

KINGS
OF THE
BATTLE-FIELD

The book cover is dark brown with a fine, pebbled texture. A large, ornate gold-tooled design is centered on the cover. It features a central shield with intricate scrollwork and floral patterns. Several weapons are crossed around the shield: a spear with a long shaft and a pointed tip, a sword with a hilt and a scabbard, and a battle-axe with a curved blade. The title 'KINGS OF THE BATTLE-FIELD' is written in a highly decorative, calligraphic gold font, with the words 'KINGS', 'OF THE', and 'BATTLE-FIELD' arranged in a circular pattern around the shield. The shield itself is positioned behind the word 'OF THE'. The entire design is framed by a decorative border with floral motifs in the corners. On the left side, the spine of the book is visible, showing the binding structure and a small white label.



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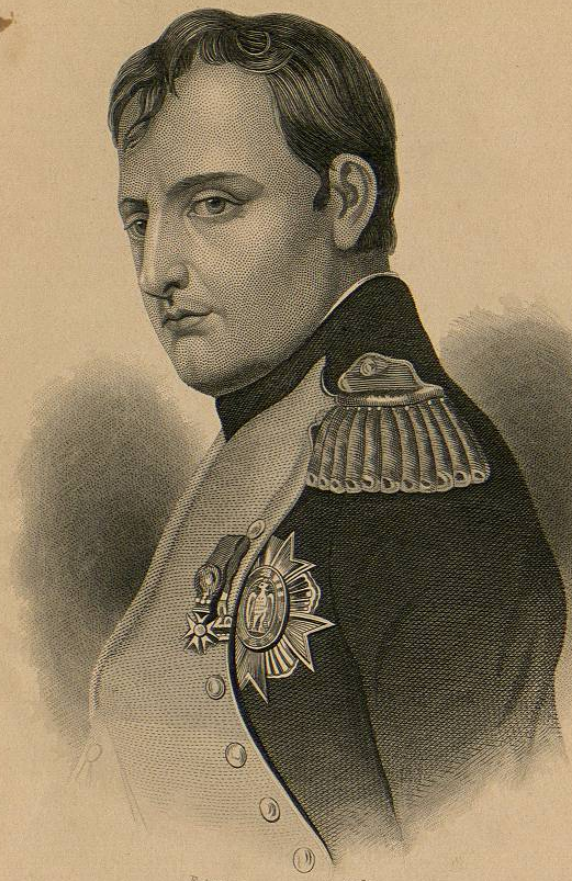
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KINGS OF THE BATTLE-FIELD:

COMPRISING

A SERIES OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED MILITARY LEADERS, OF EUROPE AND AMERICA, WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED THEIR LIFE SERVICES TO ESTABLISH AND PERPETUATE THE FREEDOM OF THEIR FELLOW-MEN AND THE SACRED HONOR OF THEIR COUNTRY.

BY

W. SANFORD RAMEY,

AUTHOR OF "MORAL AND SCIENTIFIC CONQUESTS," "OUR NAVAL HEROES," "STARS OF OUR REPUBLIC," ETC.

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Illustrated.
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PHILADELPHIA:
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THE MEMORY OF
MY BROTHER MARION,
MY CONSTANT SHIELD IN BOYHOOD,
WHOSE LAMP OF LIFE WENT OUT ON THE
BATTLE-FIELD OF CORINTH,
AND WHOSE LAST WORDS WERE OF ME AND
HIS COUNTRY,
THIS VOLUME IS SACREDLY INSCRIBED
BY HIS BROTHER,
THE AUTHOR.

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PREFACE.

WARRIORS have always found admirers. Bravery—the facing of death and danger—excites admiration. To the hero who devotes his services and life to his country for her salvation and perpetuity, we give the highest place in the annals of history.

We are desirous to avoid war, with all its attendant miseries; and it is with anxiety and compassion that we regard the armies who are led to the slaughter on questions which might be more satisfactorily settled by arbitration. But there are occasions when war becomes a terrible necessity. Under such circumstances competent commanders are the best national safeguards. It is not by force of numbers alone, but by strategic skill that great victories are achieved; and we look with confidence, therefore, as to the issue of a battle, not so much to numerical strength as to the sagacity of those in command. The names of those great men who have won laurels on the battle-field are

names cherished as "household words." Their services were great and good, and their memories are held near and dear.

The principal object of this book is to group around the two great nations, Europe and America, those leading warriors who have climbed to immortality in their country's cause, shared its fortunes, helped to win its victories, and remained constant to the end.

Washington, Napoleon, Grant and Wolseley are names that will live forever in our history; not because they were the subjects of a blind adulation, but because they were soldiers, brave of heart and strong of patriotism, who wore the sword that the freedom of their fellow-men and the sacred honor of their country might still be unimpaired.

To the list that I have selected might be added many brave and worthy heroes from the ranks; but the introduction of every meritorious soldier would make the work too cumbersome for my purpose.

Much care has been taken to have these sketches complete without being heavy—to give the leading qualities, peculiar traits and distinguishing characteristics of the subjects presented.

Biographies possess but little interest when not accompanied by a recital of the thrilling adventures that mark such eventful lives. To make each hero stand out clear and distinct, to present living portraits of the greatest military leaders, is the object of my work.

Whatever may be the verdict of the public, the patriots "deserve well of their country," and with successive pride we hand down to posterity the memories of our brave defenders.

W. SANFORD RAMEY.

BOSTON, September, 1883.