

On Tuesday, May 31, 1966, Brown Taylor died at the age of seventy-three years, following an illness of several weeks. His death brought to an end an active life as a practicing attorney and Judge, in Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee covering a period of almost fifty years.

Judge Taylor was born September 24, 1892, and was the son of Thomas and Eva Phelps Taylor. He was educated at Castle Heights Military Academy and Cumberland University, and began the practice of law in Nashville, Tennessee in 1920.

Judge Taylor was married December 1, 1923, to Maude Tucker, who survives him along with their three children, Brown Taylor, Jr., Robert L. Taylor and Jennings Taylor.

Judge Taylor served in the Tennessee State Legislature in 1927, and again in 1929, and became Judge of the General Sessions Court on September 1, 1938, and presided continuously until the time of his death, May 31, 1966. Judge Taylor was a member of the armed services during World War I, and served as a captain in the infantry of the United States Army.

Judge Taylor was converted and baptized in 1923, and was a member of the Old Phillipi Church of Christ where he was a faithful member from that time on.

These are cold and colorless statistics in many ways that chronicle the life of our dear departed brother, Brown Taylor, but they fail to reflect the warmth of his great personality and the genius of this tall imposing figure which for almost a half a century frequented the Davidson County Courthouse, the recollection of which will long remain with his contemporaries and the younger members of the bar, many of whom were always complimentary of his logic, keen satire and homely phrases. He was of the market house and not of the counting house, and was "a friend to the man on the street" so frequently referred to as "the ordinary man" as described so many times in the law.

Now that he has gone from among us, his exploits of his wit, his demonstrations of skill and valor, demonstrated both in the representation of his clients and from the bench have already become legends that will echo down the halls of time when lawyers gather together in the future. He had great courage as a Judge, and was widely known for taking cases under advisement. Through this practice much good was accomplished because in so many instances in his wisdom he knew that time would heal the issues involved in a particular case much better than a clear cut decision for either side. People often commented on the age of the automobile that Judge Taylor drove, and when his friends chided him about it he repeatedly stated that he was perhaps the only public official whose car was completely paid for. Judge Taylor was accomodating to his fellow lawyers and his fellow Judges, and his keen sense of humor

2074 MARSHALL & BRUCE-NASHVILLE

and his deep reverence for the law will be greatly missed.

The passing of a brother lawyer and Judge is always an occasion for sober reflection by the surviving members of the bench and bar. We are again reminded of the eloquent words of Senator Reed on the occasion of the death of Champ Clark:

"The robes of royalty, the beggar's rags,  
the rich man's golden hoard, the pauper's copper  
pence, the jeweled diadems of princes, and the  
thorny crowns of martyrs alike are swept by the same ceaseless tides.

"The miracle of birth, the mystery of death, remain the unsolved  
problems of all times."

Therefore, with sadness in our hearts, but rejoicing in the knowledge of the hereafter, and with gratitude for the life that has ended,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Nashville Bar Association that these words and thoughts shall memorialize the passing of Judge Brown Taylor in token of which this resolution shall be spread upon the permanent records of the Association, and copies thereof shall be sent to the members of his bereaved family.

James W. Rutherford

Dewey W. Pedigo

Carl Hardin,  
Committee