

The Surgeon-General of the Navy.

SURGEON WILLIAM MAXWELL WOOD, who on attaining the age of sixty-two years, has lately resigned the office of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the Navy, deserves, at least, the tribute of a notice as he retires to private life.

He has passed his whole life in the navy, filling every grade, and acting as Fleet Surgeon in the Pacific during the Mexican war; as Fleet Surgeon in the Chinese Squadron during the English war with China, and as Fleet Surgeon of the Atlantic Squadron during the rebellion. Combining skill in his profession with the highest tone of character and energy in organization, he has effected great improvements in the discipline and standing of the corps. It was chiefly owing to his writings and personal influence that the Staff Rank bill was passed by the last Congress. He retires from the highest post attainable in his profession, under a rule of the Department, in the prime of his physical and mental powers, with the respect and gratitude of his profession.

The country owes to him to a great degree the acquisition of California, he having 'carried to our fleet in the Pacific, from the City of Mexico, the news of the Mexican war, thus enabling our fleet to anticipate the English in the seizure of that province.

The *Hearth and Home* has a Thanksgiving number of great attractiveness. The illustration on the opening page, eminently suited to the occasion, represents the way in which the Thanksgiving festival will be celebrated in many hundred homes in the burnt districts of Michigan. An absolute denial is given to the assertion that all babies look alike by the picture called the "Baby Show," in which are given the portraits of a greater number of babies than we have time or patience to count, each one of whom is as distinctly individual in appearance as it is possible for any person to be. The literary matter has a general bearing upon the lessons of the week, and is entertaining to a degree above even its usual high average.

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