

LIEUTENANT ALEXANDER MCCRACKEN, of the U. S. Navy, was born in Indiana, in 1850. He was a cabin boy on a gunboat commanded by Captain Wells, on the lower Mississippi, in 1863 and 1864. In 1865 he entered the naval school at Annapolis, Md.; graduated in 1869; was appointed midshipman, and left Boston, August 1st, in the same year for the East, in the service of the government, visiting France, Italy, Egypt and other countries. Subsequently he was in the coast survey on the Gulf of Mexico and lower Mississippi River. In 1877 he was sent to the coast of South America, and returned in November, 1879. He is now (1880) one of the instructors in mathematics in the naval school at Annapolis. He was promoted regularly from midshipman to lieutenant, in January, 1879.