

Medicine and the Civil War Series

Co-sponsored by
Center for the History of Medicine, Countway Library of Medicine

Mitchell L. Adams, MBA

Former Vice Chair of the Executive Committee
Harvard University Board of Overseers

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

LECTURE | RECEPTION | EXHIBIT

“Dr. Zabdiel Boylston Adams: Surgeon and Soldier for the Union”

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Lahey Room, 5th Floor, Countway Library of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
10 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA

Mitchell L. Adams, MBA, Former Vice Chair of the Executive Committee, Harvard University Board of Overseers, is also the great grandson of Union Army soldier and surgeon Zabdiel Boylston Adams (MD 1853, Harvard University).

The Adams' papers have been generously donated by the family to the Center for the History of Medicine at the Countway Library of Medicine and describe military-camp life, battles, maneuvers, medical activities, and family matters between 1861 and 1865. The materials include his account of the Battle of the Wilderness fought on May 5–6, 1864, and the history of the 7th Massachusetts Regiment. Additional material consists of clippings and other printed materials. In his reminiscences of his military and professional activities written in 1884 and 1894, Adams writes of vaccination and public health, of witnessing post-mortems of cholera patients, and of the prevalence of fevers on ships carrying immigrants.

The exhibit *Battle-Scarred: Caring for the Sick and Wounded of the Civil War*, currently on display in the Countway Library of Medicine, includes artifacts from the Adams' family and will be featured during the event.

In this second lecture in our *Medicine and the Civil War Series* commemorating the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, Mitchell Adams will speak about his great grandfather, his legacy, and the generations of healers from which he is a descendant.



Dr. Zabdiel Boylston Adams