

Franklin County Bar Association, Pa. on Tuesday November 27th 1920 at 7.30 P. M. for the purpose of taking action upon the death of Justice John Stewart. The President O. C. Brown presiding.

Present John H. Hoke, W. K. Sharpe, A. J. H. Hutton, Edmund C. Wingard, Samuel Bell, Geo. W. Altenton, Watson R. Davison, J. A. Stute, S. F. Huber, J. J. Mumhart, Charles Walter, Walter H. Alexander, King Alexander, J. R. Ruthrauff, D. Edw. Long, Harry P. Fletcher, A. W. Gillan, Thos. K. Shellw, Isaac Wingert, W. J. Zacharias and Hon. W. Rusk Gillan

After stating the purpose of the meeting the President appointed as a committee on resolutions, Walter K. Sharpe, Charles Walter, Watson R. Davison, J. R. Ruthrauff and Harry P. Fletcher.

Walter K. Sharpe presented the report of the committee on resolutions and after remarks by Harry P. Fletcher, W. J. Zacharias, Charles Walter, J. A. Stute, J. J. Mumhart, Geo. W. Altenton, O. C. Brown and Hon. W. Rusk Gillan the resolutions as presented were adopted.

Resolutions -

Justice John Stewart was so well known in this community that it is unnecessary to mention those traits of character which endeared him to persons of all classes and ages. He was a warm-hearted and true friend, always ready to assist with advice and encouragement those who were in distress or who had suffered loss or bereavement. His old friends loved him with a devotion unsurpassed. He was honored, looked up to and admired by the young. He was easily the citizen of Chambersburg who stood above all others in the community. His reputation and the knowledge of his ability was not confined to this vicinity, but crisscrossed the boundaries of the State, and to thousands outside of Pennsylvania he was respected and revered for his statesmanship and legal learning.

To understand and appreciate fully Justice Stewart and the things for which he stood, we must turn back the pages of time and place ourselves in another generation. Justice Stewart, born as he was in the first half of the preceding century, developed in a different atmosphere than that of our day. Their intellects were sharpened, their characters molded in the fierce conflicts then being waged for the very life of the Republic.

Justice Stewart graduated from Princeton before he had completed

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his eighteenth year, admitted to the bar when twenty one, entered his chosen profession with a mind fully equipped to meet on equal terms with the great antagonists both political and legal, with whom he came in contact almost daily. It was remarkable that a man so young should be chosen to represent this senatorial district in the convention to frame our present constitution, and it was more remarkable that at his age he should attain a position, and be recognized as one of the leaders of that body of men, the greatest and most able that this Commonwealth has ever assembled. Justice Stewart's political career is still so well remembered as to make it unnecessary to elaborate it.

He always stood for the right in politics as in all other things. Absolutely fearless of men or consequences, disregarding all self advantage, he combatted corruption in politics with a courage peculiarly his own. Notwithstanding the fact that he failed of election in the memorable campaign of 1882, such defeat in no way affected his prestige, but his fight for clean politics elevated him, if anything, to a more influential place. His political following was large and devoted to his interests and to the interests of the cause for which he stood. Many times he was called upon to fill offices of importance and trust, and he never failed to acquit himself with credit and ability. Justice Stewart's record as a common Pleas judge is seldom equalled. Within a few years after beginning of his judicial career he was known and recognized throughout the State as among the ablest of our common Pleas judges. As a Justice of the Supreme Court he should be classed among the ablest members of a Bench which has always been recognized for its ability and learning.

Therefore resolved, that as an expression of our regard and esteem these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Bar Association, and that a copy thereof be furnished to the family of the deceased, and copies be furnished to the newspapers of the County.

Walter K. Shafer
Charles Walter
Watson R. Davison
J. R. Rutherford
Harry O. Fletcher

An motion adjourned.

Pursuant to c
met at the bere
at 3 o'clock P.
of Joshua W.
After stating
the following
Walter, Geo. H.
J. R. Rutherford
and after rec
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An motion
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An motion