

Book Review: Autobiography of Roujet D. Marshall, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, edited by Gilson G. Glaser

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Repository Citation

Carl Zollman, *Book Review: Autobiography of Roujet D. Marshall, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, edited by Gilson G. Glaser*, 16 Marq. L. Rev. 72 (1931).

Available at: <http://scholarship.law.marquette.edu/mulr/vol16/iss1/15>

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Autobiography of Roujet D. Marshall, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Edited by Gilson G. Glaser, Madison, Wis., 1923 and 1931. Two volumes (1100 pages).

The late Justice Marshall in his will directed his executors to complete the writing and publication and distribution in their discretion of 500 copies of his autobiography. This task is now completed and the result is one volume of 558 pages containing the autobiography proper (published in 1923) and another volume of 626 pages (published in 1931) intended as a "memorial volume" and containing in part one miscellaneous writings of Marshall dealing with his life on the bench (100 pages) and chapters written by others in appreciation of such work (130 pages). Part two deals with his public work outside of the judicial office and consists of 144 pages. The third part consisting of 138 pages deals with his private life and character. The fourth part presents miscellaneous writing of Marshall and consists of 87 pages. A table of cases and an index complete the volumes and make their contents readily accessible.

The task of the editor has been made difficult by two adverse circumstances. The first was that Marshall did not finish his autobiography leaving only sketchy outlines for some of the chapters. The second was that he destroyed his letter files before his death. The latter fact has made necessary involved correspondence with a view to rescuing from the files of those with whom Marshall corresponded a part of the information which would have been available in Marshall's files. This explains the delay in publishing the second volume.

No attempt will be made at this time to show Marshall's important place in the history of the Supreme Court and in the legal history of the state. The two volumes will be invaluable to anyone who wishes to continue Winslow's history of a great court. They will be of value to all Wisconsin lawyers because they discuss the fight which has been waged in connection with various laws in which they are more or less interested. All large law libraries including all American Law School libraries will wish to possess this work. It is to be hoped that the edition has not been limited to 500 copies.

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Law of Contracts. By William L. Clark Jr. Fourth Edition by Throckmorton and Brightman. Published by West Publishing Company. (1931) pp. 858.

A text book remains valuable only if it is brought up to date. Sixteen years have passed since the publication of the last edition of this text. During this period the World War occurred and as a result new problems in contract law relating to the effect of war on rights and liabilities of parties to existing contracts have arisen; the adoption of the Uniform Sale of Goods Act by many states has caused certain important changes in contract law; economic and social changes which have been recognized by legislatures in their many and new statutes relating to the law of contracts—all of these events made imperative a change in existing texts on contract law.

The editors of this revised text have taken heed of these events and new