

Lydia T. Adams (1821-1908)

Born in Kingston on March 25, 1821, Lydia was the daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Cook) Bradford and was a direct descendant of Governor William Bradford. She married George T. Adams in 1844 and their son Horatio, was born in 1845. Late in her life, Adams, together with Horatio, provided the land on which the Adams Library now stands. However Adams was most well known for her extensive collection of antique mirrors. A schoolteacher and member of the First Church choir, well into her seventies, Adams had the opportunity to take two trips abroad, and it is thought

during this period that she developed her passion for collecting antique mirrors – her collection eventually exceeded that of any in Massachusetts at its time.