Adolph Edward Borie

Merchant, born in Philadelphia, November 25, 1809; died there February 5, 1880. He was a descendant, on the mother's side, of a family of refugees from Santo Domingo, of whom a large number settled in Philadelphia. In 1826 he was graduated at the Pennsylvania University, and went to Paris to complete his education. After spending several years abroad he returned to the United States and entered upon mercantile pursuits, was for many years a member of the firm of McKean, Borie & Co., and acquired a large fortune in the East India trade. In 1862, when the first union league of the country was formed in Philadelphia, Mr. Borie was one of its founders and its vice-president. He gave large sums toward the enlistment and care of soldiers during the Civil War, but took no part in politics. On March 5, 1869, he became a member of the cabinet appointed by President Grant, as secretary of the navy, which office he resigned, June 22, 1869. He accompanied General Grant, who was much attached to him, during a part of his tour around the world in 1877-1878.