

**A SOLDIER-DOCTOR OF OUR  
ARMY, JAMES P. KIMBALL,  
LATE COLONEL AND ASSISTANT  
SURGEON-GENERAL, U.S. ARMY**

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A soldier-doctor of our army, James P. Kimball, late colonel and assistant surgeon-general, U.S. Army by Maria Brace Kimball

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**MARIA BRACE KIMBALL**

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JAMES P. KIMBALL



James T. Kimball

# A SOLDIER-DOCTOR OF OUR ARMY

JAMES P. KIMBALL

LATE COLONEL AND  
ASSISTANT SURGEON-GENERAL, U.S. ARMY

*Porter* BY  
Mrs. MARIA BRACE KIMBALL, 1852-

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY  
MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM C. GORGAS  
SURGEON-GENERAL, U.S. ARMY

*And with Illustrations*



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## PREFACE

THE heroism of the army surgeon has been by many people overlooked. Noncombatant the surgeon may be in the technical sense of the word, but Dr. Kimball's letters from trackless plains and mountain-tops, from battlefields, "civilized" and savage, show him "ever a fighter." Ready to attack death or disaster, he was indeed a true soldier-doctor. I like the name familiar to every man in the ranks, "Captain-Doctor," "Major-Doctor,"—hence Soldier-Doctor.

The extracts from my husband's letters and journals I have collected, first, for my sons, and second, for all who may like to know an American officer, —

"Whose powers shed round him in the common  
strife,  
Or mild concerns of ordinary life,  
A constant influence, a peculiar grace;  
But who, if he be called upon to face

Some awful moment to which Heaven has  
joined  
Great issues, good or bad for human kind,  
Is happy as a lover; and attired  
With sudden brightness, like a man inspired;  
And through the heat of conflict, keeps the law  
In calmness made, and sees what he foresaw."

MARIA BRACE KIMBALL

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