

GENERAL THOMAS T. DILL.

General Dill, one of Mansfield's best known and most highly esteemed citizens, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, May 2, 1842, and is a son of Thomas and Catharine (Kellog) Dill. The father was born in Dillstown, Pennsylvania, in 1800, and during his boyhood was brought to this state by his parents, who settled in Stark county. After his marriage he removed to Wayne county, and in 1852 came to Mansfield, Richland county, where his death occurred in 1877. He was twice married, his second wife being the mother of our subject. She was born in Northamptonshire, England, in 1808.

The General began his education in his native county, and after the removal of the family to Mansfield attended the public schools in that city. He was among the first to offer his services to his country on the outbreak of the Civil war, enlisting in April, 1861, for three months, at the president's first call for troops. He became a member of the Sixteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served under General McClellan in West Virginia, participating in the battles of Philippi, Laurel Hill and Carrick's Ford. He was mustered out in August, 1861, and almost immediately re-enlisted for three years, in the re-organized Sixteenth, as a private, but was afterward promoted as sergeant and was mustered out as sergeant-major, October 31, 1864. In the course of two months he again re-enlisted for three years, in Hancock's Veteran corps, becoming a second lieutenant in the First Regiment, United States Veteran Volunteers, and was afterward transferred to the Ninth Regiment and promoted first lieutenant and adjutant. During his military career he served under Generals McClellan, Buell, Sherman, Grant, Banks, Canby and Hancock, and participated in a great many of the important campaigns and battles of the war, including the siege and capture of Vicksburg. He was a prisoner in the hands of the enemy for a short time, and was finally mustered out of service on the 2d of May, 1866, with a war record of which he may be justly proud.

Returning to Mansfield in the summer of 1866, General Dill has since made this place his home. For eight years he was connected with the Aultman-Taylor Company. In the fall of 1876 he was elected clerk of the courts

of Richland county, and so acceptably did he fill that office that he was re-elected for another three-years term in the fall of 1879. In January, 1884, after the election of Governor Hoadley, he was appointed assistant adjutant-general of the state, and served in that capacity with headquarters at Columbus for two years. In the spring of 1886 he was appointed by Governor Foraker, now United States Senator, a member of the board of trustees of the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors' Home, which they located and built near Sandusky. He was again appointed assistant adjutant-general of the state by Governor Campbell in 1890, and resigned his position as a trustee of the Soldiers and Sailors' Home. In 1891 he was made adjutant-general of the state and most efficiently filled that office until January, 1892. Governor Bushnell re-appointed him a trustee of the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors' Home in the spring of 1896, and when his term expired, in April, 1900, he was reappointed by Governor Nash for a term of five years. His official duties have always been most capably and conscientiously discharged, winning for him the commendation of all concerned.

General Dill was married in the summer of 1866 to Miss Malvina Vogel, of Millersburg, Ohio, and to them were born two sons: Charles F., who died in the fall of 1889; and George V., who is engaged in business in Mansfield as a dealer in coal, lime and builders' supplies.

The General served as the captain of Company B, Seventeenth Ohio National Guards, in 1878 and 1879, and has been aid-de-camp on the staff of the commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Honor. His long residence in Mansfield, covering a period of almost half a century, has placed him among its valued citizens who have been devoted to the public welfare. He has manifested the same loyalty in days of peace as in time of war, and all who know him have for him the highest regard.