

## Union Rear Admiral John Dahlgren

Dahlgren established the Navy's Ordnance Department and developed a potent smooth-bore cannon that became the standard aboard Navy ships in the years before the war (the "Dahlgren gun"). The guns had a distinctive "soda bottle" shape and were very effective against forts and ironclad ships; the *Monitor* used two Dahlgren guns in its battle with the *Virginia*.

