



successful. As a writer, however, he soon became eminent, preserving by his efforts the estate of his father, which had been attached on account of the "Land Bank Bubble." He was afterwards appointed tax collector and by his political opponents called "Samuel the Publican." He was a member of a political club, which originated important measures, fomented hostility to the Stamp Act, the tea duty, and other aggressive measures, and drew up the instructions of the town of Boston, in May, 1764, to its representatives against Greenville's schemes of parliamentary taxation. He was elected a member of the General Assembly of Massachusetts in 1765, continuing

for nine years, and by his courage, talents and energy acquired great influence. He is said to have suggested the congress which assembled in New York in 1765. In consequence of the act of imposing duties, in 1767 Mr. Adams suggested the non-impotation agreement, which took effect January 1, 1769. On the day following the "massacre" of March 5, 1770, he addressed a public meeting with impressive eloquence, and was chairman of the committee to demand of Governor Hutchinson the immediate removal of the troops. The stern and inflexible patriot carried his point, and clearly exposed the fallacy of Hutchinson's reply to the demand. Committees of correspondence were in 1772 first adopted by Massachusetts on motion of Mr. Adams, and the plan was followed by all the provinces. To Governor Gage's overture to him to make his peace with the King, he replied, "I trust I have long since made my peace with the *King of Kings*. No personal consideration shall induce me to abandon the righteous cause of my country." He was one of those who matured the plan of a general congress; was one of the first delegates, and was an active member from September 5, 1774 to 1781, and signed the Declaration of Independence. He took part in the formation of the Constitution of Massachusetts, adopted in 1780; served afterwards as a Senator of that State, and was a member of the convention which ratified the Constitution in 1788. In national politics he favored the Republican or Jeffersonian party. He was Lieutenant Governor from 1789 to 1794, and in 1795 succeeded John Hancock as Governor of Massachusetts. Having been several times re-elected, he served as Governor until 1797 and then retired. He married young and had only one son whom he survived.

JONATHAN ADAMS, b. 4 April, 1655, eldest son of VIII Edward, married March, 1678, Mary Ellis, dau., probably, of Thomas, of the same.

JOHN ADAMS, b. 18 Feb., 1657; second son of V Edward, by wife Deborah had: *Edward*, b. 1682; *John*, b. 1684; *Daniel*, b. 1686; *Eliaser*, b. 1687; besides *Obadiah* and *Jonathan*, whose dates are not given; and by second wife, Susanna, had *Thomas*, b. 1695; *Susanna*, b. 1697; *Jeremiah*, b. 1699; *Abraham*, b. 1701; *Bithea*, b. 1702; *Phineas*, b. 1705; *Hannah*, b. 1707, and *Esther*.

HENRY ADAMS, of Medfield, Mass., and Canterbury, Conn., was born in Medfield 29 Oct., 1663, seventh child of "VIII Edward;" married Dec. 10, 1691, Patience,