

ELIPHALET ADAMS BULKELEY

Elphalet Adams Bulkeley was born January 20, 1803 in Colchester, a member of the fifth generation of Bulkeleys to live here since the Reverend John arrived in 1703. He was the third child of John Charles Bulkeley and Sally Taintor Bulkeley, both of whom are buried in the large Bulkeley plot in Linwood Cemetery.



Lydia Smith Morgan

He received his education at Bacon Academy from which he graduated in 1820, and subsequently he graduated from Yale University in 1824. He practiced law in Lebanon, CT and Selma, Alabama until 1830 when he returned to Colchester to marry Lydia Smith Morgan. They in turn moved to East Haddam where he established a law practice and entered politics. He became the first President of the East Haddam Bank and in 1834 he was elected East Haddam's Representative in the Connecticut State Legislature. In 1838 and 1840, he represented the 19th District in the State Senate.

In 1847, Eliphalet Bulkeley moved his family to Hartford where in 1857 he was elected once again to the State Legislature where he was chosen as Speaker of the House.



Eliphalet Adams Bulkeley

" Great God! we thank thee for this home.
This bounteous birthland of the free;
Where grandeur from afar may come,
And breathe the air of liberty!
Still may her flowers untrampled spring.
Her harvests grow, her cities rise;
And yet, till Time shall fold his wings,
Remain Earth's loveliest Paradise.
"

A closing poem written by E.A. Bulkeley for a political speech made on July 4th ca. 1848

In his very successful business career the "Judge" as he was called became the first President of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1846 and subsequently founded the Aetna Life Insurance Company in 1853. He remained at the helm of that great company until his death on February 13, 1872.