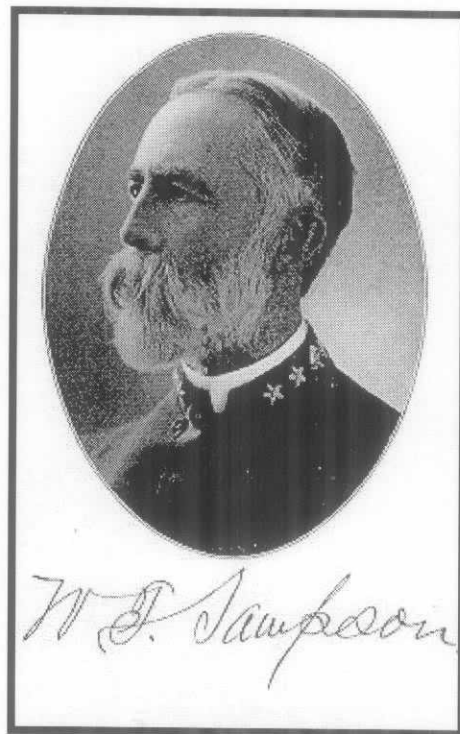


Rear Admiral
William Sampson
(1840 - 1902)



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General:

William Sampson commanded the North Atlantic Squadron during the Spanish American War. He was in command of the overall squadron when it was engaged in the Battle of Santiago though he was not present for the battle itself.

Biography:

Born in Palmyra, New York, on 9 February 1840, William Thomas Sampson was the oldest of seven children in a family of Scotch-Irish descent. In his youth, he was a dedicated student who spent his spare time assisting his father with such local projects as road-building, bricklaying, and farming. Years later, Palmyra farmer C. D. Johnson recalled, "Will used to hoe corn and potatoes for me when he was a little