

IN MEMORIAM.

Hon. WARREN J. WOODWARD, one of the Justices of this Court, died on the 25th of September 1879. At the opening of the session of the Supreme Court in Pittsburgh, on the first Monday of October 1879, W. D. MOORE, Esq., of the Allegheny County Bar, in alluding to the deceased jurist, said:—

“His whole career preceding his call to the Supreme Court had been a continuous discipline and training for the successful fulfilment of its exalted duties. His collegiate studies having been concluded in 1840, he entered upon the study of the law, in the office of his uncle, Hon. GEORGE W. WOODWARD, and in 1842 was admitted to the Bar and entered upon and continued the practice of his profession in Luzerne county until 1856, when at the solicitation of the members of the Bar, within the newly-formed Twenty-sixth Judicial District, he was appointed by Governor POLLOCK to the resident judgeship of that district, to which he was subsequently elected and commissioned for ten years. In 1861 he was elected to the office of resident Judge of the Twenty-third district and re-elected for the term of ten years. In 1874 he was elected to the office of Judge of this court and held that office with honor to himself and usefulness to others until the day of his death.

“He was all his life a diligent student, and the most of it had been spent in judicial discussions and decisions. To these he gave always the most pains-taking and careful preparation. He brought to them wide and varied acquirements—a temper immovably calm and self-possessed and a conscientiousness which could be swayed by no fear, or drawn aside by any favor, however skilfully and plausibly concealed. The opinions which he has delivered in this court bear witness to the learning, the ability, the courage and the integrity of their author, and are couched in a style so clear, exact and calm as

to be a perfect mirror of his thoughts and at the same time of his mental and moral character, and certainly give no signs of the wasting disease, which for years had been sapping his life, and which must have made intellectual labor more than ordinarily onerous and painful."

Chief Justice SHARSWOOD replied as follows:—

To all that has been said to the character, attainments and qualifications of our lamented brother, we add our cordial concurrence. The community has suffered a loss in his early removal from us which it is difficult properly to estimate. To thorough mastery of the general principles of law, intimate acquaintance with practice and precedents in all their details, he added a sound judgment, inflexible integrity and untiring industry. He always stood by the ancient landmarks, and it was with him a matter of conscience not to make but to administer the laws as settled by adjudged cases. We may be permitted as our especial testimony, to mention his unvarying gentleness, courtesy, amiability and forbearance, which endeared him to his colleagues and made them all his personal friends. In the whole period of their association with him no instance of unpleasant collision can be recalled. His fame as a judge will rest upon opinions exhibiting independent research, expressed in a clear and forcible style, without pretensions to eloquence, models of judicial composition. His memory will long be cherished by all who knew him and by all who know how to appreciate the character and services of a faithful and learned judge.