

was a woman of great force of character, of a sweet disposition and fond of her children, especially of 'Caddy,' between whom and herself there was a remarkable nearness." In memory of this good woman and revered mother, the distinguished son has provided for the founding of an Orphans' Asylum at Minneapolis, the point of his most successful business and financial achievements, and where he accumulated a large portion of his ample fortune.

It thus appears that the ancestry of our subject in this country has been long, and, on both sides, eminently respectable, prominent and imbued with pure principles and correct habits; and his immediate family has occupied an especially prominent position in the history of the country for the past thirty years. Of seven sons, four have occupied seats in Congress from four different States—Israel from Maine, Elihu B. from Illinois, Cadwallader C. from Wisconsin, and William D. from Minnesota. Israel and C. C. have been governors of their respective States, and Elihu B. and Charles A. have represented the nation at foreign courts. All the duties of these positions have been discharged with distinguished ability, and with much usefulness to the United States government. The venerable father lived to witness the remarkable success in life of his talented sons.

Cadwallader C. Washburn, the subject of this sketch, was born at Livermore, Maine, April 22, 1818. Of his boyhood life, we know but little. From a letter received from one who knew him well in Maine, we extract a paragraph in regard to him in his early years: "He was a quiet, broad-shouldered boy, never in trouble, and liked by everybody; observing, studious and persistent. He lived mostly at home until about 1835, working on the farm, and attending the town school. He was apt to learn and a great reader, with a remarkable memory. Sometime about the latter year, he went to Hallowell, at that time one of the most considerable trading towns in Maine, and a place of unusual culture, being the seat of the Vaughans, a distinguished English family. Dr. Benjamin Vaughan, a member of the British House of Commons, and a friend of Charles Fox, came to this country late in the last century. Here young Washburn remained, sometimes a clerk in a store, sometimes in the postoffice, where he enjoyed opportunities for study and observation, until