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***Presentation of Portrait
and
Proceedings***

**December Fifteenth
One Thousand Nine Hundred
and Twenty-three**

NATHAN GOFF

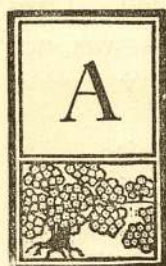
**United States Circuit Court of Appeals
for the Fourth Circuit**

PRESENTATION *of the* Portrait *of*
the Honorable Nathan Goff *to the*
United States Circuit Court of Appeals
for the Fourth Circuit.

Proceedings had on the Fifteenth
day of December, one thousand
nine hundred and twenty-three

REPRESENTATION of the Faculty of
the University of Cambridge





AT A SESSION of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, begun and held in the United States Court Room, in the City of Richmond, Virginia, in said Fourth Circuit, on the fifteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, and of our Independence the one hundred and forty-eighth.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, the court met at ten o'clock A. M. pursuant to adjournment in the court room of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in the city of Richmond and was opened by proclamation of crier.

Present:

Hon. Charles A. Woods, Senior Circuit Judge;
Hon. Edmund Waddill, Jr., Circuit Judge;
Hon. John C. Rose, Circuit Judge;
Hon. D. Lawrence Groner, District Judge;
Claude M. Dean, Clerk;
Clarence G. Smithers, Marshal.

Among other were the following proceedings, to-wit:
Senior Circuit Judge Woods made the following announcement:

This session of the court will be devoted to the presentation and acceptance of the portraits of the judges of this court who have died since its organization in June, 1891. It is with great satis-

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faction to announce that the portraits of all five of the deceased judges will be presented. I regret very much that Judge Pritchard's was not completed in time to be presented to-day.

The court is now ready to receive the portraits.

Mr. W. C. Wickham Renshaw, of the Huntington (W. Va.) Bar, in presenting the portrait of the late Nathan Goff, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, addressed the court as follows:

May it please the court: It is with very deep regret that I have to announce that Mr. Z. T. Vinson, of Huntington, West Virginia, who was to have delivered the presentation address in connection with Judge Goff's portrait, is unable, on account of illness, to be here to-day. Mr. Vinson was a life-long friend and admirer of the late Judge Goff, and had looked forward to being present in person on this occasion, but yielded to the advice of his physician; and because of his enforced absence, he has requested me to read to the court the address which he has prepared and which he had hoped to deliver in person.

Mr. Renshaw then read the address prepared by Mr. Vinson, which is as follows:

May it please this honorable court: With your kindly permission, the regular business of the court has been suspended, that the court and the bar may revere the memory of Judge Nathan Goff, who was a distinguished member of this court and who did so much to mould and establish it as a truly great appellate tribunal. His son, the Honorable Guy D. Goff, being himself one of the leaders of the American bar, has had a por-

trait painted of his illustrious father and has asked me to present to this court this most excellent portrait and likeness of Judge Goff. I make this presentation to the court with the hope that it will occupy a place on the walls of this temple of justice for many years to come, and that it will be a guide and an inspiration to all the judges who may sit upon this bench and the bar that practice before this court.

I am sure that I voice the sentiments of the bar of West Virginia when I say that Judge Goff was loved and admired by counsel appearing before him, not only because he was a just judge, but each felt that in him he had a warm friend.

Nathan Goff was born at Clarksburg, Virginia, February 9, 1842. His father, Waldo P. Goff, came to Clarksburg from the State of New York, and continued to live at Clarksburg until his death.

Nathan Goff was a student at Georgetown College when the Civil War came on, and immediately after the firing on Fort Sumter volunteered as a private in Company G, 3rd Virginia Infantry, at the age of nineteen. Shortly after his enlistment he was made lieutenant, and subsequently promoted to major. He was in the battle of McDowell, Port Republic, Winchester, Droop Mountain, Second Bull Run, Antietam, and others. In all these engagements he took a conspicuous part and received notice from his superior officers for his bravery and tact in handling the men under his command. He was taken prisoner in January, 1864, and sent to Libby Prison, where he was held as a hostage for Major Armsey, a prominent Confederate officer who was a prisoner in the United States Army. At the age of twenty-three Nathan Goff was made a brigadier general and was among the

youngest men of that rank in the Federal Army. In March, 1865, he was honorably discharged, and immediately entered New York University, taking up his studies where he had left them off four years before, and in 1867 he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Almost immediately after his return home from his school he was elected to the House of Delegates of West Virginia from Harrison County, in 1867, and re-elected in 1868.

His advancement in the legal profession was so rapid that President Johnson appointed him District Attorney in 1869, which office he held for twelve years, being appointed thereto by the successive Presidents of the United States. He was made Secretary of the Navy in 1880 by President Hayes, which office he held until the end of the term of President Hayes in March, 1881. He was a Republican candidate for Congress in 1870, but was defeated. He was again a candidate in 1872, and was again defeated. In 1876 he was nominated for Governor, by acclamation, by the Republican State Convention, and while he was defeated, he ran much ahead of his ticket in every county in the State. He was elected to Congress in 1882, re-elected in 1884, and also in 1886, and he at once became a prominent leader in the Congress of the United States, which leadership he maintained until the expiration of his term in 1889. In 1888 he was again nominated for Governor, by acclamation, by the Republican State Convention, and upon the face of the returns was elected by 110 majority over his Democratic opponent, Hon. A. B. Fleming. A contest ensued, and the Democratic legislature that tried the contest seated Judge Fleming, who served out his term as Governor of West Virginia.

In 1884 and 1888 Nathan Goff was made Chairman of the Republican National Executive Committee. At the session of the West Virginia Legislature of 1889 he received the solid Republican vote for United States Senator, but there being a Democratic majority, he was not elected.

On March 17, 1892, President Harrison appointed him United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, which position he held for more than twenty years.

The West Virginia Legislature in 1913 elected him to the United States Senate for the period of six years. This election was without his knowledge and while he was holding court in Richmond. This was the last official position ever held by Judge Goff, his death occurring shortly after the expiration of his term as United States Senator.

In 1888 Columbia University conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, and in 1889 Georgetown University conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

Judge Goff lived at a time that gave to American patriotism its greatest opportunity since the days of Washington. When he arrived at the threshold of early manhood, while yet in school, he saw his beloved country torn with strife and embittered by hate, plunging itself into a fratricidal war, where brother took up the sword against brother, and father against son. The whole country was being deluged in the blood of its finest young manhood. Destruction was sweeping over the land as a consuming fire. He saw this great republic, framed and formed by the inspiration and the sacrifice of the revolutionary fathers, about to fall in ruins around the feet of their

descendants. The capacity of man for self-government was being questioned by the clash of arms. The Constitution, that greatest instrument that ever sprang from the genius of man, was being strained to the breaking point. The madness of war had seized the people and was rushing them into the abyss. Liberty, the brightest and best hope of civilization, was being crushed to the earth. Nathan Goff saw all this ruin that menaced his country, and like the true knight of old, he left his school and went into the center of the conflict and fought with all the force and power at his command, that the land of his birth might be free and this republic live on in the achievement of its great mission, unhurt and unsullied. Nothing but the truest type of patriotism could impel this course, for it meant taking up arms against his friends, and neighbors, and youthful associates whose sentiments were on the other side. But his action in this behalf became the rule of his whole life, and that is, where duty called, there was no other way. This ideal must not be sacrificed for even life itself.

In the fortunes of war he was captured and confined in Libby Prison. Major Armsey, a Confederate officer, had been taken by the Union forces and condemned to die as a spy. The Federal Government was notified that Goff would be held as a hostage and would be shot if Armsey was executed. While these communications were being sent and received by the hostile forces, in a letter to President Lincoln, now on file in the War Office, Goff said: "If Major Armsey is guilty he should be executed, regardless of its consequences to me. The life of a single soldier, no matter who he may be, should not stand in the way of adherence to a great principle."

In all the annals of war there is not to be found a man who has shown a more heroic devotion to the cause of his country. He felt that his country was entitled to the best he had, and to all he had. This continued to be the inspiring motive and the guiding principle that directed his whole after-life.

In the last analysis, under our form of government, the Federal judiciary may exercise supreme and final authority. It can annul every legislative enactment and stop every executive order. There is, in truth, no limit to its power, save its own enlightened conscience. While it is the last refuge of the weak against oppression by the strong, its final judgments must be just and righteous, for in the hand of the Federal judiciary is held the sanctity of life, the blessings of liberty and the security of all property. It has no army to enforce its decrees, for there is universal acceptance of its judgments, because the public have unbounded faith in the integrity and ability of the judges. Many laws find their way through the legislative halls that are destructive in their tendency, being the outcome of ignorance, prejudice and viciousness. These can be and are often remedied by amendment or repeal at some future session, without endangering the whole structure of government. Political ambition may sway the administrator of public law against the public welfare, but this evil is short-lived and easily remedied; but when the people lose faith in the personal honesty of the judges, or their ability, and do not feel that the court is guided by a fine sense of justice and righteousness, then already has this republic begun to fall in ruins.

The most conspicuous blessing that Providence vouchsafed to the people of the United States, and the

one that stands out pre-eminent over all others, is the personal honesty and the wisdom of the incorruptible judge that sits upon the Federal bench. Before these judges march the pageantries of human life, with all their multiform complexities, colossal greed, an unholy ambition predominating. Questions that spring out of every field of human endeavor are brought to them for a solution that is in harmony with justice and the very right of the cause. A truly great judge must have a very wide and comprehensive knowledge of the practical side of industry, commerce, finance, economics, capital and labor, government and statesmanship, as well as the fundamentals of religion and morality.

When Nathan Goff was called to be a Circuit Judge of the United States for the Fourth Circuit, he brought to that high position an equipment, a preparedness for the able performance of its duties, that has not been surpassed in the history of our Federal judiciary. He was fifty years old and was as strong and robust physically as most men are at thirty. He was a student and a scholar, having earned the degree of Doctor of Laws. His military record is one that the whole public delights in. He had extensive legislative experience, both in the State Legislature and the Congress of the United States. He had been Secretary of the Navy, District Attorney for twelve years, candidate for Governor twice, the head and the idol of his party in the State, Chairman of the Republican National Executive Committee for eight years, interested in public utilities and transportation, having large holdings in coal, oil, gas, agriculture and timber lands and active in their development. He was on intimate terms with the poor and humble as well as the rich and the great.

He knew the aspiration of the laborer and the hope of the capitalist. He was an untiring student of the law, even in the midst of all his other activities. His private law practice was extensive and placed him among the leaders of the bar in the State. Along with this wide and varied experience in the practical affairs of life, he brought to the judgeship something else of tremendous importance, and that was the unalterable conviction that the United States Constitution was the wisest document that ever emanated from human brain; that in it is to be found all that stands for a government of justice and righteousness among men; that it exalts to its proper place the right of the individual citizen to the enjoyment of life, liberty and property, and that these may be kept inviolate the institution of government itself was established. The maintenance of the supremacy of the individual above the mass respecting these rights is the chief function of government in all our domestic affairs. It is the dignity and sacredness of the individual about which the Constitution is chiefly concerned.

At the bottom of his philosophy of life, and shining through it as its central thought was his profound conviction that the Ten Commandments are inspired of God; that they contain all the fundamentals of man's right relationship to his Creator and to his fellow man; that from their observance comes every human virtue; and upon this foundation is based "the majesty of the moral law as the fullest expression of God's will"; and for all time they are binding upon the conscience of all the races of men.

Having a wide personal experience in the larger business affairs of his State and nation, a sound lawyer and safe counsellor, with undoubted integrity, we who

knew him well are not unmindful of the great accomplishments of other distinguished jurists when we say that *Judge Goff brought to the bench an equipment not surpassed in the lives of any of our great judges*. His was a constructive mind; in the best sense of the word he was a builder, as the many beautiful and enduring structures in his native city give ample testimony. When receiverships came into his court he used his best talent in aid of reorganization and reconstruction, that the enterprise might not fail, but he placed it in a position where it could move on to ultimate success. It was with deep regret that he ever granted an order of sale of the assets of a bankrupt and a distribution among creditors.

The close of the Civil War found the people of West Virginia in a state of great confusion. Half of its population were Southern sympathizers and its qualified men had been in the Confederate Army. These men were disfranchised and the hate and bitterness engendered by the war showed no signs of abatement. A new State had been born out of the travail of war. It was poorly organized, the people economically weak, and all industry at a low ebb. Its laws were archaic and unsuited to the changed conditions. That order might be brought out of this turmoil General Goff, in his twenty-fifth year, threw into the task his heart and soul and all his energies. He became at once a leader of his people and maintained that leadership as long as he lived. He was a builder and his best thoughts were always along constructive lines. His was a distinctly creative brain, thinking and evolving order and sympathy out of chaos.

As lawyer, legislator and judge, his mentor was John Marshall. He felt that the constructive genius

of this great judge put into the Constitution a meaning that gave it life and power, that made of this republic a real nation whose authority and jurisdiction over the States and all the people was supreme and final. Goff, the pupil and follower of Marshall, while recognizing and upholding the just powers of the States, realized that paramount power and jurisdiction must be lodged in one central government. This was necessary in order to secure for the mountaineer of West Virginia the enjoyment of the same rights and privileges as were vouchsafed to the citizens of Ohio, New York and Virginia. To this end Judge Goff worked and lent his best energies throughout his life. Whether as judge on the bench or member of the United States Senate or House of Representatives, the central purpose of his life seemed to be to strengthen the hands of the Federal Government, that it would not only have the power but the purpose to do justice to the individual and preserve inviolate his rights against the unwarranted invasions of the mass. To him this was the real function of government and for which our own government was established. In fact, this is the only way by which it can be maintained.

In his latter years Judge Goff had grave apprehensions as to the effect of purpose among such a large number of people to divide themselves up into cliques, factions, blocks and classes, by whatever name known. The reason given out for these organizations being to protect that particular group against the alleged unlawful and often criminal purpose of the other groups. They charge each other with the purpose of preying upon the whole public when strong enough to do so, either by actual force and violence or coercion of public officials into a failure to perform their duty. With

great regret he saw that executives, administrators and legislators were in some measure responsive to these sectional and group demands. The tendency of legislation, state and national, was to make it easier for the stronger groups to prey upon the weaker and unorganized. Unless this tendency to encourage group action was checked, he felt that such evil forces had been set in motion that our present form of government would be changed into an irresponsible mass action, controlled by passion and prejudice. He did not despair, however, for his faith in the integrity of the judiciary was unlimited. The judges of this court and this circuit, with whom he had been in intimate personal association for more than twenty years, inspired in him the unalterable conviction that the wisdom, integrity and great patriotism of the Federal judiciary would stand out as the defender of the Constitution, preserving it at all hazards, standing around it like a stone wall, against which the waves of class hatred and group covetousness and injustice would beat in vain.

Great and splendid as were Judge Goff's achievements as soldier, ready and willing to sacrifice his life that his country might live and its institutions of liberty be perpetuated; strong and capable in the practice of his profession; loyal to the principles of the political party of which he was such a conspicuous leader for forty years; discharging every public trust conferred upon him with signal ability and regard for the just powers of government and the rights of the citizen; a master executive in the greatest industrial and commercial affairs of his State—these matters must be left to the historian, who will place them in the permanent annals of our country as achievements of one

of the great men who has helped to build our civilization.

It is his career as a judge to which on this occasion I desire to speak more especially.

It is pleasing to say that the relationship which existed between Judge Goff and the lawyers who practiced in his court was ideal, although we may not all agree as to precisely what an ideal situation should be. The lawyer entering his court for the first time was impressed with the dignity of the judge, emphasized by the consciousness of the tremendous responsibility he was called upon to exercise in administering justice among men. Yet it was a dignity enhanced and made peculiarly attractive by a sense of humor that appealed to the bar with impelling force, for its quality was full of smiles and never a sting. He impressed every member of his bar as being his warm, personal friend, waiting and anxious to help him in every way he possibly could. He was intensely sympathetic, and we all knew that he would give us everything that in justice we were entitled to, *and nothing more*. And it was this feeling that endeared him to the bar, for we all felt that he gave us his own conception of a righteous judgment.

As a trial judge he was truly pre-eminent; his patience seemed without limit, and his unfailing courtesy made us all anxious to have our cases transferred to the court where he could hear them. Every lawyer was given an earnest and an intelligent hearing and permitted to present his case in his own way, without captiousness or criticism from the judge. He never permitted himself to become so hurried that he could not hear both sides to the end. With him the time of the court was never so important as a fair, full hearing

of the parties. He was always willing to sacrifice the court's time, rather than take a chance of working an injustice. He sought to know every fact and circumstance that might have a bearing on the case.

The confidence he inspired in litigants and their counsel, as well as the general public, did very much to popularize the Federal courts, leaving the impression that these courts were the courts of all the people to an equal degree with State courts, in which no man should be denied the fullest measure of justice and protection.

It is a source of regret that the memory of the life and work of Judge Goff as a great trial judge cannot be perpetuated for the enlightenment of all who are to follow him. But his gentleness, courtesy and uniform kindness and sense of justice, always tempered with mercy, yet unfaltering firmness, are qualities that must be seen and felt by those having business in his court; and as long as such live, their recollection of Judge Goff will endure among the most pleasing of all their remembrances. But these attributes cannot be described so as to give an adequate conception of his delightful personality to those who have not appeared in his court.

At the beginning of the period of his mature intellectual excellence Judge Goff came to take his place as a member of the Circuit Court of Appeals. From 1892 until 1913 he and his distinguished associates constituted the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Fortunately for the cause of American jurisprudence, the decisions and judgments of this court have been preserved. They have become a part of the world's legal literature and will last as long as principles of justice and right continue to have

an influence upon the minds of men. It is on the appellate bench that a lawyer may erect for himself a lasting monument. The decisions of this court during the twenty years that Judge Goff was one of your associates will be a light to the student and safe rules for the guidance of courts of the future. These decisions have become the repository of great learning and prodigious labor. They have thrown around the life and liberty of the citizen the strong arm of the law's protecting power. They have established rules of property that men may know their rights of possession and enjoyment. They command universal respect, for they represent the best judicial thought in a progressive civilization. Judge Goff took his part in arriving at these judgments, and they show forth the impress of his mind and thought. Owing to his familiarity with land titles in West Virginia and the confusion that existed as to land ownership covering a large part of the State, he took a conspicuous part as a member of this court in reducing that chaotic condition into order and certainty, based upon the constitutions and statutes of Virginia and West Virginia. His efforts in this direction have been crowned with such success that land titles in West Virginia are now as safe and permanent as any in any State of the Union.

Judge Goff, as a member of this court, erected his most enduring monument. It is imperishable, for all those coming after him as ministers of justice will find inspiration in the work that he contributed so much to accomplish.

We present this portrait of Judge Goff, to be hung as a permanent memorial upon the walls of this court room, with a sense of satisfaction which we know will be shared by you in receiving it.

Mr. Robert M. Hughes, of the Norfolk (Va.) Bar, in connection with the presentation of the portrait of the late Nathan Goff, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, addressed the court as follows:

If your Honors please: I ask the privilege of a word by way of tribute to the friend whose face looks down upon us from yonder canvas. Its life-like delineation brings back to me most pleasant memories, for I was the recipient of many kindnesses and courtesies from Judge Goff, and my esteem for him was only second to that for my own father.

My first acquaintance with Judge Goff was at the organization of this court, and from that time until his resignation I was in regular attendance upon its sessions. When the court began to function in 1891 Judge Bond was in failing health and took but little part in its deliberations. He died in 1893, and Judge Goff presided from that time till the close of his judicial career. He it was who imparted the *esprit de corps* and inculcated the tone of courtesy between bench and bar which has always prevailed in it.

At the outset I was impressed by the facility with which Judge Goff grasped the principles and technique of admiralty cases. He could not have known much about admiralty when his judicial career commenced, and yet his opinions in that branch of the law need not fear comparison with those written by veterans.

Another feature of his opinions is their responsiveness to the arguments of counsel. When you read them you felt sure that your brief had been studied and your points given careful consideration. With him defeat left no sting.

During the hearing of a case he was always the soul

of courtesy. He asked few questions, and those of a nature that were helpful to counsel in directing attention to the pivotal points.

But his judicial history speaks for itself and shines out from the records of this court. On the other hand the social qualities of a judge are not a matter of record and are enshrined only in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

I am old enough to have practiced before three chief justices, though too old to have practiced before the present one. My first experience was with Chief Justice Waite, and Judge Goff always reminded me of him. When off the bench Judge Waite never wanted you to remember that he was Chief Justice—he drew no “sacred circle of the church” around him. He and Judge Goff alike were boon companions in any social gathering, joining in our revels, our sports and our wiles, and making us realize that judges and lawyers were members of the same brotherhood.

A prominent characteristic of Judge Goff was his genial manner, which after all is but an index to the big heart which beat within his breast. His very presence gave a contagion of good humor to those around him. His hearty handshake bespoke cordiality. And his laugh—who that knew him can ever forget it? Boyish, jovial and joyous, it bubbled from his heart like the crystal waters from the Bandusian fount.

And as we gaze upon that likeness we can not but think that if “those lips had language” they would greet us to-day in words of cheer and comradeship.

Mr. Robert H. Talley, of the Richmond (Va.) Bar, in connection with the presentation of the portrait of the late Nathan Goff, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, addressed the court as follows:

May it please the court: In the limited time allotted me I can only pay a brief tribute to the great judge whose portrait is to be presented to-day.

These walls, which to many of us sometimes seem cold and harsh when our pleas do not run smoothly and are not accepted, are indeed now adorned by the portraits of the illustrious dead in whose memory we meet to-day.

All of these were men good and true, and their lives are an inspiration to this generation. It is meet and proper that their portraits should be placed in this court room, for it was here that they dedicated the best part of their lives to the sacred task of preserving inviolate the inalienable rights of the American people guaranteed to them under our Constitution—rights that must ever be zealously and jealously guarded if our liberties are to be preserved.

It is peculiarly appropriate that the portrait of Judge Nathan Goff should be placed in this room, not only because he presided for so many years over this court, but because it was in this old city of ours that he did a thing that for nobility of character and real heroism there can hardly be found a parallel—an act that will be remembered and revered as long as we uphold and stand for the best characteristics of human nature.

Judge Goff was a great judge. There can be no doubt of this fact. His opinions are learned, lucid and convincing; and the bar to-day recognizes that fact.

But above Nathan Goff's record as a judge I place his record as a man.

What I shall state in the brief period allotted me will doubtless be heard for the first time by a number of friends present who knew and appreciated Judge Goff, but because of his innate modesty were unable to gather the real facts of his life.

When war, with all its grim and forbidding front, broke out in 1861 between our brethren of the North and our brethren of the South, Judge Goff enlisted in the Northern army from what is now West Virginia—at that time the rib had not been taken out of old Virginia and transformed into a new being—the great State of West Virginia. Goff served well and faithfully and finally attained, through successive promotions, the rank of major. Late in the war, some time in 1865, he was captured by our Southern troops and confined in old Libby Prison—which was then located at the southeast corner of Twentieth and Cary Streets, just a few blocks from this court room. I might add that Judge Goff often remarked to his friends in later years that he spent a large part of his time in prison reading Blackstone. About the same time one of our Southern soldiers had been captured and confined in the North and was sentenced to be executed. The South replied that if this soldier was to be shot, then Major Goff, in retaliation, would also be executed. At this juncture Major Goff's friends became active in his behalf in an effort to obtain his release. An exchange was finally effected, but when the transfer was made known to Major Goff, he immediately and positively declined to agree to the arrangement, saying, in effect, that he accepted the fortunes of war; that he had no favors to ask; that he would not, in

any way, embarrass his government, and that he would, if necessary, abide by the decision. With death staring him in the face, this young major measured every inch a man.

A pessimist has taken the trouble to say that you may "search the world from pole to pole and you will find that self-interest rules the whole." But when we find a man like Judge Goff, rising in his majesty and by his act refuting this calumny, we are proud of our race.

I know that I echo the sentiment of both bench and bar when I say: Peace be to the ashes of this just judge and real man.

Senior Circuit Judge C. A. Woods, in accepting the portraits on behalf of the court, spoke as follows:

If we had discernment to read it, every human face would tell us a life story. Written in the eyes, the mouth, and other features are the hopes, the illusions, the aspirations, the joy, the pain, the achievement, the failure—the comedy and the tragedy of the mind and the spirit. To this life story of the mind and soul written on the face, though dimly discerned, in large measure we owe the attractions, the sympathy, and the friendships of life.

The effort of the artist is to preserve this story of the mind and heart to be read from the canvas as a romance. Does it seem fanciful to speak of the romance and drama expressed in the portraits of judges? True, to indifferent observers they seem to live in isolation, immersed in books and records. But futile and barren indeed would be their lives if there were no passions, no stirring humanities; if books and records were not

illuminated by the light and sweetness which come only as the reward of struggle, repression, and sacrifice. What other men know so well the sorrow of failing to find justice in the labyrinth of the law, or the joy of finding and exalting justice?

So this beautiful hall is made more a place of life and of history to all the lawyers who appear at this bar by the portraits of these distinguished men who knew the same defeats they have suffered, and the same triumphs they have enjoyed.

May we hope that every citizen who visits the court will see the expression of consecration to public service in the portraits of each of these judges, according to his own mind and his own character that will incite to higher conceptions of civic obligation.

Each of the judges of this court knew all of the judges whose portraits are presented, some slightly, some intimately and affectionately. We commend to ourselves and to all the members of the bar for emulation the common sense and native force of Judge Bond, the courage and clearness of Judge Goff, the fineness and versatility of Judge Simonton, the consecration and instinct for justice of Judge Pritchard, the beauty of style and wisdom of Judge Knapp—the learning and ability of all.

In behalf of the court and the bar, and I may say of the United States, we express to those who have honored the court in the presentation of these portraits our sincere thanks.



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