

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES



Loyal Legion Vignettes



**REAR ADMIRAL CHARLES HENRY POOR, USN
(1808 Massachusetts - 1882 Washington DC)**

**By
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Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, and
Cary Randall Stone-Greenstein, Great Great Granddaughter Charles Henry Poor
(November 2006)**

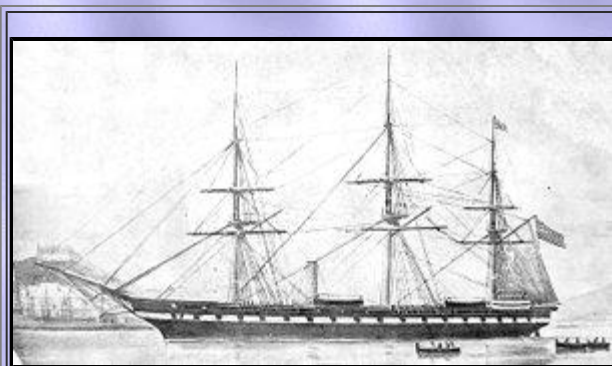


Rear Admiral Charles Henry Poor
(Photograph courtesy of Cary Randall Stone-Greenstein)

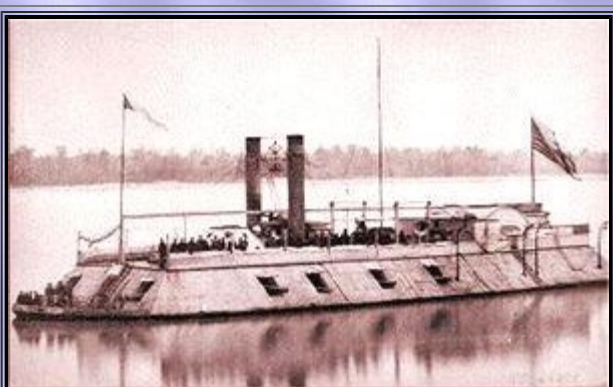
Charles Henry Poor was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts on June 11, 1808. He was the son of Son of Moses (? - ?) and Charlotte White (? - ?) Poor. He entered the navy as a midshipman on March 1,

1825, and was promoted Lieutenant on December 22, 1835, Commander on September 14, 1855, Captain on July 16, 1862, and Commodore on January 2, 1863. After serving with different squadrons, and in the Washington and Norfolk Navy Yards, he was given command of the *USS St. Louis*, of the Home Squadron, in 1860, and in 1861 year had charge of an expedition that was sent to reinforce Fort Pickens.

During 1861 - 1862, he was in command of the frigate *USS Roanoke*, of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. He was ordered to use the steamer *USS Illinois* as a ram against the *CSS Merrimac*, but did not have an opportunity to test its strength. He subsequently passed the Confederate batteries under fire in the *USS Roanoke*, while proceeding from Hampton Roads toward Newport News, to assist the *USS Congress* and *USS Cumberland*. From 1863 until 1865, he was in command of the sloop-of-war *USS Aranac*, of the Pacific Squadron, and compelled the authorities at Aspinwall to release a United States mail-steamer that had been detained there until certain illegal dues were paid. He also obliged the authorities at Rio Hacha, New Granada, to hoist and salute the American Flag after it had been insulted.



USS Roanoke



USS St. Louis



USS Saranac

In 1866 - 1868, he was in charge of the naval station at Mound City, Illinois, and he was made Rear Admiral on September 20, 1868. After serving as Commandant of the Washington Navy Yard in 1869, and commanding the North Atlantic Squadron in 1869 - 1870, he was retired on June 9, 1870. In 1871 - 1872, he was a member of the retiring board. Admiral Poor saw 23 ½ years of sea service, and was employed 14 years and 5 months in shore duty. Rear Admiral Charles Henry Poor died on November 5, 1882. He was buried at Oakhill Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Rear Admiral Charles Poor married Mattie Lindsay Stark (abt 1813 - ?). They had two daughters, Mattie Lindsay Poor (October 1, 1847 - April 3, 1898) and Elizabeth Lindsey Poor (? - ?). Mattie Lindsay Poor married [Rear Admiral David M. Kindleberger](#) (September 2, 1834 Ohio - March 25, 1921 New York) on October 8, 1868. Elizabeth Lindsey Poor married Rear Admiral Theodore Frelinghuysen Jewell (1844 Washington DC - 1932 Washington DC) on June 15, 1871. Rear Admiral Jewell was a member of the District of Columbia Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal

Legion of the United States, Insignia Number 11370.

Descendants of Rear Admiral Charles Poor are eligible for hereditary membership in the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS - founded by Civil War officers on April 15, 1865) and the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States (founded in 1899 as the auxiliary to the MOLLUS). For more information on either or both organizations, please visit each organization's national website:

[Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States](#)

[Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States](#)

Sources:

- 1) 2006. *Rear Admiral Charles Henry Poor*. Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Henry_Poor).
- 2) 2006. *Rear Admiral Charles Henry Poor*. Virtual American Biographies (<http://famousamericans.net/charleshenrypoor/>).
- 3) 2006. *US Navy Officers: 1798-1900*. Navy Historical Center, U.S. Navy (<http://www.history.navy.mil/books/callahan/reg-usn-p.htm>).
- 4) 2006. Photographs of *USS Roanoke, St. Louis and Saranac*, Wikipedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia>).
- 5) 2006. Personal communication from Cary Randall Stone-Greenstein to Keith G. Harrison.

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