

COURT AT NEW HOME

First Meeting of the Supreme Bench Under New Law.

ABODE NOW PERMANENT.

Eminent Members of the Bar Congratulate Judges.

RESPONSE BY CHIEF JUSTICE

Springfield, Ill., Oct. 5.—[Special.]—At the opening session of the Supreme Court of Illinois this morning the permanent location of the court in this city was celebrated with informal but interesting ceremonies. Promptly at 10 o'clock Chief Justice Jesse J. Phillips, attended by Justices James H.

themselves into the foreground. One of these questions which now inexorably stands before the body politic is the question of the duties of capital to labor and of labor to capital. It is largely an ethical question, although having a grim industrial aspect. Let there be no hollow truce upon this question. There must be more justice in exercise of the correlative duties between employer and employé. I say, let there be more justice—justice in the courts, upon the higher benches, in the jury box, in the legislative assemblies, and in the dealings between man and man.

"In conclusion, I desire to express the confidence of the bar of Illinois in the Supreme Court of this State. No man has been daring enough to fix a taint upon the courts of this State, nor successful enough to make the charge lasting after honest investigation."

Ex-Senator Palmer Speaks.

Ex-Senator John M. Palmer next spoke briefly on the events covering a period of fifty-eight years, during which he has practiced law in Illinois. He said in part:

"It has seemed proper that, inasmuch as I participated in the constitutional convention which set this court wandering, I should now participate in welcoming it back. I participated in fixing the salaries of the Judges, and I am not sure that I am of the same opinion now, but under the conditions at that time the salaries were exceedingly liberal. Perhaps none of this court are old enough to remember the peculiar conditions

Cartwright, Jacob W. Wilkin, Carroll C. Boggs, and J. N. Carter, took their seats on the bench. Justice Alfred M. Craig and Benjamin D. Magruder were not present.

General Alfred Orendorff of this city, President of the State Bar association, addressed the court. He said in part:

"The State and local bar associations and the legal profession in general regard the opening of the Supreme Court today as marking a new era in the judicial history of Illinois and as such it should be recognized and commemorated. Finally the will of the people found expression in a law and the Supreme Court is now in possession of a local habitation and a permanent home."

General Orendorff spoke of the fact that, notwithstanding inconvenient environment, the Supreme Court of the State had won an enviable reputation, and also spoke of the pleasant relations between the bar and the court.

Moses Felicitates the Court.

Adolph Moses of Chicago, who had been chosen to represent the bar of Chicago, and to make the historical address of the day, said, in part:

"In rising to tender the welcome of the bar of Illinois to this honorable court, I am not unmindful of the kind confidence and cheering compliment implied by the mandates so generously intrusted to me by the bar of Illinois.

"I am commissioned to welcome this high court of the people to its permanent home, as a court, so far as legislation may so determine it, and I can only express the firm wish that the capital of the State may ever remain a fitting place for the habitation of that coordinate branch of the State government upon which rests, as an everlasting trust, the weal of the people of the State.

"May I presume also to express the welcome of the Judges of the several courts of the State, the welcome of the entire people of this great commonwealth, and more particularly the people of the State capital, whose pride is stirred today in the reflection that the highest court in the State, under the new dispensation, opens its first term in their midst. Long live the court. Its ministers may pass away, but the court remains as the constitution has willed it."

History of the Illinois Judiciary.

The speaker here entered upon an exhaustive history of the judiciary of the State, citing the enactments of Congress and of the State Legislature having a bearing upon the creation, powers, and territorial jurisdictions of the courts in Illinois. The sketch included references to the ordinance of 1787 and the constitutions of 1818, 1848, and 1870; the powers they granted to the judiciary and the terminology applied to the courts in those documents. The changes wrought by the acts of successive General Assemblies were also recited. Little mention was made of the personnel of the courts during the early days. The speaker, however, said:

"Perhaps I ought to mention the fact that one plain lawyer practiced and presented his humble pleas before that first court—with reverence I do now pronounce the name of Abraham Lincoln.

"I refrain from any eulogy or criticism of the work of the court of the third period, for obvious reasons. I ought, however, to mention one fact—that from the judgment seat of this court went forth the celebrated judgment in *Munn vs. The People*, wherein for the first time in modern days, it was announced that corporations may become so charged with a public use, or with employment of a public nature, as to come under the control of the State. This was one of the great judgments of this century. It has always been a thorn in the colossal body of the corporation interests; and yet swift and irresponsible tongues charge the courts to be the tools of corporations. The charge is untrue, and ought to be silenced."

"The question of the future limitations to be applied to aggregated wealth lies beyond my view and the limitations of this address. It is the thought, however, which pushes itself to the forefront in the general discussion of the subject.

"Standing, as we do, nearly at the close of the nineteenth century, great questions of state and of aggregated society push

of 1840. A resolution passed the Assembly requesting Judges to remit \$200 of the \$1,000 salary allowed them. Judge Shields is said to have prepared the answer. He held that in view of his respect for the constitution he could not yield any part of his salary. The Judges were then paid \$1,000 in depreciated money, and it must be remembered that members of the constitutional convention were paid \$3 a day in Auditor's warrants, which were discounted 50 cents on the dollar."

General Palmer was admitted to the bar Dec. 13, 1837, and was given his admission papers by Judges Stephen A. Douglas, John F. Scammon, and Samuel C. Lockridge.

Chief Justice Phillips Responds.

In response to the foregoing speeches Chief Justice Jesse J. Phillips in a very few words thanked the speakers for all that they had said. He spoke of the interesting fact that the high places of the State and nation had most all been filled by men belonging to the legal profession. He praised the bar of Illinois and the relations which it sustained to the judiciary, and closed by thanking all for the generous welcome extended to the court.

For the first time in fifty years the Supreme Court of the State now has a permanent home. Heretofore the court has held sessions at Mount Vernon, Ottawa, and Springfield, holding two terms at each place annually. As the court records have been removed from place to place between the sessions it has subjected them to the possibility of loss and has proven a source of great inconvenience not only to lawyers, but to clients as well.

Originally the Supreme Court had its permanent location at Vandalia. It was then composed of Circuit Judges, who traveled through the State holding court, afterward meeting at Vandalia to review their work and hear appeals. The system of three courts in various parts of the State was established after the adoption of the constitution of 1848.