

- *Name:* Joseph Lanman
- *Sex:* M
- *Birth:* 18 Jul 1811 in Norwich, Connecticut
- *Death:* 13 Feb 1874 in Washington, DC
- *Note:*

Rear Admiral Joseph Lanman, of the United States Navy, was born in Norwich, Connecticut, July 18, 1811. He entered the navy at an early age, and was appointed midshipman, January 1, 1825. In 1827 he was ordered to join the frigate "Macedonian," of the Brazil Squadron. In 1830 he was attached to the sloop "Peacock," of the West India Squadron. Early in June of the following year he was promoted to the rank of passed midshipman, and next joined the schooner "Dolphin," of the Pacific Squadron. Young Mr. Lanman had performed his duties with ability and faithfulness through the first few years of his naval service, and he rose steadily by promotion. In March, 1835, he received his first commission, that of a lieutenant in the United States Navy, and served in the "Vincennes" in a cruise of circumnavigation and among the South Sea Islands. In 1837 he joined the Mediterranean Squadron; in 1839 he served in the West Indies; in 1843 he was placed on ordnance duty. In 1846 he joined the sloop of war "Preble," detailed to convoy Stevenson's regiment to California, and soon after his arrival he was ordered to the command of the United States ship "Warren," where he also performed the duty of Collector of the Port of Monterey, California, and while there saw the first gold discovered in the mines. In 1848 he was made the bearer of dispatches from the commanding officer of the Pacific Squadron to the authorities at Washington, and was assigned to special duty at one of the large iron foundries and gun-casting establishments with the view of rendering the knowledge obtained there serviceable to The government in the department of ordnance. In 1851 he was ordered to the Mediterranean Squadron, and in 1853 to the Washington Navy Yard. In March 1858, he took command of the United States steamer "Michigan," on the Lakes. In 1861, at the breaking out of the rebellion, Commander Lanman applied for active duty on the Atlantic coast, but the department deemed it necessary to give him orders to the Mare Island Navy Yard, California, which was, from its distance and the difficulty of communication with it, also from its importance as a naval station, a place where it was necessary to have officers on whom the most explicit reliance could be placed. He was selected as ordnance officer and ordered to that station. In 1862 he commanded the United States steam frigate "Saranac," of the Pacific Squadron, stationed at Panama for the protection of the property of the Isthmus railway, and of its passengers from massacre by the natives. He was promoted to the rank of captain in 1861, and August 21, 1862, was appointed a commodore. In 1864-65 he commanded the frigate "Minnesota" in the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. He was present at the two attacks on Fort Fisher; and in the second attack, which was one of the most brilliant engagements of the war, was selected to lead the second line in his flagship the "Minnesota." The fleet and land forces, in transports, arrived off the fort, January 13, 1865, and the next day, under cover of the guns of the former, the troops effected a landing. On the fifteenth the combined attack by land and sea was made, resulting in the capture of Fort Fisher. In no other engagement did the army and navy co-operate so harmoniously. In the action Commadore Lanman superintended the firing of his vessels, witnessed how they were managed during the engagement, and personally directed the force under him. Admiral David D. Porter, in his official report, thus speaks of him: "Commodore Joseph Lanman was selected to lead the line, consequently he led into action. I was much pleased with the way in which he handled his ship and fired throughout the action; the whole affair on his part being conducted

with admirable judgment and coolness. I recommend him to the consideration of the Department, as one on whom they can place the utmost reliance." After the war he was ordered to special duty at New York, and in 1865 he was ordered to the command of the " Powhatan;" but his orders were revoked, and October 10, 1865, he was appointed to the command of the North Atlantic Squadron, when the disbandment of naval depots and store-houses on shore required close and constant official attention. October 1, 1867, he took command of the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Navy Yard. December 8, 1867, he received his commission as Rear Admiral. In April 1869, he was appointed to the command of the South Atlantic Squadron, cruising off the coast of Brazil. He was retired July 18, 1872. In February 1874, he was ordered by telegram to Washington, where he took a severe cold and died February 13, 1874.

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Obituary Notice

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OBITUARY.

REAR-ADMIRAL JOSEPH LANMAN.

Rear-Admiral Joseph Lanman died at his residence in Norwich, Friday afternoon, March 13th, aged 63. Admiral Lanman comes of a family distinguished in Connecticut annals, and was either a son or nephew of the late senator and judge, James Lanman. He entered the navy as midshipman when only fourteen years of age and saw forty-seven years of active service, having been placed on the retired list about two years ago. He saw twenty-one years of sea service, and sixteen years of shore duty, being unemployed some ten years. He did efficient service during the war, and as commanding officer of the Minnesota took an active part in the bombardment of Fort Fisher at the time of General Butler's unsuccessful attempt to capture the fort.

JOHANN HEINRICH MADLER.

Johann Heinrich Müller, the distinguished German astronomer, has just died at the age of 80. He was born in Berlin in 1791, and in early life gained a high reputation as a teacher. In 1834-5 he assisted in the preparation of the great map of the moon, with an accompanying explanatory work. In 1836 he became director of the Berlin observatory, and in 1840 of that of Dorpat, Russia. His investigations in regard to the stellar system were of great influence upon the progress of cosmology. He was the author of various valuable scientific works.

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February 13, 1874.

Roots Website

OBITUARY.

REAR ADMIRAL JOSEPH LANMAN.

Rear Admiral Joseph Lanman, of the United States Navy, died at his residence in Norwich, Conn., yesterday, aged sixty-three years.

The deceased Admiral was born in Connecticut on July 11, 1811; was appointed Midshipman from his native State on Jan. 1, 1825. He became attached to the frigate *Macedonia*, of the Brazil Squadron, in 1827, and in 1830 joined the sloop *Peacock*, of the West India Squadron. He was promoted to the rank of Passed Lieutenant in 1831, and in 1835 received his commission as Lieutenant, attached to the sloop *Warren*, of the West India Squadron, and while acting in this capacity was made the bearer of dispatches from the commander of the Pacific Squadron, which he joined in 1847, to the authorities at Washington. He received his Commander's commission in 1855, commanding the steamer *Michigan* on the lakes until 1861, in which year he was commissioned as Captain, and was appointed to the steam-sloop *Saranac*, of the Pacific Squadron. He received his Commodore's commission in 1862, and commanded the steam-sloop *Lancaster* until 1863, when he assumed command of the frigate *Minnesota*, of the North Atlantic Squadron. Commodore Lanman commanded the Second Division of Porter's squadron at the two attacks upon Fort Fisher, and ~~did efficient service.~~ On the 8th of December, 1867, he was commissioned as Rear Admiral, was commandant of the Navy-yard at Portsmouth, N. H., in 1867-8, and commanded the South Atlantic Squadron in 1869-70. Rear Admiral Lanman was placed on the retired list on the 18th of July, 1872.

The New York Times

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Joseph Lanman Rear Admiral Joseph Lanman of the United States Navy died at his residence in Norwich Connecticut on the 13th of March He was a native of that State where he was born on the 1 ith of July 1811 He entered the navy as a midshipman in 1825 and two years later was attached to the Brazil squadron In 1831 he was promoted to Passed Lieutenant and in 1835 was commissioned Lieutenant He was on duty in the Pacific in 1847 where he was sent with dispatches from the commander of the squadron there to the authorities at Washington City In 1855 he was promoted to Commander and was in charge of the war steamer Michigan on the lakes when the civil war broke out in 1861 Then he was appointed to the command of the Saranac of the Pacific Squadron Commissioned a Commodore in 1862 he became attached to the North Atlantic Squadron in 1863 The next year he commanded the second division of Admiral Porter's squadron in both attacks on Fort Fisher Late in 1867 he received the commission of Rear Admiral In 1869-70 he was in command of the South Atlantic Squadron and was placed on the retired list in July 1872

Potter's American Monthly, Vol. 3, J.E. Potter & Co. 1874

Commodore Joseph Lanman of the regular naval service is a native of Norwich His original entry has the date of Feb 1 1826 which gives him forty years of naval experience Twenty four years of this term is credited to him as sea service the remainder occupied in shore duty or unemployed He is now in command of the Minnesota screw steamer 52 guns
Caulkins, "History of Norwich, from its possession.

NL Day 7/14/1937 page 7 "Lanman Ship Given Flag

Obit ~~Mar 13, 1872~~ 2/13/1874