

To these glimpses of the court of the period, tradition affords an additional one of processions of the judges and lawyers passing through on the public foot-path between the buildings to the south of the State House, called Chancery Lane, on their way to and from the hotel.

Toward the middle of the century, the practice of constant attendance of the lawyers upon sessions began to give way a little. Roads had then been extended about the state and improved, and travel on them was faster; and on Christmas Day, 1840, the first train came through from Annapolis Junction on the new Annapolis & Elk Ridge Railroad.

In the minutes of this court, as in those of other courts of the country, the entries on the deaths of Presidents John Adams and Jefferson afford a striking illustration of the slow rate of travel and communication at that period; both died on July 4, 1826, but while the death of Jefferson was announced to the court on July 7, that of Adams was not announced until July 10. Luther Martin's death in New York, on July 10, was noted in the minutes of July 20, 1826. There was then a meeting of the bar, with Chief Judge Buchanan in the chair, and John P. Kennedy secretary. Announcement was made on January 14, 1843, of the death of Francis Scott Key, and a eulogy was delivered and recorded, all without any reference to his having written the "Star Spangled Banner", for which he is now remembered. The death of a judge of the court was not customarily noticed in the minute book before 1844, when minutes were made of the deaths of Judge Stephen and