

in Mount Olivet Cemetery at Nashville,

Be it Therefore Resolved: That by the death of Giles Lincoln Evans the Bar of Tennessee and particularly the Bar of Nashville, have lost a most distinguished member.

RESOLVED: That the Nashville Bar Association extend to his bereaved family their sincere condolence and sympathy, and that his family be furnished with a copy of these resolutions.

RESOLVED; As a further mark of respect that a copy of these resolutions be furnished the Obituary Committee of the Bar Association of Tennessee.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) J. G. Lackey, Chairman.  
" Fyke Farmer,  
" A. W. Akers,  
" Thos. O. H. Smith,  
Committee.

John Hibbett DeWitt:

A lawyer honors his profession when he so lives that his death is a loss not only to his brethren of the Bar, but to his city and to his state. John H. DeWitt lived and died that kind of lawyer. He possessed a rare capacity for service and a great willingness to serve. He will be widely missed for his death leaves a vacancy in many directions. A mere catalogus of some of his activities affords the best commentary on his life and on his likings.

He had an abiding trust in the Christian faith and he exemplified that trust not only by His Christian life and by his native honesty and integrity, but by his active and lifelong support of organized religion. He was for over thirty years an elder of the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church of Nashville. 'His was a deeply religious nature', as one of the Nashville papers said of him, 'and his life was consistent with his professions.'

He served the cause of the poor and underprivileged. When he was a young man he wrote the Act creating the Davidson County Charities Commission; for many years he was Chairman of the Davidson County Welfare Commission, and for many more an officer of the United Charities.

He served the cause of education in many ways and conspicuously as a member of the Nashville Board of Education, as a director of the Nashville Public Library and as a member of the Vanderbilt Board of Trust; but the labor in this field that attached him closest and held him longest was as director or trustee of Watkins Institute. Its object to afford education and training to those who for want of time or means or opportunity had missed them made a strong appeal to him. He was at all times active in his care of the interests of that fine institution and he had the gratification of seeing its service expand through the years and of witnessing from year to year, as it were in concrete form, the results that were being accomplished.

Judge DeWitt found time to be a wide reader and he was a scholarly one. He had a general knowledge of things and affairs and a store of information about those that especially interested him. He liked discussion with his friends and exchange of views. He enjoyed literary gatherings and was a member of the Round Table and Old Oak and Freolac and derived great pleasure from their meetings and proceedings.

He served the cause of his profession ably and honorably in his practice as a member of the bar and as President of the Nashville Bar Association, and for ten years as a Judge of the Court of Appeals for the Middle Division. He possessed the judicial mind.

He had a capacity for absorbing and analyzing a record. He was a close student of the law, conscientious in reaching his conclusions; and he possessed an easy and graceful literary style. He had a fine sense of justice, and his record as a judge was one of increasing usefulness and honor.

But his greatest service and the one nearest his heart was in the field of Tennessee history. Largely by his individual efforts as its president and as the editor of its magazine he kept alive the Tennessee Historical Society. He was the author of "Andrew Jackson and his Ward, Andrew Jackson Hutchins" and among his numerous historical writings were biographies of General James Winchester, of Sumner County, and William E. Myer, the Tennessee archaeologist. For some years before his death he had been engaged in his spare time in writing a history of the Tennessee Supreme Court and of its judges during its earlier years. He had a knowledge and memory of many more or less obscure incidents of Tennessee history that he had gathered here and there and not yet assembled, a loss that is irreparable.

John Hibbett DeWitt was born near Castalian Springs, in Sumner County, on September 21st, 1872. He came of fine parentage, the son of Reverend Marcus Bearden DeWitt and Mary Hibbett DeWitt, and back of them of Revolutionary and pioneer ancestors. He was educated in the public schools of Nashville, Montgomery Bell Academy and Vanderbilt University, and received his law education at the Columbia School of Law in Washington. He married Rebecca Ward of Nashville on November 14, 1899, and died on March 7, 1937, at his home in Nashville, leaving surviving him his wife and their two sons, Ward DeWitt and John H. DeWitt, Jr.

Judge DeWitt was a man of lofty principles and fine taste, of high scholarship, of kindly and gracious disposition; and with all he was modest and unassuming in his manner and demeanor. There was in him a combination of qualities. He was by choice as well as precept a church man in the best sense of the word. He had a deep sympathy for the underprivileged and an especial interest in extending to them an opportunity for training and education. He was a widely informed man, a reader in many fields, and in some of them a student. He had an inherent love of learning. He possessed a strong sense of duty with patience and self-control. He gave generously of his time and judgment and labors, and the causes that he served willingly. John H. DeWitt well merited that his name and memory should be preserved in the records of this Association.

(Signed) Chas. C. Trabue, Chairman.  
" Thomas H. Malone.  
" R. B.C. Howell,  
" Wm. F. Carpenter,  
" Ed T. Seay,  
" Garland S. Moore,  
Committee.