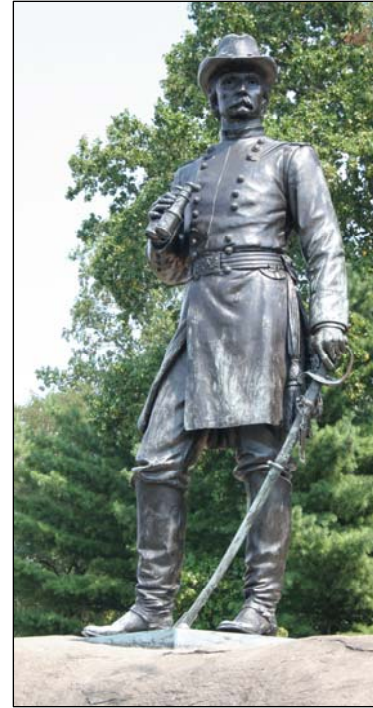


## **Brevet Major General Gouverneur Kemble Warren First St. Paul District Engineer**

Brevet Major General Gouverneur Kemble Warren, a West Point graduate and true Renaissance man, was tasked with opening the St. Paul District and conducting preliminary surveys of the main river and its tributaries. Warren's arrival in St. Paul in August 1866 established the Corps as a permanent actor in managing and transforming the Upper Mississippi River.

Between 1866 and 1869, Warren sketched 30 maps of the Upper Mississippi River. He acquired the first floating plant – a dredge and snag boat – for creating and maintaining the navigation channel, and began trying to establish a continuous 4-foot channel at low water from St. Paul to St. Louis. He requested funding for the first wing dams and closing dams, anticipating two future projects (the 4½- and 6-foot channels) for the Mississippi. And, Warren first suggested a system of 41 reservoirs for the St. Croix, Chippewa, Wisconsin and Mississippi river basins to store and release water for navigation. Finally, he recognized that only locks and dams would make the river between the mouth of the Minnesota River and St. Anthony Falls navigable. While he requested funding for the locks and dams, the system he envisioned would not be completed until 1963.

A Civil War hero, Warren possessed a keen ability to read landscapes. At the Battle of Gettysburg, he recognized the Union Army's tenuous defense on a strategic hill called Little Round Top and diverted troops to the hill. He prevented the Confederate Army from outflanking Union troops, preserving the North's victory. Through this success and his leadership during the next 26 months, Warren rose from a second lieutenant to Brevet Major General and command of the Army's 5th Corps. A statue of Warren now sits atop Little Round Top.



**A photo of the statue of Gen. Warren that sits atop Little Round in the Gettysburg National Military Park in Gettysburg, Pa.**