

last meeting. The Committee has prepared sketches of all the deceased members and we understand there is now a complete biographical record. The departed members of whom biographical sketches have been prepared and are now submitted are as follows: Thomas S. Baer, W. Viers Bouic, Samuel Cox, Jr., E. J. D. Cross, William H. Deweese, Richard T. Edmonds, Edward C. Eichelberger, Richard D. Hynson, I. Thomas Jones, James J. McHenry, William S. McMaster, William R. Martin and Joseph C. Mullin.

The Committee in the discharge of its duties has had under consideration Article XIII of the Constitution which provides for "memorials of the lives and characters of the deceased members of the Maryland Bar." The Committee has presumed to recommend that the article be changed to read thus: "The Committee on Legal Biography shall provide for the preservation, among the archives of the Association, of suitable written or printed memorials of the lives and characters of the deceased members of this Association."

THOMAS S. BAER.

Thomas S. Baer was born in Baltimore City on the 17th of March, 1843. He was a son of the Rev. John Baer, a member of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

After completing his education, all of which he obtained in the public schools of his native city, he studied law in the office of the late William S. Waters and was admitted to the bar on the 18th of May, 1865. Shortly after his admission he formed a law partnership with the late John T. McGlone which continued a few years. From 1872 to 1875 he practiced law in connection with Mr. Isaac McCurley, the firm being Baer & McCurley.

He married Miss Elizabeth S. Beacham, a daughter of the late John S. Beacham. She died on the 26th of December, 1891. There were no children born of this marriage.

Mr. Baer was a member of the House of Delegates in the session of 1894; Master in Chancery from 1894 to 1903; School Commissioner from March, 1900, until his elevation to the Supreme Bench in November, 1903. From 1893 until his death, on July 18, 1906, he was a member of the Faculty of the University of Maryland where he lectured on the Law of Real Property.

While Mr. Baer was not considered a conspicuous trial lawyer he tried his cases well. He was a general practitioner, no specialist. He knew the law and the reason of the law. Attorney-General Bryan said of him, "He was a sound, accurate and discriminating lawyer, acquainted with the decisions and having a firm grasp on the underlying principles of jurisprudence. He not only knew what had been decided, but he understood why it had been decided."

He was a master in chancery in more ways than one. His conception of equity jurisprudence as modified by Maryland statutes and decisions was singularly clear.

In his equipment as a real estate lawyer he united the experience of the practical conveyancer with a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of that branch of the law.

With him discrimination was a genius; he grasped quickly and without effort the questions at issue in the case before him and the cases upon which he relied.

He was always accessible, ever apparently restful, a most genial companion. If you had a story to tell he enjoyed listening to it, and that story reminded of another that he enjoyed telling. No one who enjoyed his friendship ever felt that he remained too long in his company or occupied too much of his time.

In politics he was a Democrat, and while it could not be said that he was regular in his irregularity, neither could it

be said that he never scratched a ticket. He voted for Edward Duffy in the new judge election and Judge Duffy was proud of that vote.

Too unostentatious and unobtrusive to be what is termed a pillar in the church, yet he was a regular attendant on public worship, and as Mr. Joseph C. France said, "There was about him no sham, no pretense, and the outer word always corresponded with the inner thought."

In his last illness, which was intensely painful, and so pathetic because so hopeless, he bore his sufferings with wonderful patience, fortitude and resignation.

Chief Judge Harlan said of him: "Judge Baer belonged to Baltimore in a peculiar degree. He may be said to have been a representative of her citizenship and her institutions. Here he was born: Here he was educated. Here he lived; here he practiced his profession; here he won his honors, and here he laid down his life. It was a quiet life, for Judge Baer was a modest and unostentatious man, but it was a life that was actuated by high principles and the desire of service, and it was a life of great usefulness.

"He was not a seeker after office or place, but when called into the public service, whether as member of the Public School Board, as Delegates to the General Assembly, as Master in Chancery or as Judge of the Supreme Bench, he brought to the fulfillment of his duties such native ability, such broadness of mind, such soundness of judgment, such preparation and knowledge, such honesty of purpose, such fidelity of performance, as to render him a singularly valuable public servant in each and every place he filled.

"At the bar, Judge Baer was known as a sound lawyer, a safe counsellor and an able advocate. Indeed, it was in recognition of his well-merited reputation for professional learning, sterling integrity, discriminating judgment, and such personal characteristics as evenness of temper, calmness of speech and courtesy of manner, that he was selected for judicial preferment.

"His course upon the bench amply justified the popular choice. He recognized to the full the importance of the judicial office, and he always maintained its dignity; he displayed in the exercise of its difficult and oftentimes delicate functions such wisdom, learning, impartiality, patience and courtesy, as to speedily gain not only the full confidence, but the affectionate regard of the entire bar. No counsel or client ever had reason to go into his court with any other feeling than that his cause would have a full and patient hearing, be given a careful and intelligent consideration, and be decided solely according to the justice and law of the case.

"Judge Baer wrote with vigor and force, and his lectures upon the Law of Real Property delivered to the law students of the Maryland University, where he occupied a professor's chair for fourteen years, were models of clearness and reflected his accurate and comprehensive knowledge of the subject."

Truly a strong sweet soul has passed to his well merited reward, cut down in the midst of his usefulness, those of us who knew him well; will affectionately cherish his memory.

WILLIAM V. BOUIC.

William Veirs Bouic was born near Rockville, Maryland, on July 20, 1846, and died in that town on October 12, 1906.

He was the only son of Judge William Veirs Bouic, who, for fifteen years was one of the judges of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of this State.

Mr. Bouic was educated at the Rockville Academy and at Columbian College, in Washington, D. C., graduating from the latter institution in 1868 with the degree of A. B., and three years later receiving the degree of A. M. from his Alma Mater. Immediately upon his return from college to his home at Rockville, he began the study of the law under the instruction of his father; and, in 1870, was duly admitted.