

THE GREAT GENERALS



Ulysses S. Grant was born at Point Pleasant, Ohio in 1822. A West Pointer who never liked soldiering, he resigned from the Army in the 1850's, and had a hard time making a living for several years as a farmer, a real estate salesman, and a clerk in a leather store. He got back into the Army when the Civil War began, a slouchy, stoop-shouldered little man who never managed to look military. He became known as "Unconditional Surrender Grant," and finally led Union armies to victory. On three different occasions, he captured an entire Confederate army, lock, stock and barrel.



Philip Kearny, born in New York in 1814, never went to West Point, but as a Union officer showed a decided flair for aggressive leadership. He lost an arm in the Mexican War, and was killed in action at the battle of Chantilly, Virginia, in 1862. In action, Kearny would hold his bridle reins in his teeth and flourish his sword with his one hand.



Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was born in 1824 in Clarksburg, now in West Virginia, then in Virginia. A dour, slightly eccentric man, he seemed de-

GREAT GENERALS

void of any personal magnetism. Jackson was such a master of swift movement that his corps became known as "Jackson's foot cavalry." He died after being accidentally shot by his own men in May, 1863.



George B. Thomas, born in Virginia in 1816, was a West Pointer who stayed with the Union when his state seceded and became one of the North's ablest commanders. Phlegmatic and stately, he was called "Old Slow Trot" and was known as a master of defensive warfare.



Robert E. Lee, born in 1807 in Westmoreland County, Virginia, was a West Point graduate who served with distinction in the Mexican War. He went with his state when Virginia seceded, and commanded the Army of Northern Virginia from 1862, to its surrender in 1865. Always fighting against odds, he stood off the best the North could send against him until the very end, and won the respect of his foes as well as the adulation of all Southerners. Lee has been generally acclaimed as possibly the greatest strategist America has produced.

PAGEANT

June, 1958

p. 148