

## Clement Dorsey Hebb (1829 - 23 Jun 1897)

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*The Washington Post, December 28, 1890, p. 4*

### **Col. McCawley's Successor**

#### **Who Will Be the Next Commandant of the Marine Corps?**

*Washington Special New York Tribune:*



Charles G. McCawley, colonel commandant of the Marine Corps, will be retired for age next month, and there is a lively contest for the succession. The senior colonel is Clement D. Hebb, who will also be retired for age within a year. Owing to this fact Col. Hebb was not inclined to make a contest for selection as commandant, particularly as he would gain no additional rank thereby. He has been persuaded, however, by personal friends to enter the list of candidates. The hesitation of Col. Hebb to enter the contest induced Lieut. Col Heywood, the officer next in rank, to ask for the designation as colonel commandant. Col. Heywood is in the vigor of manhood, with at least a dozen years of service before reaching the retiring age. He has an excellent record in the marine service and is regarded as one of the most competent officers of the corps. He is the choice of a majority of his associates in both branches of the Navy. In view of the fact that Col. Hebb will be retired within a year, it is thought Col. Heywood will be selected by the President to succeed Col. McCawley. Those familiar with the Marine Corps express the belief that the interests of that organization would be promoted by the selection of Col. Heywood, who has not only merit and faithful service, but seniority after Col. Hebb to recommend him.

**Hebb.** On June 23, 1897 at 2 a.m. after a short illness of pneumonia, Col. Clement Dorsey Hebb, U.S.M.C. retired, aged 68 years 11 months. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from Ascension Church, Saturday morning at 11 o'clock. Born in Virginia. Entered the Marines as 2nd Lt. March 1856. Served through Lt., Capt., Major, Lt. Col. and Col. Colonel Commandant of the Marine Corps 1890-91.

*The Evening Star, June 24, 1897*

### **Death of Col. Clement D. Hebb**

Col. Clement D Hebb, United States marine corps, retired, died early yesterday morning at his residence, 1216 K street, after a short illness of pneumonia, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. His wife and daughter were at his bedside when he passed away, and his son arrived from Nantucket a few hours later. Funeral services will be held at the Church of the Ascension Saturday morning at 11 o'clock. Col. Hebb had a gallant record and served his country well. He retired from active service about four years

ago, since which time he resided in this city. His last active duty was as colonel commandant of the marine corps at Washington.

*The Washington Post, June 24, 1897, p. 7*

### **Col. Clement D. Hebb Dead**

#### **A Retired Army Officer Who Had Spent Many Years Here**

Col. Clement Dorsey Hebb, U.S. Marine Corps, retired, died shortly before 3 o'clock yesterday morning at his home, 1216 K street northwest after 2 days illness of pneumonia. He was 69 years old and had spent many years in Washington.

He was retired four years ago. His wife and daughter were at his bedside when the end came. His only son arrived here from Nantucket yesterday.

*The Washington Post, June 27, 1897, p. 4*

### **Funeral of Col. Hebb**

#### **Comrades of the Deceased Officer Bear the Remains to Congressional Cemetery**

The funeral of the late Col. Clement Dorsey Hebb, U.S.M.C., retired, was held yesterday morning at 11 o'clock from Ascension Church, Rev. Dr Ellicott, rector of the church, officiating, assisted by Rev. T.W. Cook. Awaiting the funeral cortege which left the deceased's house shortly before 11 o'clock, were a battalion of marines and the Marine Band, in command of Maj. Harrington. On either side of the hearse marched three Sergeants of the Marine Corps, who acted as pallbearers. On the arrival of the cortege the marines presented arms and the band rendered impressively "Nearer, My God, to Thee." After a short service, the funeral procession proceeded to the Congressional Cemetery. Here the Episcopal committal services was read, and the coffin, enfolded in the American flag, was lowered.

The honorary pall-bearers were Admiral Benham, U.S.N.; Commodores Norton and O'Neil, U.S.N.; Col. Heywood, U.S.M.C.; Maj. Goodloe, U.S.M.C.; Maj Reid, U.S.M.C.; Chief Engineer Robie, U.S.N.; Judge Walter Davidge and Mr. Ernest Wilkinson.

*Washington Times, June 24, 1897, p. 5*

### **COL. CLEMENT HEBB**

#### **Gallant Officer of the Marine Corps Passes Away.**

#### **Commandant of the Navy Yards and Saw Service in the War**

#### **Ill But Three Days**

Col. Clement D. Hebb, one of the most gallant officers of the United States Marine Corps, died at his home, No. 1216 E. Street North West yesterday morning, after a short illness, of pneumonia. For several years Col. Hebb has been retired from the service but during his long career in the corps he established for himself an especially honorable record.

Although he was born in Virginia, in 1829, never the less, the greater part of his early life was spent in California. Whither his parents removed soon after his birth, and it was as a resident of that State that he received his appointment as a cadet at the Naval Academy. He was a member of the graduating class of 1855, and a year later was commissioned as second lieutenant and assigned to duty aboard the sloop Falmouth. It was just about this time that the Paraguay expedition was being prepared, and in 1859 Col. Hebb was transferred to the Preble and thus became a member of the expedition. In the latter part of the same year he was detailed for duty in this city at the marine headquarters, from which post he was soon after transferred to Pensacola Florida, where he remained until the outbreak of hostilities between the Union and the Confederacy.

He was then ordered to Fort Washington, on the Potomac, in order to prevent the enemy from seizing that important position. A little later in the same year his rank was raised to that of first lieutenant, and he was assigned for duty upon the frigate *Sumpter*, which was one of the vessels constituting the West Gulf Blockading Squadron.

On the 26th of July, 1881, his rank was advanced to that of captain, and he was assigned to the marine barracks at Gosport, Va., for duty. In quick succession important posts at Morris and Folly Islands South Carolina the marine barracks at New York City., and the barracks in Washington, were in his charge, and in 1857 he returned to Pensacola, to take command of the barracks there, with the rank of Commandant.

Col. Hebb occupied the same important position at the Mare Island Navy Yard, San Francisco from 1874 to 1880. From 1880 to 1885 he acted as Commandant of the Navy Yard at Boston, Mass., and the following year was created lieutenant colonel, and sent to take charge of the station at Portsmouth, Va. It was not until 1889 that the rank of Colonel was bestowed upon him when he again assumed command of the Boston Navy Yard and remained there until his transfer to the marine barracks at Washington, acting as commandant up to the time of Col. Heywood's appointment to the post, in 1891.

In 1892 Col. Hebb had attained the age which entitled him to retirement and since that time had resided here in the summer and at Pensacola during the winter months. Col. Hebb had not been in good health for several years and three days ago he was stricken with pneumonia and immediately succumbed to the attack. His wife and family, a son and daughter, were present at the bedside when the end came. The funeral will take place on Saturday at 11 a.m. from Ascension Church.

*Officers of the Army and the Navy (regular) who Served in the Civil War, edited by William Henry Powell, Edward Shippen, L.R. Hamersly & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., 1892.*

**Colonel Clement D. Hebb, U.S.M.C.**

Colonel Clement D. Hebb was born in Virginia, but was appointed a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps of the United States, from California, March, 1856. After going through his preliminary training at headquarters, and at the marine barracks at Philadelphia, where a large force of marines was always then kept, he was ordered in command of the marine guard of the sloop-of-war "*Falmouth*," and served in the Brazils for three years. During the year 1859 he was attached to the "*Preble*," of the Paraguay Expedition. After returning from the South American Station, Lieutenant Hebb served at headquarters; at marine barracks, New York; at marine barracks, Pensacola; and at headquarters again in 1860-61. These were trying times, and people had to declare their sentiments very plainly. Lieutenant Hebb was ordered, with a detachment of marines, to occupy Fort Washington, on the Potomac, to prevent that fort from falling into the hands of the rebels. In June 1861, he was commissioned a first lieutenant, and, after a short term at the marine barracks at Boston, was ordered to the frigate "*Santee*," of the West Gulf Squadron. He was promoted to captain while thus serving, and, being detached, served at the marine barracks at Norfolk, Virginia, and at Philadelphia. During a portion of the year 1863 he served with the battalion of marines at Morris and Folly Islands, South Carolina. During 1864 and 1865 he was on duty at New York, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and at Washington; was attached to the flagship "*Colorado*," of the European Squadron, from April, 1865, to August, 1867.

Captain Hebb was, after this date, in command of the marine barracks at Washington; the marine barracks at Mount City; and again at Washington, D.C. Thence he went to the marine barracks at Boston, and was transferred to the command of the marine barracks at Pensacola, where he remained from October, 1869, to June, 1872. In 1872-73 he was stationed at Annapolis, afterwards serving in the flagship "*Pensacola*," Pacific Squadron. From July, 1874 to May, 1880, he commanded marines at the Mare Island Navy Yard, California.

Commissioned major 1876. From May, 1880, to February, 1885, commanded marines at Boston Navy Yard; commissioned lieutenant-colonel April, 1880; commanded marines at navy yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1885, to August, 1889.

Commissioned colonel August, 1889, and stationed for a few months at League Island, Philadelphia. March 1, 1890, appointed to the command of the marine barracks at the navy yard, Boston, Massachusetts.

Colonel Hebb was ordered by the Honorable Secretary of the Navy on September 7, 1891, to Washington, D.C., to command the Marine Corps while the commandant (McCawley) was sick, and until his retirement and successor was appointed in February, 1891, when he returned to the Boston Marine Barracks.