

Samuel Adams gave the first stroke for freedom—his graduating speech at Harvard, against the tyranny of George III, which was in consequence called in England the "Adams Rebellion." Nearly a century afterward Gen. Wirt Adams commanded in the last battle of the fateful struggle, the civil war.

In the early part of this century a son of John Adams of Timberridge, emigrated to Bourbon Co., Kentucky. His son, Judge George Adams, removed with his family to Southern Mississippi. The sons of the latter, Generals Wirt and Dan Adams were distinguished officers in the Confederate Cavalry. Gen. Dan Adams commanded in one of the last battles of the war, Selma, Alabama. "With jeweled consistency Gen. Wirt Adams declined a position in the Confederate Cabinet, and rode continuously and fearlessly through the whirlwind of war." Handsome as "Philip the Fair," he stood six feet in his stirrups, the noblest paladin of the South who rode to war. At the Court of Philip Augustus, he would have led the nobles, at the Court of England, he would have led the Barons, and with the Crusaders he would have ridden abreast with Godfrey Bouillon or Richard Coeur de Lion.

One of the first to step into the arena of strife, at his command the smoke of battle canopied the last scene of the civil war.

CAPT. H. W. ADAMS, of the Confederate Army, the eldest son of John Adams, resides in the Indian Territory. Capt. James and John Adams who served in the U. S. Army are both deceased. In personal appearance, military bearing, and bravery, the former was the counterpart of Gen. Wirt Adams the Paladin of Southland.

JOHN ADAMS, youngest son of John Adams of Rockbridge Bath, was educated at Liberty Hall, now Washington Lee College. He studied medicine at Lynchburg, Va., afterward removed to Missouri.

He was a man of high honor, an incorruptible citizen—deeply conscientious in the discharge of his public duties. As an Elder of the Presbyterian church, he was unswerving in his devotion and faith—the heritage of his fathers.

Mrs. Sue Landon Vaughan, second daughter of John Adams and niece of U. S. Adams of Mississippi, is devoted to Literature and Art. She received the degree of Mistress of L. H. D. from her Alma Mater, Fulton Synodical College, Missouri. Mrs. Vaughan is the founder of Decoration Day, April 26, 1865, which is inscribed on the State Monument, Jackson, Miss. She appealed to the women of Southland, through the columns of the "Mississippian," to "Garland the graves of our patriot braves." On first Decoration Day every soldier mound was garlanded with spring's loveliest blossoms.

Miss Sara E. Adams, third daughter of John Adams, a lady of culture and scholarly attainments, is a graduate of Danville Seminary. Her home is at Golden Gate, California.

The maternal relatives of this branch of the Adams family—the Fishers and Gaars—came over in the "Loyal Judith," and settled in Madison Co., Va., 1732.

MATERNAL FAMILY CREST. The Gaars received from Emperor Charles V, in the year 1519, for their true and loyal services, Crest: blue fields with black lilies, which symbolize the age of family tree. An open knight's helmet on which a