

RESOLUTIONS

FOR

RUDOLPH LEHMICKE

(1823 - 1894)

WASHINGTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

FOREWARD

The following resolutions of the Washington County Bar Associations in honor of the William Lehmicke are filed with the Minnesota Historical Society. This memorial is unusually terse. The date it was passed is not given. Basic biographical information about Judge Lehmicke such as the dates of his birth and death is also lacking. To partially fill these gaps, the following profile from *The United States Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-Made Men. Minnesota Volume*, published in 1879, is reproduced:

RUDOLPH LEHMICKE, STILLWATER.

The subject of this sketch, the judge of probate of Washington county, is a native of Prussia, a son of Victor Lehmicke, farmer, and Ernestine Weidner, dating his birth at near Merseburg, November 14, 1823. He had only a common-school education; learned the cabinet and piano business; served three years in the army, 3rd Uhlan regiment, and came to this country in the autumn of 1849, landing in New York city. He worked eighteen months at his trade in Poughkeepsie, on the Hudson river; between two and three years at Coldwater, Michigan; settled in Stillwater in October, 1854; here worked at his trade until the early part of 1857; then opened a store; was elected justice of the peace in the autumn following; closed out his mercantile business in one short year; commenced studying law, and was admitted to the bar in April 1859. After practicing one year, being elected county auditor, he took the office, and held it till March, 1874. In the autumn of the next year he was elected judge of probate, and still holds the office. He was city superintendent of schools in 1871 and 1872, was a member and treasurer of the school board for some time, and is now in the state board of equalization. A more conscientious, reliable man it would be difficult to find in the state.

Mr. Lehmicke was a republican till 1872, and since that time has been liberal or independent. He votes for the best men.

He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and has been an elder for eight or nine years, a man loving "the gates of Zion," and always at his post of Christian duty. He is a past-grand templar in the Temple of Honor in the state, and representative to the supreme council, and is master of Saint John Lodge, No. 1, Stillwater Masons.

Mr. Lehmicke has been married since the 19th of February, 1853, his wife being Miss Jennie Tackaberry, of Coldwater, Michigan. They have had ten children, and lost three of them.

The judge's death in 1894 was recorded in the first volume of Augustus B. Easton's *History of the Saint Croix Valley*, published in 1909:

Judge Rudolph Lehmicke died December 19, 1894, aged seventy-two years. He came to America from Prussia, his native place, in 1849,

and to Stillwater in 1854. In 1859 he was chosen county auditor, holding that position until 1874, when he was elected judge of probate, holding that until 1881. In 1883 he was again chosen and held that office at the time of his death. Mr. Lehmicke was married in 1853 to Miss Jane Tackeberry, at Coldwater, Mich. The widow survived him many years. He left a large family of children — two daughters, Mrs. Albert Wilkinson and Margaret, the youngest, and five sons.

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RESOLUTIONS passed by the Bar Association of Washington County, Minn., on the death of Honorable Rudolph Lehmicke.

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RESOLVED: That we, the members of the Stillwater Bar Association, learn with sorrow of the death of Honorable Rudolph Lehmicke, Judge of the Probate Court.

That during his long illness we remember the terrible suffering he endured with such heroic fortitude until the blessed relief of death came.

We remember with pride the honorable reputation that he obtained as Judge of the Probate Court of Washington County.

That it could be truly said of him that he was a just judge, and we feel that no higher encomium could be paid him.

We also remember with pride his high position and honorable career as a citizen of this City, his kindness as a father, his gentleness as a husband and his charity to all.

We extend to his wife and children our heartfelt sympathy. ■

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Posted MLHP: November 20, 2011.