

**THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

---

MEMORIALS

OF

	PAGE NO.
WILLIAM P. JAMES.....	2862
EDNA RAPALLO .....	2864
BRANTLY HARRIS.....	2866
CHARLES J. CARROLL.....	2868
RUFUS EDWARD FOSTER.....	2870
VAN VECHTEN VEEDER.....	2872

**MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM P. JAMES**

BY JOHN C. McHose

William P. James, for many years Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California, and an associate member of the Maritime Law Association since 1931, died July 28, 1940. He was seventy years of age.

Judge James was born in Buffalo, New York, January 10, 1870, but was virtually a native son of California, as he was brought to this state when only three years old. He was educated in Los Angeles and became a newspaper reporter. He studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1894. After a few years in private practice and as Deputy District Attorney for Los Angeles County, Judge James ascended the Superior Court Bench in Los Angeles County in 1905. Later, he was Judge of the California District Court of Appeal. In 1923, by appointment of President Harding, he became District Judge and so served until his death.

Judge James was described by Judge McCormick, long an associate, and now Senior District Judge, with the following words: "The nation has lost one of its ablest and most experienced judges. Judge James was the soul of honor, conscientious to the utmost, sympathetically understanding, and merciful in his judgment of his fellow men; he was yet an uncompromising defender of the truth, and of public and private rights."

Judge James tried many admiralty cases and came to have a great interest in the sea and shipping. Members of the Los Angeles Admiralty Bar were delighted to have cases assigned to Judge James. Such assignment assured an absolutely fair and impartial trial and that even the most technical legal points would be intelligently and thoughtfully determined.

A resolution in memoriam of Judge James, prepared by the Los Angeles Bar Association and engrossed upon the minutes of the District Court, closed with this most appropriate comment:

"Throughout his life, and in a period of vast economic, social and political changes, Judge James represented the best

traditions and the highest ideals of his profession. The forthrightness of his character, his serenity and calm, his retiring way of life, devotion to his Country and its Constitution, his affection for the young and respect for the old, his courteous hearing, his tender charity, his reluctance to give offense and his readiness to forgive it, long have been traditions with his neighbors, with the public and with the Bench and Bar."

**MEMORIAL OF EDNA RAPALLO**

BY GEO. WHITEFIELD BETTS, JR.

Edna Rapallo, a member of this Association, died at New York City on July 28, 1942. She was born at New York City on January 23, 1893, the daughter of Charles A. and Constance (Arnold) Rapallo. She was a granddaughter of the late Charles A. Rapallo of the Court of Appeals of New York. Judge Rapallo's father, Antonio Rapallo, also a well-known lawyer in New York, came from Genoa to this City early in the nineteenth century and in 1819 married Elizabeth Gould, daughter of Benjamin Gould of Massachusetts, a Captain in the Revolutionary War.

Miss Rapallo's maternal grandfather, Benjamin Greene Arnold, was a prominent coffee merchant in New York City about the middle of the nineteenth century. There was no good place for a midday meal downtown and he and a group of his friends founded in 1859 The Down Town Association (still operating at 60 Pine Street), of which he was President from 1877 to 1880.

Miss Rapallo was a graduate of Bryn Mawr College, 1915, B.A., and New York University Law School, 1918, J.D. She was admitted to the New York Bar, First Department, in 1919. She was one of the first women to be admitted to membership in the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and was a member of its Admiralty Committee from 1939 until the time of her death.

She was also an honorary member of the Rapallo Lawyers' Association, an organization in New York, named for her grandfather, of members of the Bar of Italian descent.

Her first professional association was with the firm of Hunt, Hill & Betts of 120 Broadway, New York City. She remained with that firm until 1940, when she entered upon her own independent practice, retaining her office, however, with the firm. She specialized in admiralty law and took an active part in litigation on behalf of claimants in cases arising out of the sinking of the Lusitania in 1915, the Vestris in 1928, and the burning of the Morro Castle in 1934.

Her hobby was farming. She owned a farm, "Uplands", near Danbury, Connecticut, where she raised dairy cattle. Latterly she spent much time in Connecticut and was planning to be admitted to the Bar of that State at the time of her death.

The writer of this memorial, through long association with Edna Rapallo, always had a high appreciation of her fine character and ability, her broad outlook upon life, her great capacity for friendship and her loyalty to those with whom she was associated. Her untimely death brought to an end a useful and promising career.

**MEMORIAL OF BRANTLY HARRIS**

BY CARL G. STEARNS

The death of Brantly Harris on July 30, 1942, brought to an untimely close the career of one of the most energetic, successful and respected lawyers in the State of Texas.

Born in Montgomery, Alabama, on January 7, 1893, Mr. Harris during his childhood moved to Texas, where he made his home the remainder of his life. He was the son of a Baptist minister, whose fine Christian qualities and characteristics were passed on to and maintained by him throughout his life.

After preparatory education in the public schools at Texarkana, Texas, he attended Rice University at Houston, Texas, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1917. He then attended George Washington University, Washington, D. C., where he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1921. Working his way through college was no serious handicap to him, as he was an honor student. While attending George Washington University, he was secretary to Congressman Rufus Hardy of the Sixth Congressional District of Texas.

From 1925 to 1929 Mr. Harris was a member of the law firm of Stewart, Damiani & Harris, Galveston, Texas. He then engaged in individual practice for a time in Galveston and later formed the firm of Harris & Coltzer, Galveston, of which he was the senior member at the time of his death. While he largely specialized in admiralty and tax matters, he also enjoyed a large and lucrative general practice.

Mr. Harris was a worthy opponent for any member of the bar of Texas. He was thorough, hard working and very resourceful. He earned and held the respect of his fellow attorneys and of the courts.

While his practice was larger than that of most attorneys, he still found time to be a most useful citizen and public servant. For a time he was lecturer on medical jurisprudence in the College of Medicine of the University of Texas. From 1924 to 1932

he was United States Commissioner at Galveston, Texas. In 1939 he was elected mayor of Galveston and was serving his second term at the time of his death. No mayor of Galveston did more, if as much, than he did to develop Galveston, both industrially and as a seaside resort. He was largely responsible for a \$1,500,000 pleasure pier, which is nearing completion and is reputed to be a finer one than any at Atlantic City—the government is taking it over for the duration.

The Galveston Rotary Club paid Mr. Harris this fine tribute: "To his friends in Rotary, Brantly was an excellent example of the democratic spirit, loyalty and congeniality which aids so much in marking any man a true gentleman."

The Galveston Tribune had this to say with respect to him:

"Mayor Brantly Harris has gone to that mysterious land where war, strife and turmoil are unknown, but he will not soon be forgotten by Galvestonians.

"In our books, he was one of the finest mayors in the history of the island. The passage of time will make islanders appreciate to a keener extent his vision, imagination, energy and aggressiveness."

Mr. Harris is survived by his wife, Willie Dean McAfee Harris; two sons, Brantly J. and Robert; and two daughters, Margaret and Jessie Lou.

**MEMORIAL OF CHARLES J. CARROLL**

BY WILLIAM E. COLLINS

The death of Charles J. Carroll, a member of this Association, who was well known to most of the Admiralty Bar of New York, occurred at his home in New York City on August 15, 1942, at the age of 59.

He was born in New York, was graduated from St. Francis Xavier College in 1905, and from the New York Law School in 1907. He thereafter became a partner in the law firm of Sheehy, Carroll & McCormack, at 266 Broadway. He entered politics and in 1913 was elected an Assemblyman on the Democratic ticket. The impeachment of William Sulzer as Governor of New York took place during Mr. Carroll's service in the legislature, and he was the sole member of the New York City Democratic delegation to vote against the impeachment which he considered to be a great mistake on the part of the Democratic organization.

In 1921 he was a candidate for the position of Municipal Court Justice but was defeated by Hon. Francis J. Coleman, Jr., who later became District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

From 1918 to 1934 Mr. Carroll headed the Admiralty Division of the Corporation Counsel, City of New York, and during that period formulated many marine regulations for the Port and City of New York. In 1935 he became Associate Counsel in the Department of Commerce concerned with Maritime affairs, and thereafter served successively with the United States Maritime Commission and War Shipping Administration in which he was employed at the time of his death. While associated with the Government at Washington, he was sent by Admiral Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission, to the Pacific Coast, taking his first trip by air, where he assisted in settling a large shipping strike. Both in the office of the Corporation Counsel and in the Federal Government organizations he was engaged in many important cases in which he rendered able, faithful and conscientious service.



His wide professional and social contacts brought him many friends of the bench and bar and from all walks of life. One of his many noble traits was his charity, in the best sense of the word. He was always ready to advise, encourage and help those who needed the support of a strong character in the battle of life. In that way he gave much of himself to the service of others. They will long remember him and will miss his warm personal interest.

In the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Glee Club he was universally liked. For years he was one of their constant and most enthusiastic members. He was also active in the affairs of the American Irish Historical Society, and the St. Francis Xavier Alumni Association.

He left surviving him his wife, Mrs. Mary Hawkins Carroll; two daughters, the Misses Mercedes and Catherine Carroll; a son, John Carroll; two brothers, Joseph I. and Vincent P. Carroll, and a sister, Miss Isabelle Carroll.

**MEMORIAL OF RUFUS EDWARD FOSTER**

BY GEO. H. TERRIBERRY

United States Circuit Judge Rufus E. Foster died on the 23rd of August, 1942. He was born on a plantation in Mathews County, Virginia, on May 22, 1871. His forbears had settled in Virginia before the Revolutionary War. They fought in all our wars, and his father was a Captain in the Confederate Navy. Judge Foster was educated in the public schools of Virginia and of Louisiana, to which latter State the family removed when he was a young man. Before completing his general education, family finances made it necessary for him to take employment. He began his commercial career with a ship chandlery firm. This employment, in which his rise was rapid, marks the beginning of his interest in boats. He, as a very young man, enlisted in the National Guard of his State and, in competition, was adjudged the best drilled soldier of the State. He took a keen interest in all forms of athletics, particularly rowing and football.

Judge Foster in 1893 took up the study of law and was graduated from Tulane in 1895, and was in that year admitted to practice. The Spanish-American War called him from law in 1898. He served as a lieutenant in the Second Louisiana Volunteer Infantry and later was adjutant general on the staff of General Gordon. He was with the forces which occupied Havana.

At the return of peace, Judge Foster resumed his practice. In 1905 he became Assistant United States District Attorney, and, in 1908, United States District Attorney. The following year, President Roosevelt appointed him United States District Judge, and, in 1925, President Coolidge appointed him Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit. At the time of his death, he had been for many years presiding Judge of this Court.

In 1899, Judge Foster married Miss Blanche Ahrons who survives him. There are two daughters.

Judge Foster was actively interested in too many worthwhile movements for them to be even listed in the space proper for this paper. He became Commander-in-Chief of the United Spanish-

American War Veterans ; he taught many years in the Law School of Tulane, and at his death was Professor and Dean Emeritus. He was an honorary member of the Coif. His interest in athletics continued throughout his life. He was at one time Vice-President of the American Olympic Committee. He was a founder of the Boy Scout Council in Louisiana.

On the bench he had a large admiralty docket always. He could not, had he tried, conceal his preference for that branch of law. He was generously endowed, both with common sense and a sense of humor. His was a high courage and yet he was in essence a peacemaker. He loved humanity and was very sociable. The Bar of the Fifth Circuit and the people of Louisiana regarded him with the deepest affection. Through all his many labors, he had come to know, and be known by all his people, high or low, rich or poor. In their hearts he lives.

## MEMORIAL OF VAN VECHTEN VEEDER

BY CHARLES C. BURLINGHAM

Van Vechten Veeder, a former President of this Association, died in New York City on December 4, 1942. He was born in Schenectady on July 4, 1867, and was educated at the Union Classical Institute of Schenectady, at the University of Virginia and at the Columbia Law School. In 1888, he settled in Chicago, continuing his study of law there, and he was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1890. For several years he was attorney for the West Chicago Street Railroad Company. In 1900, for reasons of health, he moved to New York City, and was admitted to the Bar here. He became counsel for the New York and Queens County Railway Company, and he formed a partnership with Appleton L. Clark, with whom he practiced until 1911, when he was appointed by President Taft United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. In 1917, he resigned and became a member of the firm of Burlingham, Veeder, Masten & Fearey and its successor firms. In 1934, he retired from active practice but continued as counsel until 1941, when he was appointed Chairman of the Appeal Board established by the decree in the suit of the *United States v. Paramount* and other motion picture companies.

In 1909, Judge Veeder married Margaret Lounsberry DeWitt, who survives him, together with a son, Major John Van Vechten Veeder of the U. S. Marines, and a daughter, Margaret DeWitt, now Mrs. Frederick Hartt.

Judge Veeder was a man of wide learning. He spent only two years in college or university, but he was a student throughout his life. In 1903, he edited *Legal Masterpieces*,—a collection of opinions of notable English and American judges and of arguments and briefs of British and American advocates. He not only edited the work but wrote a general introduction, biographical sketches and explanatory notes. The book was received by the Bar, legal periodicals and literary critics with the greatest appreciation.

Judge Veeder also wrote three articles for *Select Essays in Anglo-American Legal History*, which were highly praised by such scholars as Sir Frederick Pollock and Professor Wigmore. He contributed many articles to the *Law Reviews*, notably one on Lord Bowen and another on Lord Chief Justice Cockburn.

On the Bench Judge Veeder gained a high reputation. His opinions were distinguished by clarity, force and style. One of his important decisions was the *Marconi* case, 213 Fed. 815, where he held that several of the Marconi wireless telegraph patents had been infringed. This was the first decision in the litigation in different jurisdictions which grew out of the Marconi patents, and his opinion was a thorough study of the history and development of the radio up to that time.

In Admiralty, two of his important opinions were *Munson Steamship Line v. Elswick Steam Shipping Company, Ltd.*, 207 Fed. 984, affirmed 214 Fed. 84, involving overlap under a charter-party; and *Mulvaney v. King Paint Mfg. Co.*, affirmed 256 Fed. 612, on the liability of a charterer under the familiar covenant to redeliver the vessel in "same condition as received with the usual wear and tear."

Judge Veeder was an active member of the American Law Institute and was regarded as one of the leading authorities on the law of libel and slander. He was also a high authority on international law and aided in drafting the Conventions published by the Harvard Committee on Research in International Law. He was President of this Association from 1930 to 1936, and was a member and chairman of important committees of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and was one of its vice-presidents.

Judge Veeder was deeply interested in the arts and was acquainted with all processes of engraving and printing. On his frequent visits to England and France, he made a study of cathedral glass. He was an omnivorous reader, a man of broad culture and a scholar versed in many subjects besides the law.