

Justice William Strong

1808-1895

Term

December 7, 1857-October 1, 1868

Education

- Yale College, A.B., 1828; M.A., 1831
- Read law with Garret D. Wall, New Jersey, 1832
- Yale Law School, 1832

Professional Experience

- Taught school in East Windsor, Connecticut, 1828-1830
- Taught at Burlington Academy in Burlington, NJ, 1830-1831
- Admitted to Superior Court of Connecticut, October 1832; Philadelphia bar, October 3, 1832; Berks County bar, November 8, 1832
- Private Practice, Reading, Pa. October 17, 1832-1857
- Member, House of Representatives, U.S. Congress (30th-31st Congresses), March 4, 1847-March 3, 1851
- Elected Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, October 1857
- Resigned from Office, October 1, 1868
- President Ulysses Grant nominated Strong, Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court, February 7, 1870; Senate confirmation, February 18, 1870; sworn in March 14, 1870-December 14, 1880
- Retired from U.S. Supreme Court, December 14, 1880
- Private Practice, December 15, 1880-1895

Honors and Awards

- Honorary LL.D. degree: Lafayette College, 1867; Yale College, 1870; Princeton University, 1870

Memberships and Associations

- President, Board of Controllers, Reading, Pennsylvania City Council and Board of Education
- One of the original members of the Berks County Law Library
- Charter member and original trustee, Charles Evans Cemetery Company
- Director, Farmer's Bank
- Manager, Lebanon Valley Railroad, 1853
- Counsel for the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad
- Trustee, Publication Fund of the Philadelphia Historical Society
- Member, Electoral Commission, 1877
- Vice President, American Bible Society, 1871-1895
- President, American Sunday School Union, 1883-1895
- American Tract Society

Publications

- With Hiester Muhlenberg, To The Honorable, The Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (1853)
- To the Select and Common Councils of the City of Reading (10 May 1853)
- American Legislation, An Oration Delivered Before The Phi Beta Kappa Society (1868)
- The Right of the People to Sunday Rest (1866?)
- The Study of Social Science. 4 Journal of Social Science 1 (1871)
- A Discourse Illustrative of the Life and Character of Horace Binney, 16 Proc. Am. Phil. Soc'y 1 (1876)
- Two Lectures Upon the Relations of Civil Law to Church Polity, Discipline, and Property (1875)

- Remarks made by Mr. Commissioner Strong in the Consultations of the Electoral Commission upon the Electoral Votes of Florida and Oregon (1877)
- The Growth and Modifications of Private Civil Law, An Introductory Address (1879)
- The Needs of the Supreme Court, 132 North American Review 437 (1881)
- Political Suffrage, 34 The Congregationalist 132 (April 19, 1882)
- Address to the Prizemen, Annual Commencement of the Law School of the Columbian University (1885)
- Relief for the Supreme Court, 151 North American Review 567 (1890)

Sources

Biographical Dictionary of the U.S. Congress,

<https://bioguideretro.congress.gov/Home/MemberDetails?memIndex=S001021>; Strong, William,

Biographical Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court (Melvin I. Urofsky, Ed., 2006),

<http://library.cqpress.com/scc/bioenc-427-18169-979555>; Strong, William, Federal Judicial Center,

<https://www.fjc.gov/history/judges/strong-william>; Lisabeth G. Svendsgaard, Strong, William, American

National Biography Online, [https://www-anb-](https://www-anb-org.pitt.idm.oclc.org/view/10.1093/anb/9780198606697.001.0001/anb-9780198606697-e-1100823?rskey=Pn3pKh&result=1)

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(4th ed., Leon Friedman & Fred L. Israel, eds. 2013); *The Supreme Court Justices: Illustrated Biographies,*

1789-2012 176 (3d ed. Clare Cushman, ed., 2012); Daniel Gerald Strong, *Supreme Court Justice William*

Strong, 1808-1895 (Ph.D. Diss., Kent State U., 1985).