

when affairs of great moment are under way. Nothing disquiets him; in moments of financial difficulty, when sudden calls are made on him, he has never failed to respond most promptly, and that without the slightest apparent disturbance of his equanimity. Knowing always exactly what he wants to find out about any project submitted to him, he goes directly to the point, and in a remarkably short time can acquire and thoroughly understand all the information to be had. Repeatedly has he displayed his remarkable faculty for grasping extensive and complex affairs with a celerity that is a little short of the marvellous. He has been known, for instance, to take home with him at night the published report of a great railroad corporation, and make so thorough a digest of it within a few hours, that the next day he could talk as well on the subject as the men who had expended weeks or months in preparing it. His intuitive knowledge of values has led him safely through many hazardous operations. He has never been accused of rashness, and in no sense can the princely fortune of which he is the possessor be attributed to the accidents of speculation. He is a very able mathematician, and has a thorough appreciation for details. His success in public life has been greatly due to his sagacity and his thorough knowledge of men. In his transactions he is absolutely frank and candid, never concealing anything. In a word, he is in all respects a man of comprehensive character, while in manner, there are none more affable, courteous, and friendly.

As was his father, Mr Ames is a unitarian in faith, though none of the members of his family are members of the church. His home life is an exceedingly happy one. He was married in Nantucket, on March 14, 1860, to Anna Coffin, daughter of Obed and Anna Ray, and adopted daughter of William Hadwen, of Nantucket. Of this union there are six children: William Hadwen, Evelyn, Anna Lee, Susan, Lillian, and Oakes Ames. The governor is fond of