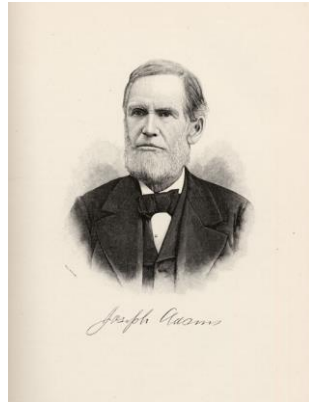


## Joseph Adams



Joseph Adams - born in Londonderry, NH., February 1, 1802, died in Fairhaven, VT., February 26, 1870.

Mr. Adams was president of the Washingtonian Temperance Society, organized in Fairhaven in 1841, with over five hundred members. He would lead anti-slavery meetings and was an independent and fearless thinker in politics and religion. He early espoused the cause of the slave and was among the first subscribers and readers of the National Era, an anti-slavery journal edited by John G. Whittier at Washington in 1846-48, when slaves were bought and sold at public auction in the capital of the nation.

In January, 1825, he took up his residence in Fairhaven, VT., building a house on West Street and carrying on his trade as shoemaker, but removed in a few years to a central part of the village. Here he erected a house and shop next to the park and carried on an extensive wholesale and retail business, employing many journeymen and apprentices. He supplied most of the merchants from Massachusetts to Canada with ladies' fine shoes.

The business of sawing marble in Fairhaven commenced in the fall of 1845 by William C. Kittredge, Alonson Allen and Joseph Adams, under the firm name of Kittredge, Allen & Adams. Allen & Adams continued the business after October, 1846, until 1852. In the latter year, Ira C. Allen entered into partnership with them.

After his death, a friend wrote: "Joseph Adams always had the 'courage of his convictions' and so great was his confidence in what he deemed to be true and right that, while admitting the equal privilege and freedom of others, he yet made personal enemies by saying openly what he disdained to say covertly. But he possessed a most forgiving and tender heart, and would as soon do a kind service for an enemy as for a friend. Aiming always to be just, with pride in honor and honesty, he delighted in generosity. In religion he was liberal; in politics a Republican. He was always a warm friend of temperance in all things. His social qualities were much above the average. He was extremely fond of music and no mean performer on the violin. Although economical in his style of living, he was ever a friend of the poor – generous and kind-hearted.

The people of Fairhaven will long have occasion to cherish the memory of Mr. Adams, as a citizen thoroughly identified with the interests of the village, warmly favoring all practical public improvements, an advocate of good schools and all moral reforms.”