

MEMORIAL

TO

WADE HAMPTON YARDLEY

(1861 - 1934)

RAMSEY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

APRIL 20, 1935

Wade Hampton Yardley was born at Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, October 11, 1861. His ancestry was Colonial American, the first of the Yardley name having come to Pennsylvania with William Penn in 1677. His father's mother was a daughter of Wade Hampton of Virginia, who was a first cousin of General Wade Hampton, the South Carolina statesman and soldier. The family of the mother of Wade Hampton Yardley were early settlers in Maryland.

Wade Hampton Yardley obtained his early education in the local schools of Lock Haven, then attended Eastman Business College in Poughkeepsie, New York, and graduated from the law School of the University of Pennsylvania in May, 1885 with the degree of L.L.B. Later in the same year he came to St. Paul and entered the law office of Young & Lightner. He was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of Minnesota on October 18, 1886. From that time until his death on November 18, 1934, Wade Hampton Yardley was an active, efficient and respected member of this Bar. Most of his work had to do with the, various branches of real estate law and it was characterized by thoroughness of preparation, unfailing devotion to the client, courtesy to his fellow lawyers and frankness in his contacts with the Courts. Those who knew him in the activities of his profession were conscious of his clear thinking; painstaking examination of the facts, and notably systematic preparation and recording of the results of his investigations. Unlike most lawyers, he was a keeper of records and orderly to an unusual degree in indexing his problems, findings and conclusions.

On January 1, 1930, Wade Hampton Yardley succeeded his former partner, Francis B. Tiffany, as a trustee and secretary-treasurer of the St. Paul College of Law, and until the time of his death he devoted much time and thought to promoting the interests of that School. He evinced his interest in this work by leaving to the Law School his excellent law library.

In his earlier days in St. Paul he resided with other young lawyers and laymen at a then well known residence club called "Poverty Flat" and he was later an active member, and sometimes officer of the Nushka Club, Minnesota Boat Club, Town and Country Club and Minnesota Club.

Wade Hampton Yardley was and remained a bachelor. After the death of his father, his mother and sisters came to St. Paul to reside and he became the head of the family in which relationship he was devoted to his mother and unselfishly considerate of his sisters.

Wade Hampton Yardley loved the out-of-doors. Some of us still catch vivid glimpses of him on many waters in a canoe expertly built and handled by himself; then garbed in the crimson suit of the Nushka Toboggan Club snow shoeing on a prairie which is now part of the thickly settled Midway; again at the rudder of the Minnesota Boat Club eight, inspiring an internationally known crew to win many races; yet again camping on the shores at Capabena Bay, Leech Lake, surrounded by the conveniences of outdoor life which he had devised or assembled, and finally planning and developing his country home "The Lindens" on the St. Croix where he spent many happy and hospitable summers,

One of his hobbies was a study of the Civil War. He assembled a valuable and complete library relating to the history of that great conflict and his knowledge was surprisingly accurate and detailed concerning the leaders of the forces of the Union and Confederate States and the strategy and tactics which resulted in the winning or losing of battles,

He was independent, reserved and courageous. A man who loved his country and his fellow men, a modest gentleman and an able lawyer, sleeps.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John E. Stryker

/s/ Philip Gilbert

/s/ Martin J. Hurley

Committee.

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