

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM MAXWELL WOOD.

Surgeon-General William Maxwell Wood died Monday, at his residence, Owing's Mills, Baltimore County, Md., in the seventy-second year of his age. He was born in Baltimore, and was appointed an assistant surgeon in the Navy on May 16, 1829. Some of his most valuable service was rendered when attached to the Pacific Squadron, 1844-6. Commodore Sloat wrote to him: "I am most happy to acknowledge the very important services you rendered the Government and the squadron in the Pacific under my command at the breaking out of the Mexican war. The information you furnished me at Mazatlan from Guadalupe, at the risk of your life, was the only reliable information I received of that event, and which induced me to proceed immediately to California, and upon my own responsibility to take charge of that country. I have always considered the performance of your journey through Mexico at that time as an extraordinary feat, requiring great presence of mind and address. How you escaped from the heart of an enemy's country, and such a people, has always been a wonder to me, and has been so characterized on all occasions." The Chairman of the Naval Committee of the Senate commented on his services in very flattering terms. Later, Surgeon Wood took part in the Chinese war. During the rebellion he was Fleet Surgeon on the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. In 1868, he was appointed President of the Examining Board, was Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in 1870, and was retired in 1871. His wife survives him, and he leaves a family of sons and daughters. One of his sons is in the Army and another in the Navy.

The New York Times

Published: March 3, 1880

Copyright © The New York Times