

“Reminiscences of the Early Bench and Bar of Minnesota”

By

George P. Wilson

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Foreword

By

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Editor, MLHP

On August 13, 1908, sixty-eight year old George Potter Wilson read his “Reminiscences of the Early Bench and Bar of Minnesota” to the annual convention of the State Bar Association in Duluth.

Wilson arrived in Winona in 1860, read law and was admitted to the bar in 1862. He was Winona County Attorney, 1865-1871, a state representative one term, 1872-1874, Attorney General three terms, 1874-1880 — and known thereafter as “General Wilson” — and state senator four terms, 1899-1915. During his decades in public service and private practice, he met many lawyers and judges throughout the state. These acquaintanceships are the basis of his “Reminiscences,” which are unlike the narrow chronicles of the bench and bar of cities and counties published at this time.

Wilson gives somewhat of an economic explanation for the growth of the bar in the decades after statehood. Lawyers, he recalled, settled in thriving river towns, which were accessible by steamboat. “Professional men generally follow the lines of least resistance. They followed the water courses,” he writes. Able lawyers practiced in “river points” along the Mississippi such as Winona, Wabasha, Red Wing, Hastings, St. Paul and St. Cloud. There were similar developments along the Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers. Regrettably insights such

as this are masked at times by the overriding nostalgia of his recollections.

He was not bothered by a few interruptions while reading his paper. One permitted him to pay tribute to the late Martin J. Severance's "magnificent" oratory. These extemporaneous exchanges are caught in the following transcript because the proceedings of the state bar association in 1908 were recorded by a stenographer, and later published as a hardback booklet.¹

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Four years before he addressed the state bar association, Wilson wrote a self-sketch that was published in Hiram Stevens' *History of the Bench and Bar of Minnesota*.

Geo. P. Wilson, of the Minneapolis bar, ex-attorney general and prominent in the legislative history of Minnesota, and a well known lawyer, is a native of Pennsylvania, born at Lewisburg, Union county, in 1840. His education was completed in Bucknell university, in his native town, and in the Ohio Wesleyan university at Delaware. Ohio. He came to Minnesota in 1860 and located at Winona, then a mere settlement, and after a two years' course of study in the offices of Lewis & Simpson and the late Hon. Wm. Mitchell, of the supreme court, was admitted to the bar at Rochester, Minnesota, in October, 1862.

Upon his admission he at once entered the active practice and has risen in his profession to eminence and distinction. His experience has been very large, covering the entire range of American jurisprudence and dealing with all the important general questions of the law as well as with many particular subjects. During his forty odd years of professional life he has been counsel in so many cases of importance— not of mere notoriety—that they cannot here well be

¹ Proceedings, Minnesota State Bar Association 5-20 (1908).

enumerated. His latest connection with a *cause celebre* was as associate counsel for the plaintiff in *Minnesota vs. The Northern Securities Company and the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railway Companies* [184 U. S. 199 (1902), later proceeding, 194 U. S. 48 (1904)]. His practice for some time past has been chiefly in the line of corporation law cases, and at present he is special counsel for the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, G. W. VanDusen & Co., the VanDusen-Harrington Company, the Atlas, National, Imperial, St. Anthony, Dakota and other elevator and grain companies and business firms.



When a very young man in 1864-5, he was assistant secretary of the Minnesota state

senate, and was secretary of that body in 1866-7. He was county attorney of Winona county for six years, or from 1865 to 1871. In 1873 he represented Winona county in the house of representatives. He was attorney general of the state of Minnesota for three terms, or six years, from 1874 to 1880. In 1898 he was elected to the state senate from the Forty-first district for a term of four years, and re-elected in 1902 to succeed himself. In 1871 he was by appointment a United States commissioner on the Southern Pacific Railroad.

While in public life Mr. Wilson was always efficient and faithful as a servant of the people and did much valuable work. He was especially serviceable as attorney general at a period when the laws of the state were undergoing original construction and many important precedents were being established. The acceptability of his service was attested by his repeated elections, and he is yet remembered by the legal fraternity for many incidents in his official career. As state senator he has been active in promoting valuable legislation and is prominent in all the work of the legislature. Among the many meritorious measures of which he is the author and which he has pushed to enactment is the bill by whose provisions life convicts in the penitentiary may be admitted to parole after twenty-five years imprisonment.

General Wilson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and belongs to the Masonic order. In politics he has always been a republican. He was married September 26, 1866, to Ade H. Harrington, a daughter of Wm. H. and Miranda Harrington, who were among the early settlers of Winona. General and Mrs. Wilson have three children, viz.,

Jessie M., now Mrs. Wm. R. Sweatt, of
Minneapolis, Walter H. and Wirt Wilson.²

The General died on January 20, 1920, at age eighty. The following memorial to him was presented at the annual convention of the Minnesota State Bar Association later that year:

George P. Wilson was trained in the old school and was a lawyer with highly developed common sense and industry. He was a member of the firm of Ball & Wilson of Fargo, North Dakota, from 1880 to 1887; Wilson & Vanderlip from 1887 to 1901, and Wilson & Mercer from 1901 to 1910, in Minneapolis. He was Attorney General of the State of Minnesota from 1874 to 1880. He began the practice of law at Winona, Minnesota, in 1862, and from this place was elected to the House of Representatives, and served as County Attorney of Winona County. At various times he was Assistant Secretary and Secretary of the State Senate, and Government Commissioner of the Southern Pacific Railway of San Francisco. While a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, he was chosen State Senator for a number of terms. Probably the most celebrated litigation with which he was connected, was the Northern Securities case. In religion he was a Methodist. He was a good lawyer, citizen, husband and father, and rendered valuable services to the State.³

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General Wilson's "Reminiscences of the Early Bench and Bar of Minnesota" follows. In the fashion of the period, he identified most men by their initials; the first names of many have been added by the MLHP.

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² Hiram F. Stevens, I *History of the Bench and Bar of Minnesota* 230-32 (Minneapolis & St. Paul: Legal Publishing and Engraving Co., 1904) (italics and case citation added).

³ Proceedings, Annual Convention of the Minnesota State Bar Association 129 (1920).

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MINNESOTA STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1908, HELD AT
THE COMMERCIAL CLUB, DULUTH, AUGUST 13th,
14th AND 15th.

Thursday, August 13, 1908, 10:30 a.m.

PRESIDENT [Jed L.] WASHBURN: Gentlemen, in all religious gatherings the ordinary and proper thing to do is to invite the audience to come up to the front. Let us fill up the front seats and get close together.

Gentlemen, the annual meeting of the Minnesota State Bar Association is now convened.

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PRESIDENT WASHBURN: Gentlemen, I now have the very great pleasure of introducing to you a man who has long been a leading member of the Bar of this state, and who, when I was a boy, and before I began the study of law, was the Attorney-General of this state. I take pleasure in introducing to you the Honorable George P. Wilson, of Minneapolis, who will address you on "Reminiscences of the Early Bench and Bar of Minnesota." General Wilson. (Great Applause.)

GEN. GEORGE P. WILSON (of Minneapolis): Mr. President and Gentlemen:

As what I have to say this morning involves the mentioning of some dates and of a good many names. I have committed it to typewriting and will read it.

An invitation to speak on the subject assigned to me implies too much for my personal comfort. It signifies that I have passed the age when, according to a noted professor I should be electrocuted. If I were to be compelled to submit to that process against which I have had a life-long prejudice, I see others here who would have to go to the chair with me. (Laughter.)

While it is regarded by some as a great honor to have been a territorial pioneer, those of the present generation

count the years and congratulate themselves that their lines have fallen to them in modern times and in pleasanter places. To have participated in the laying of the foundation of a great state is interesting to them only from a historical standpoint. They would not exchange their youth and vigor for any distinction acquired in the dead past.

I think it was Mark Twain (I may be doing him an injustice) who said during or after the Civil War, that he would rather be a living coward than a dead patriot.

I was not a territorial pioneer, but I came to the state so soon after its admission into the Union that I came to know personally most of those who became conspicuous and were dominant figures in the Constitutional conventions and upon the Bench and at the Bar in territorial days. This came about largely through my official connection with the State Senate in 1864-65-66 and '67.

It can be said without flattery, and it has often been said, that the history of the territory and of the state is to no inconsiderable extent a history of its Bench and Bar.

While I presume the same general conditions obtained in the territory surrounding Minnesota that existed here, but at a somewhat earlier period, I have always been surprised at the very high character of the men who came to Minnesota when it was yet a territory. It was then very difficult of access, except during the season of navigation.

The first three Governors of the state who came to the northwest at the very beginning set a very high mark for those who have followed them. Henry H. Sibley, Alexander Ramsey and Henry A. Swift were all courtly, dignified, cultured, brainy men. Some of you, perhaps, knew them personally and can verify my estimate. With me, and with such, it is not a case of distance lending enchantment. Henry A. Swift particularly, who was a very quiet, dignified man, was highly cultured.

No one can read the constitutional debates of 1857 without being impressed with the fact that both wings of that convention contained men of exceptional ability, and when one considers the adverse conditions under which they were compelled to do their work, it is surprising that they succeeded in formulating a constitution that not only

met the approval of the people but, except for one or two unfortunate amendments brought about by the stress of the times and the anxiety of the people to get in closer touch with the outside world, stood for a generation or more without amendment.

During the last decade there has been, especially in some sections of the country, a veritable revolution in public sentiment upon questions of public policy. It is a far cry from our constitution as framed in 1857 or as it stands today, to the constitution of Oklahoma.

In 1857 we had no native sons—at least in public life. The men who had to do with the territorial government and the men who composed the constitutional convention and were thereafter connected with the state government were, many of them, scions of the best families of the East, some of them coming almost, if not directly, from the great universities of the East. And now after the lapse of a half century it is not surprising that nearly all of them have passed over the great divide. There are a few notable exceptions. I may mention the Honorable Thomas Wilson, then of Winona, now of St. Paul, and still in active practice, and the Honorable N[athan] P. Colburn, then and now of Preston, Minnesota, in the Republican wing, and the Honorable William P. Murray, then and now of St. Paul, in the Democratic wing.

Among the ablest and most conspicuous members of the Democratic wing were the Honorable Lafayette Emmett and the Honorable Charles E. Flandrau. The first mentioned became the first Chief Justice, and the second, the First Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

When a young man has been admitted to the Bar and is ready to take up his life's work he naturally casts about for a location. He recalls that a man is not without honor except in his own country. The tendency and the general rule is to seek a location in some section of the country which holds out the promise of rapid development. He will there enter upon his life work on somewhat of an equal footing with others.

I do not recall the year in which Horace Greely gave his advice to young men to go west. I do know that in the fifties there was a tremendous pilgrimage from the East to

the Middle West and beyond. The whole West, and especially west of the Mississippi river and north of the Missouri line, was then virgin soil. Its possibilities were immense. Its rapid settlement and development was assured.

Minnesota, after its organization, became known as the North Star state. This was catching. It extended north to the international boundary. Much of it was wholly unexplored. On account of the presence in considerable numbers of various Indian tribes, oftentimes hostile to the whites, its exploration and settlement involved danger. But this constituted no serious impediment until the Indian outbreak of 1862, which for a time seriously handicapped the settlement of the state to the west and southwest.

In the early days Prairie du Chien was the nearest railroad point and most of the earliest settlers, especially professional and business men, came in during the season of navigation. This was true after the Milwaukee built its road into La Crosse late in the fifties. Steamboating on the Mississippi was then and for a few years thereafter in the very height of its glory. Some adventurous spirits were attracted to the Northwest by the wonderful stories which were told of steamboat racing on the Mississippi. Many such came to stay. Professional men generally follow the lines of least resistance. They followed the water courses.

While St. Paul, the seat of government, was the objective point for many who afterwards became notable and very influential in the state settled at river points before reaching St. Paul and others went beyond St. Paul, settling about the falls of St. Anthony and as far north on the Mississippi as St. Cloud and perhaps beyond. Others followed up the Minnesota river to Shakopee, Belle Plaine, Le Sueur, Henderson, St. Peter, Mankato, and others went up the St. Croix river.

Winona became known as the Gateway City. Its name was attractive and the broad plateau on which it was situated was inviting. As late as 1869 or 1870 it was the second city in the state, having a larger population than Minneapolis. It had a very able Bar. In it were included such men as the Honorable Thomas Wilson, at one time District Judge, then Associate Justice, and afterwards Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; Honorable William Mitchell,

of precious memory, for a time District Judge and for many years Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; the Honorable C[harles] H. Berry, the first Attorney-General of the state; Honorable Daniel S. Norton, an able lawyer and for a time in the United States Senate from Minnesota; Honorable C[hauncey] N. Waterman, for some years Judge of the district; Honorable Benjamin Franklin (a very able lawyer) with whom your fellow townsman, Honorable W. W. Billson, studied law; Honorable Abner Lewis, who for a time before coming west was a representative in Congress from western New York, and his partner, the Honorable Thomas Simpson.

The member of the Winona Bar who became the most distinguished in political life was the Honorable William Windom. His career at the Bar was very brief. He was elected to Congress in 1858, and thereafter he continued in public life until his untimely death while Secretary of the Treasury [on January 29, 1891].

The Winona Bar overshadowed the Wabasha Bar and largely monopolized the important business of that county.

Red Wing, which for some years was the largest primary grain market in the state, had a somewhat smaller Bar than Winona, but a very able one. Judges [Eli Trumbell] Wilder, [Charles] McClure, [William C.] Williston, Attorney-General [William J.] Colville, W. W. Phelps and others of perhaps less note had dropped off the river steamers at that point and ever after made their homes there. Judge Williston, now ripe in years, still presides with dignity upon the bench of that district. He and I were members of the judiciary committee of the House in the session of 1873. I may say that Judge Williston, Hon. John W. Mason, of Fergus Falls, and myself were the star members of that committee. (Laughter.) I can say that without fear of contradiction, because I am sure that all the other members are dead. (Laughter.)

At the junction of the St. Croix and the Mississippi some found their way up the St. Croix river to Hudson, Wisconsin, and Stillwater, Minnesota and beyond.

Honorable S[amuel] J. R. McMillan, afterwards Chief Justice of our Supreme Court and United States Senator, located at Stillwater.

When I first knew A[lpheus] B. Stickney of the Chicago & Great Western Railroad in the early sixties, he was a struggling young lawyer and was located at Stillwater. He soon transferred his location to the Capital City and in a short time quit the profession and took up railroad building and management.

It is not true that nothing good ever came out of Hastings. From that city came the Honorable Seagrave Smith, the Honorable L[awrence] W. Collins, for many years Associate justice of the Supreme Court, Honorable F[rancis] M. Crosby, J[asper] N. Searles of Stillwater, for many years a member of the Stillwater Bar; and we cannot forget that from Hastings, or nearby, came the Honorable Ignatius Donnelly. Judge Crosby, now somewhat venerable in years, still presides as judge of that district, and our old friend Honorable Albert Schaller is left alone to hold down the lid in Hastings.

A good many distinguished lawyers found their way up the Minnesota, then a navigable river. Judge Chatfield, L[uther] M. Brown, John H. Brown and L[uther] L. Baxter, all able lawyers, pitched their tents at Shakopee. They severally later sat upon the bench for many years in their respective districts. Honorable H[arrison] J. Peck was one of the pioneer lawyers of the Minnesota valley and is still in active practice at Shakopee.

Judge [Martin J.] Severance, lately deceased, my recollection is, dropped off at Henderson or LeSueur, where he practised for a number of years and later gravitated to Mankato, the metropolis of that valley, and for many years sat upon the bench of the Mankato district.

PRESIDENT WASHBURN: Gen. Wilson, he practised first at Henderson till the war broke out, then went to war. After the war he located in LeSueur and from LeSueur came to Mankato.

GEN. WILSON: I knew him at Henderson and LeSueur. I may say here, during this interruption, that I have a very vivid recollection of Judge Severance on two occasions at least when I happened to be on the other side of homicide cases which he was defending. I recall a case down at St. James in which the Honorable Daniel Buck and myself were prosecuting attorneys, and M. J. Severance and

Cushman K. Davis were defending. Our time was unlimited, and it is not necessary to say what the result of that trial was. You all remember—those of you who knew Cushman K. Davis and M. J. Severance—that they were both past masters in the use of the English language, and they could draw upon their imagination to any extent, without much reference, sometimes, to the actual facts involved in the case. (Laughter and applause.)

I remember afterwards of being engaged in the prosecution of a homicide case at LeSueur when Judge Severance appeared for the defense. It was just at the time when they had removed the county seat from LeSueur to LeSueur Center and the term of court was held at LeSueur Center. I shall never forget the magnificent address that Judge Severance made on that occasion. He talked above the heads of the jurors and the audience and above the tops of the trees and above the clouds and went into the very heavens. It was a magnificent address, and I regretted then, as I have often regretted since, that the Bar has no record of that magnificent address. The presiding officer here and many in this audience can testify that Judge Severance was one of the most eloquent men, if not the most eloquent man, we have ever had at the bar in the State of Minnesota.

At St. Peter was found the Honorable Horace Austin, who was judge of that district for a time and then was promoted to the governorship of the state. At St. Peter also the Honorable E. St. Julien Cox, the Honorable Andrew R. McGill, M. G. Hanscome, Harry Lamberton and others pitched their tents.

Charles E. Flandrau, early in the territorial days located at Travers de Sioux, and later, my recollection is, went to St. Peter, and from there drifted to Minneapolis and then to St. Paul, where he resided until his death.

Mankato assembled a very able Bar. Among them were Honorable M. J. Severance, the Honorable D[aniel] A. Dickinson, Honorable Daniel Buck, Honorable Lorin Cray, and it was in the city of Mankato and county of Blue Earth where your townsman, J. L. Washburn, the President of this Association, established his reputation as a very diligent and promising young lawyer. He has justified the expectations of the friends of his youth and has made good in the Zenith City. (Great applause.)

St. Paul in the very early days was the Mecca toward which all faces were turned. All roads led to St. Paul, the seat of the government. To undertake to name the many distinguished men who adorned the Bench and Bar of that city would be too great a task.

Among the early judges of that district I may mention the Honorable E[dward] C. Palmer and the Honorable Westcott Wilkin. They were courtly, elegant gentlemen, as have been many of their successors as well as many members of that Bar. I may mention the Honorable R. R. Nelson, who, I think, came directly to the State of Minnesota from either Yale or Harvard, the Rice brothers, the Sanborns, the Otis brothers, the Lamprey brothers, Horace Bigelow, Greenleaf Clark, John B. Brisbin, I. V. D. Heard, Orlando Simons, James Smith, Jr., and John M. Gilman, and a little later the Honorable George B. Young, Cushman K. Davis, and in the field of criminal law particularly we should not forget, especially in this hour of his great misfortune, W[illiam] W. Erwin.

At the falls of St. Anthony were found a distinguished group of men who shared the honors of the Bar with those I have mentioned at St. Paul and elsewhere in the state. I may mention among many others the Honorable William Lochren, the Honorable C[harles] E. Vanderburgh, the Honorable F[rancis] R. E. Cornell, the Honorable Isaac Atwater, the Honorable Eugene M. Wilson and John M. Shaw.

While, as stated, those who came in at an early day as a rule followed the water courses and located upon them, there were some very notable exceptions to the rule. Some found their way into the interior.

Rochester, at an early day and for many years, had a very distinguished and able Bar. Out of the entire number but two or three are living. The Honorable C. C. Wilson is the only one, so far as I now recollect, who still resides in Rochester. The Honorable Lloyd Barber, for many years judge of that district, has resided for many years in Winona and has retired from active practice. Judge McMahon, Richard Jones, Stiles Jones, Walter L. Breckenridge. Reuben Reynolds, O[zora] P. Stearns, the first judge of the Duluth district and for a short time in the United States Senate, and Honorable C[harles] M. Start,

District Judge, Attorney General and for many years Chief Justice of our Supreme Court, were among the prominent members of that Bar. And we must not forget that from and out of the Rochester Bar came that very able and industrious lawyer and distinguished trust buster, Frank B. Kellogg. (Applause.) The papers say "He kin if anybody kin." We congratulate ourselves on the distinction which he has brought to the Minnesota Bar.

But there are others, and, speaking metaphorically and poetically, I may say, "There are billows away out upon the ocean that never can break upon the beach." The opportunity may never come to them as it has come to our brother Kellogg.

What I have said concerning Rochester is also true of the Faribault Bar. Here were found at an early day the Honorable John M. Berry, a member of the state senate in the early sixties, and afterwards and for many years Associate Justice of our Supreme Court; Gordon E. Cole, the Attorney General from 1860 to 1866; [George W.] Bachelder, [Thomas Scott] Buckham and others. Judge Buckham has for many years adorned the Bench of that district and is still a hale, hearty man, and is doing most excellent and satisfactory work upon the Bench, although now beyond the three score and ten period.

I have said but little about the Duluth Bar. I have mentioned probably the Nester of the Bar, the Honorable W. W. Billson. I may also say that two other prominent members of this Bar, who, on account of their gray heads, might be taken by the casual observer to be my seniors, but who in fact are my juniors by a large margin, were students at law in Winona more than a generation ago.

PRESIDENT WASHBURN: We won't say anything to Mr. [Rinaldo B.] Briggs or Mr. [William Boyd] Phelps about it.

GEN. WILSON: I have not forgotten Judge [Josiah Davis] Ensign, John G. Williams, C[hester] A. Congdon and others. Judge Ensign is here where I can cross-examine him if I wish to, but my recollection is that I first met you Judge, about the year 1868. Did you not come here about that time?

JUDGE ENSIGN: I came to Rochester. I was in Rochester the year of 1868. I came here in 1870.

GEN. WILSON: But we are meeting in Duluth and I have omitted extended reference to the members of the Duluth Bar upon the same principle that I heard Captain [William Henry] Harries once, while arguing a case in the Supreme Court of this state, make no reference to the Minnesota decisions. He had a large number of books before him and was reading from Wisconsin and Iowa on certain subjects, and finally Judge Mitchell spoke up and said, "Captain Harries, this Court has passed upon that question, and why don't you refer us to our own decisions rather than Wisconsin and Iowa?" Harries said, "Why, if your Honor please, I assumed this Court was acquainted with its own decisions and that it was not necessary for me to make any reference to them." (Great laughter and applause.)

We all know that distance does lend enchantment to the view, but I cannot help feeling that in all the localities to which I have referred (perhaps Duluth alone excepted) the early Bar in said localities, for attainment in the profession and real ability, has never been surpassed. I have the same feeling and the same opinion in respect to the early legislative bodies of this state. We have not improved upon them in these later days, and in conclusion I here reaffirm that this state was wonderfully fortunate in the very high character and the distinguished ability of the men who came in at the beginning and to whom we are so greatly indebted. (Great applause.)

C[ORDINEO] A. SEVERANCE (of St. Paul): I am very much distressed at the condition of Mr. Erwin. About two years ago I spent a day in Miami, Florida, where he resides at present, and visited perhaps two hours with him. He was in perfect vigor and had made a great success of his life since removing to Florida, He told me that since he had lived there he had tried only one criminal case, and that was a case that he was employed by the Florida East Coast Railroad to prosecute—some atrocious crime that had been committed along their right of way. His practice was confined chiefly to equity cases largely relating to land titles and business of that general character. He had prospered financially, was regarded as the leading citizen of Miami, and was referred to with the greatest respect by every one of the community.

I would move, if it is in order, that the Secretary of this Association be instructed to telegraph to Mr. Erwin our sincerest sympathy in his misfortune, tell him that his memory is still green with us and that we hope for his speedy recovery.

MR. STILES W. BURR (of St. Paul): I second the motion.

PRESIDENT WASHBURN: Gentlemen, you have heard the motion. Is there any other gentleman present who wants to say something upon the question before it is put?

GEN. WILSON: I simply want to say, Mr. President, that that had occurred to me as something that ought to be done, and I am very glad that Mr. Severance has made the motion.

PRESIDENT WASHBURN: As many of you as favor the motion say "Aye," contrary "No." The motion prevails.

I feel, gentlemen, that the general committee are deserving of our thanks for conceiving the thought of occupying a portion of this first day with reminiscences of the early Bench and Bar of this state, and further that they are deserving of our thanks for the very wise and happy selection of the speaker to treat of that subject.

When I hear the roll call of those names and remember how many of those men I knew, I begin to wonder who is the older — General Wilson or myself. But, looking at General Wilson, were it not for the fact that he is able to speak from his own acquaintance of those men and of those times, and if we didn't know it, we would hardly credit him with the truth. He looks to me, and I hope the fact is, as they used to say of a Wisconsin tax title, that he is good for fifty years more of usefulness in this state. (Great applause.)

I know that every member of the Bar of the state here present will go away this morning feeling that it was worth while to come here to hear that address.

Unless some of you have some item of business to present I think our forenoon session will draw to a close. ●

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