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## Trickett Hall

Robert Hays Smith

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## TRICKETT HALL

Some ten years have passed since the faculty and students of the Dickinson School of Law began to dream of a new building. Twice during this period the matter was taken up with the alumni by correspondence but the subscriptions so received did not justify proceeding with the erection of the building. It was in July, 1916, that the first step was taken which led to the realization of this hope deferred. Horace B. King, Esq., of Harrisburg, a graduate of the class of 1910, undertook at that time to present the matter personally to all the alumni in Pennsylvania and adjoining states, and to correspond with all alumni living at more distant points. By the first of October sufficient money had been subscribed to warrant the decision to proceed with the project. Plans submitted by R. R. Markley of Harrisburg were adopted and bids solicited. On October 24, 1916, the site at the corner of College and South streets was purchased and a short time thereafter, the contract was let to H. A. Lackey. The site has a frontage on College street of one hundred and sixty-seven feet and a depth of one hundred and twenty feet. The building has a frontage of one hundred and thirty-two feet and a depth of seventy feet. On the north one enjoys the charming vistas of the deer park of the late Johnston Moore and the location is the center of the best residential section of Carlisle. Upon entering the build-

ing one finds himself in a large lobby adorned with the portraits of graduates who have risen to places on the bench. One finds Judge Kephart, Judge S. B. Sadler, Judge Moser, Judge Heck, and Judge Wilson, graduates of Dean Trickett's classes, and Judge Henderson, one of the graduates of the old Reed school. Portraits of other graduates of the early school hang at the foot of large double stairway. Opening from the spacious transverse corridors one finds three private offices, six class rooms and a cloak room. The second floor is devoted to the library and assembly room, each flooded with light from three sides. In the basement, with direct entrance from South Street, is the students' lounging room, hung with pictures of the graduating classes and some alumni now officers in the military service of their country, men fighting for that justice and liberty of which law is the foundation, as witness the school motto: "Lex Est Fundamentum Justitiae et Libertatis."

It had been planned to dedicate the new building in August, 1917, but war conditions delayed delivery of materials and the building was not ready for occupancy till the beginning of the winter term. The dedication had thus been delayed a year, when it was held on August 16th, 1918.

Architecturally, the style of the building is the Georgian of colonial days. Simple and dignified, it inevitably carries the mind back to Independence Hall. Ornamentation is reduced to a minimum. Plans, material and appearance are all simple. It speaks the same great and simple message of him whose name it bears. As he is crowned with the devotion of his disciples, so it wears a crown in its graceful clock tower.

The executive committee of the corporation who deserve the credit for the adoption of this plan, after

conference with the faculty, consisted of Hon. W. F. Sadler, Caleb S. Brinton, Esq., and John L. Shelley, Sr., Esq., but the chief burden of the entire project after the devoted campaign of Mr. King, was borne by the courageous and indefatigable President of the corporation, Judge W. F. Sadler, to whose foresight and initiative the school owes its new birth in 1890.

It has been said that new and enriched environment may lead to degeneracy but that there is no inherent incompatibility between congenial surroundings and high thinking, between efficient equipment and hard work. Already the influence of the new building for good is manifest. It has inspired in the alumni a new spirit of pride in and loyalty to their Alma Mater, and a new enthusiasm in the student body. In all the history of the school no general reunion of the alumni was held. Now there is a demand that such a gathering occur annually in August and an alumni association has been formed to assure that this be done and to guarantee the realization of all future needs of the institution. A shrine has been erected and a new feeling of fraternity among the alumni has been born. Vacant ground still exists adjoining the building on the west and it is hoped that it may be secured for tennis courts and to preserve the light and air now enjoyed on all sides. During the present year the curriculum has been modified to conform with the requirements of the Government for law schools at which units of the Students Army Training Corps have been established and students secure sufficient outdoor exercise in their many hours of military drill, but as the war draws near its end, plans must be made for the future. *Mens sana in corpore sano* is a good motto and the law men should not be dependent upon the college tennis courts.

The formal ceremonies of dedication were held on August 16th, but the building was open for inspection all of the fifteenth and on the evening of that day a smoker was held in the student lounging room. Judge John W. Kephart presided and Hugh R. Miller, '98, led in the singing of the old college songs and the popular war songs. The meeting proved to be as planned, an experience meeting. Old graduates told of humorous incidents of their student days and in their later practice. Among those who responded were Judge Fred B. Moser, of Northumberland County, Judge Albert S. Heck of Potter County, J. Banks Kurtz, ex-District Attorney of Blair County, Anthony T. Walsh, District Attorney of Luzerne County, C. W. A. Rochow, District Attorney of York County, Thomas B. Wilson, District Attorney of McKean County, Wilson D. Rothermel District Attorney of Berks County, George E. Wolf of Cambria County, W. Alfred Valentine, ex-District Attorney of Luzerne County, N. Russell Turner, U. S. Commissioner of Northampton County, District Attorney Chester W. Fetterhoof of Huntingdon County, Daniel R. Reese, general counsel of the D. L. and W. R. R. Co., and Asst. District Attorney Frank P. Benjamin, of Lackawanna County. The speeches were full of kind allusions to the Dean and Judge Sadler and as the Dean had withdrawn as the smoke thickened insistent demands were made for a speech from Judge Sadler. With deep feeling he expressed his pleasure in the return of so many alumni and in their approval of the building erected by their contributions.

On the morning of the sixteenth the first meeting of the Association of the Alumni of the Dickinson School of Law was held in the assembly room. This room and in fact the entire building were profusely decorated with the flags of the allied nations. Formal

addresses were delivered by Judge Kephart and Judge S. B. Sadler. Officers were elected and a committee on constitution and by-laws was appointed. A financial statement of the receipts and expenditures involved in the erection of the building was presented. The principal items were as follows:

To R. R. Markley, architect .....	\$ 1,825.00
To H. A. Lackey, buiding contractor .....	40,650.10
To J. Wiener, site of building .....	6,273.75
To York Engineering Co., heating contractor	4,587.00
To Miscellaneous .....	3,691.03

Total .....\$57,026.88

The receipts from alumni and friends were \$35,000 and the corporation contributed about \$10,000, leaving a debt of about \$12,000.

Hon F. B. Moser appealed to those present to subscribe to a fund to liquidate the debt. About fifty men responded and the total of their subscriptions was \$6,640. In the midst of this making of subscriptions the congratulatory telegram printed hereafter was received from San Francisco from Robert Hays Smith, Esq., and his subscription was estimated at \$1,700. Total subscriptions dated August 16th thus amounted to \$8,340, leaving but \$3,660 unprovided for. It was thought that this sum could readily be raised from the large number of alumni who had not been able to attend the dedication.

The committee on nominations, Anthony T. Walsh, chairman, reported the names of John W. Kephart for President of the Association, Robert Hays Smith for Vice President, Joseph P. McKeehan for Secretary and Treasurer, and the following names for members of the Executive Comittee: Hon. Fred B. Moser, '98, Hon. A. S. Heck, '92, Lewis S. Sadler, '96, W. Alfred Valentine, '01, William M. Curry, '94, J. Banks Kurtz, '93, Horace

B. King, '10, Harry F. Kantner, '97, Ruby R. Vale, '99, George E. Wolf, '05, Harvey A. Gross, '03, William A. Jordan, '99, Thomas B. Wilson, '04, Herbert F. Laub, '06, George W. Aubrey, '00, Chester G. Setzer, '05, W. S. Cark, '01, Chester W. Fetterhoof, '10, Henry M. Bruner, '17, and N. T. Keller, '15.

On the afternoon of the sixteenth the formal dedication of the building occurred. Judge F. B. Moser presided. The addresses of Justice Edward J. Fox of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, of Dr. George Edward Reed, formerly President of Dickinson College and of Anthony T. Walsh, who presented the service flag, are all printed in full hereafter. "Dick" Gilbert accepted the flag on behalf of the institution and spoke from experience of the sacrifices being made by the men in the service.

One of the most interesting incidents of this occasion was the presentation to Dr. Trickett of a massive mahogany chair, the gift of the alumni of Berks County. The presentation address was made by J. Wilmer Fisher and it was a beautiful tribute to the character of the Dean. The chair, he said, was a token of their love and respect for him. Though Judge Moser ordered the doors locked to prevent the escape of the Dean, he said that out of deference to his well known modesty, he would not call upon him for a speech of acceptance but would take it upon himself to thank the donors for their beautiful gift.

The following letter from George Wharton Pepper, Esq., long the most popular professor in the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania and now at the head of the Pennsylvania Committee of Public Safety was read. It was addressed to Lewis S. Sadler, Esq., and was as follows:

"I wish that it were possible for me to go with you to Carlisle to be present at the dedication of Trickett Hall. In my absence I wish you would remember me to Dean Trickett and present my felicitations upon an occasion so notable in the annals of legal education.

"Just as the jurisprudence of nations and states is in a large part the work of great judges so our whole legal system has been profoundly influenced by great teachers of law. Minor and Langdell and Dwight and Ames are some among the many who have helped to develop in the classroom qualities which their students afterward placed at the disposal of their fellow citizens in court room and office. To have earned the right to be named with these men as teachers of youth and pillars of justice, means that a man has been endowed with great natural gifts, and that by patient devotion he has consecrated them to the highest uses. This can be said without reserve of William Trickett and those who are causing this hall to be dedicated in his name are paying to our distinguished fellow-citizen a tribute of respect in which all of us would like to join.

Faithfully yours,  
G. W. PEPPER."

After singing the "Star Spangled Banner," the alumni gathered on the steps and the group photograph found herein was taken.

The following telegram was received from Robert Hays Smith on the morning of August 16th:

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 15, 1918.

Dean William Trickett,  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Greetings and congratulations on the dedication of Trickett Hall, larger, finer and more convenient in every way than the old law school building.



Dickinson School of Law is one of the best institutions in the Nation. May she ever maintain her high standards. Numbers of the best young men of this and former generations in the legal profession and in other fields of human endeavor as well, can point with pride to their graduation from the Dickinson School of Law.

If ever the world needed technical schools, the world needs them today. Unlike previous wars, the world war has created problems which to a great extent will devolve upon the legal profession to solve. In all the blood and lust and terror and cruelty that are tearing the earth to pieces, Trickett Hall stands as an evidence of the fact that the one thing to be held is the chance for young men, and it will stand for all time as a monument to the unselfish devotion and the many years of loyalty of the Dean whose name it bears.

Should the alumni and friends subscribe to a fund on this occasion which will liquidate the present indebtedness, you may record my name for such subscription as my original subscription bears to the total sum of all subscriptions heretofore made.

ROBERT HAYS SMITH.

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**ADDRESS OF HON. S. B. SADLER, JUDGE OF THE  
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CUMBERLAND  
COUNTY.**

Gentlemen of the Alumni:

As I happen to be a judge, I have been asked to say a few words. Public speaking is, as you know, one of the perquisites of judicial office. We are asked on all occasions, not by reason of supposed oratorical power, or surpassing wisdom, but because it is believed that the audience will out of politeness express appreciation. Sometimes they do—sometimes they don't. Recently I