

Oath of Loyalty

THE OATH OF LOYALTY PRESCRIBED BY THE CONSTITUTION, ADOPTED IN 1865.

I, W B Adams of Danville Montgomery Co, Mo
do solemnly swear, that I am well acquainted with the terms of the third section of the second Article of the Constitution of the State of Missouri, adopted in the year eighteen hundred and sixty five, and have carefully considered the same; that I have never, directly or indirectly, done any of the acts in said section specified; that I have always been truly and loyally on the side of the United States against all enemies thereof, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States, and will support the Constitution and laws thereof, as the supreme law of the land, any law or ordinance of any State to the contrary notwithstanding; that I will, to the best of my ability, protect and defend the Union of the United States, and not allow the same to be broken up and dissolved, or the Government thereof to be destroyed or overthrown, under any circumstances, if in my power to prevent it; that I will support the Constitution of the State of Missouri; and that I make this oath without any mental reservation or evasion, and hold it to be binding on me.

W B Adams

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th
day of July 1865

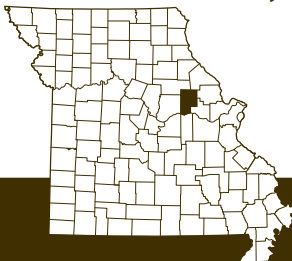
Wm. W. Edwards - Aug. 19th

James A. Edwards



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I will support the Constitution of the State of Missouri; and that I make this oath without any mental reservation or evasion, and hold it to be binding on me.



Oath of Loyalty, 1865.
Missouri State Archives

Loyalty Oath, 1865.

After the war people who had supported the South could not vote or hold public office, and they could not become lawyers, teachers, or even ministers. Even Missourians who did not support the South had to take a loyalty oath to swear that they were loyal to the government of the United States.

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