimac County, New Hampshire, December 5, 1826, on the homestead which has been in possession of the Sanborn family for seven successive generations, and although now beyond "three score years and ten," is in complete possession of all his powers of mind and body. On both sides he is descended from New England families; and his grandfathers were revolutionary soldiers. His boyhood years were passed

on the farm, and he acquired his early knowledge of books at a country school. President Franklin Pierce advised him to study law, and so he entered the office of Judge Asa Fowler, in Concord, in 1851, and was admitted to the bar in that town in 1854, at the age of twenty-seven. It was in this year that he removed to Minnesota, locating at St. Paul, where he began the practice of his profession, and has since resided. Theodore French was his first partner in the law, and subsequently the firm became Sanborn, French & Lund. In 1859 he served as a member of the lower house of the legislature, and in 1860 was elected to the state senate. When the civil war began, in the spring of 1861, Governor Alexander Ramsey appointed him adjutant general of the state, and after organizing and equipping the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Regiments of Volunteer Infantry, and two batteries and one battalion of cavalry, he enlisted in the Fourth Regiment, in December, 1861, and was made its colonel. From this time on to the close of the war, he was constantly in the service. In the spring of 1862 the Fourth Regiment was ordered South, and joined General Halleck's army in front of Corinth. After an eventful spring and summer, Sanborn, on September 19, 1862, being then in command of the First Brigade of the Third Division, Army of the Mississippi, took part in the fiercely contested battle of Iuka. His brigade was in the hottest part of the fight, losing six hundred men in killed and wounded, but not without some compensation, for to it belonged the credit of saving the day. General Rosecrans took occasion, in his orders, to give Sanborn the most flattering mention for his skill and gallantry. On October 3 and 4, he commanded a brigade at the battle of Corinth, and sustained the reputation previously made at Iuka. From this time on he was in all of Grant's campaigns in the Mississippi Valley, including the campaign against Vicksburg. From April 15 to May 2, 1863, General Sanborn commanded the Seventh Division of the Seventeenth Army Corps. Resuming command of his brigade, he was in engagements at Raymond, Mississippi, May 12; at Jackson, May 14; at Champion Hills, May 16, and in the assault on Vicksburg,

May 22, on which last named day he was again in command of the Seventh Division. General Grant elected Sanborn's brigade to lead the advance into Vicksburg, on July 4, after the surrender. In 1862, shortly after Iuka and Corinth, President Lincoln promoted Sanborn to the position of brigadier general of volunteers, but the appointment lapsed owing to the adjournment of congress, March 4, 1863, before his name was reached for confirmation. He did not receive his commission until August 4, 1863, or after the events referred to in the preceding paragraph of this article. In October, 1863, he took command of the Southwest Missouri district, where he remained until the close of the war, suppressing the guerrillas who infested that country, and in various other ways assisting in the restoration of order. It was in the fall of 1864, while in this station, that he resisted the attempt of the Confederate forces under General Sterling Price to invade Missouri, having under his command during the invasion period nearly all of the Federal cavalry forces west of the Mississippi, some ten thousand men. In all of his engagements with Price, and they were numerous, he was victorious, capturing a number of guns, taking several thousand prisoners, and so crippling Price that he was of little further service to the Confederacy. In June, 1865, General Sanborn went to Fort Riley, Kansas, from which headquarters he directed the opening up of a line of travel to Colorado and New Mexico, and suppressed an Indian uprising, all in the short period of ninety days. In June, 1866, he was mustered out of the service, and returned to St. Paul, resuming the practice of law, the firm name now being Sanborn & King. In 1868 this partnership was dissolved, and General Sanborn in 1871 had associated himself with his nephew, Walter H. Sanborn. In 1880 Edward P. Sanborn, another nephew entered the firm. In 1867 General Sanborn was named, with Generals Sherman and Terry, Senator John B. Henderson of Missouri, and Colonel Samuel Tappan, as peace commissioners to treat with a number of hostile Indian tribes, including the Sioux, Arrapahoes, Kiowas and Comanches. In 1872, and again in 1882, he was a member of the Minnesota legislature. His



last service in that body was as state senator from 1890 to 1894. In 1860 he was a candidate for the United States senate and was defeated by Morton S. Wilkinson by two votes. He took an active part in restoring the credit of the state at the time of the recognition and settlement of the railroad bond debt. General Sanborn has been honored in various ways in addition to those mentioned. He was the first commander of the Minnesota Commandery of the Loyal Legion and of the Grand Army of the Republic in Minnesota. For several years he was president of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce. He has been a trustee of the State Historical Society, vice president of the National German-American Bank, and director or officer of a number of other prominent societies and institutions. In March, 1857, he was married to Miss Catharine Hall, of Newton, New Jersey, who died in 1860. In November, 1865, he married Miss Anna Nixon, of Bridgeton, New Jersey, a sister of the Hon. John T. Nixon, of the Federal Court of New Jersey. She died in June, 1878. April 15, 1880, General Sanborn married Miss Rachel Rice, daughter of Hon. Edmund Rice, of St. Paul, who has borne him four children.

Pres. pro tem, Senate, 1891, 1893
Chair, Senate Rules, 1893