

Electoral Commission at Washington in the winter of 1876 and 1877, several law students who had gone from Baltimore to hear the distinguished lawyers engaged in the case were told by Mr. Justice David Davis of the United States Supreme Court, whom they happened to meet, that they would be spending their time more profitably if they returned to the Baltimore courts, where from Mr. Wallis, Mr. I. Nevitt Steele and one or two others they would hear abler arguments than they could hear anywhere else. And by the working of the same process the talents of some Maryland judges may have been likewise overlooked. They may have suffered somewhat from a lack of sacred bards. Maryland has had few writers, and hardly any to celebrate the talents of its judges elsewhere.

But if it be assumed that there has been no judge on the Court of Appeals whose opinions even if widely known would have given him wide praise, it remains true that for nearly a hundred and fifty years, if we go no further back, a succession of mortal men on this court sitting in judgment on the controversies of the people of their community, have worked to the general satisfaction and content of those people, and left them respecting the men and the institution; and in that they have met the greater test of success in the administration of justice. Whatever the future of the court may be, whether being adapted to changes which must occur in the needs for judicature it is to endure in usefulness for a long time to come, or whether it is soon to be superseded by some different tribunal or tribunals, it has already had a long career as an institution of prime importance