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# REPORT

OF THE

## Thirty-First Annual Meeting

OF THE

# Virginia State Bar Association

HELD AT

JEFFERSON HOTEL  
RICHMOND, VA.

May 11th, 12th and 13th, 1920

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VOLUME XXXII.

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*Edited by John B. Minor, of the Richmond Bar*

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
**Virginia State Bar Association**

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FIRST DAY

JEFFERSON HOTEL, RICHMOND, VA.,  
May 11, 1920.

The Association was called to order at 11 o'clock A. M. by Hon. Norvell L. Henley, Chairman of the Executive Committee, who said:

*Fellow Members of the Virginia State Bar Association,  
Ladies and Gentlemen:*

As Chairman of the Executive Committee it is my privilege, as well as my pleasure, to call to order the thirty-first annual meeting of the Virginia State Bar Association.

Realizing the necessity of Divine guidance we have called upon and have with us on this occasion the Rev. George W. McDaniel, pastor of the First Baptist Church of the city of Richmond, who will lead us in prayer.

far as I know, there are no grievances. We have no report to make.

The President: The Committee on International Arbitration, Hon. H. St. George Tucker, Chairman; he is not in the room at present.

The Secretary has some announcements to make.

Secretary Minor: Mr. President, I have two communications, one of which is a communication from the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in relation to some marker for the grave of George Wythe, which I will read:

616 AMERICAN N. B. BLDG., RICHMOND, VA.,

May 7, 1920.

HON. JOHN B. MINOR, *Prest. Bar Association,*

506 Mutual Building, Richmond, Va.

*My dear Mr. Minor:*

Wide attention has been called to the neglected graves, in several states, of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, and a movement is being made to have all such graves marked by stones.

One such grave is in this city.

Chancellor George Wythe, one of the Signers, one of the most distinguished lawyers of Virginia, a great expounder and great teacher of the law, is buried in old St. John's graveyard on Church Hill, just at the door of the old church. No stone marks the resting place of this man to whom this state owes so much.

Comment on his life and deeds needs not be made in this letter. His accomplishments are known to all members of the Bar Association or should be.

The patriotic societies of this city have appointed committees to take up the matter of marking this grave, and I am sure your Association need only to have its attention called to the matter to approve of the movement, and likewise appoint

a committee to co-operate with representatives of other organizations.

Trusting you will bring the subject to the attention of your Association, with desired results, I am

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR B. CLARKE,  
*Prest. Va. So. S. A. R.*

I move that this communication be referred to the Committee on Resolutions, with instructions to report a suitable resolution in accordance with the request.

Seconded and adopted.

The President: I hold in my hand a telegram received this morning which I am sure it will be a pleasure to all the members to hear. It is from Mr. Thomas Nelson Page, and says:

“I accept with pleasure your invitation to reply to toast. Expect to arrive Thursday. Suggest as subject ‘Old Laws and the New Situation.’”

The Association then took a recess until the next day.

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## SECOND DAY.

JEFFERSON HOTEL, RICHMOND, VA.,  
*May 12, 1920.*

The Association was called to order at 10:30 o'clock A. M.

The President: We will now hear the report of the Committee on Obituaries, Judge A. W. Wallace, Chairman.

Judge A. W. Wallace, of Fredericksburg, read the report of the committee, which, on motion, was received and filed.

*(See Report at end of Minutes.)*

The Chair recognizes Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Morgan P. Robinson, Chairman of the Committee on Admissions, then read the second report of that committee, which, on motion, duly seconded, was unanimously adopted and the Secretary cast the ballot of the Association for the election of the members therein named.

*(See Report at end of Minutes.)*

The President: We will now have the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Mr. James R. Caton, of Alexandria: Mr. President, on behalf of the committee I desire to report the following resolutions:

*Be it Resolved*, That the Virginia State Bar Association heartily approves the movement inaugurated by the patriotic organizations of the city of Richmond to mark the grave of Chancellor George Wythe, and directs the President of the Association to appoint a committee to co-operate in the accomplishment of this purpose with the committees of other organizations.

*Resolved*, That the Virginia State Bar Association, in annual meeting assembled, respectfully, but earnestly requests the Committee on Judiciary of the United States Senate to report Senate Bill S1214.

Both resolutions were seconded and adopted.

The President: The special order of business set for this hour is "The Practice of Law by Corporations." I believe Mr. A. W. Patterson is Chairman of the committee dealing with that subject.

Mr. A. W. Patterson, of Richmond: Mr. President and Members of the Virginia State Bar Association: