



PEYTON L. WADE served on the Georgia Court of Appeals February 4, 1914, until August 29, 1919, and served as Chief Judge 1916-1919. He was born January 9, 1865, and died August 29, 1919.

He was educated by private tutors - then attended Boys High School in Atlanta; was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1886, standing fifth in his class; was contributor to and an editor of the annual publication Pandora. He taught school and was editor of The Dublin Post for two years and was one of the founders of the Weekly Press Association of Georgia.. He was admitted to practice law at Sylvania in 1888.

He married Gussie Kirkland Black of Sylvania. Her father was a member of the U. S. Congress from the first district of Georgia. They had one daughter, Frederica Wade. Judge Wade's grandfather was a distinguished pioneer Methodist preacher in Southeast Georgia, and his mother was a niece of the Governor of Massachusetts. He was a Presbyterian.

He practiced law for one year in Athens, and then moved to Dublin and practiced his profession for 25 years until he was appointed to the Court of Appeals. In his early years he declined to enter politics so that he could assiduously devote his time, toil, and talents to achieving success in his chosen profession of law.

Words of praise about his life are found in the memorial in 24 Georgia Appeals Reports, pages 819-29, dated December 8, 1919. It was said that words about the Earl of Chatham and his school days at Eton apply to Wade while attending school at the University of Georgia: "The oak is always the oak from the time it is the acorn; and the identity of the rose does not change from the time it is a bud up to the day when it opens its fragrance and glorious colors to the world."

Another, quoting Judge Bleckley said: "No matter how able a judge may be, it is at last the critical scrutiny of the printed page that determines his place in the minds of others, especially after his own day. Judged by that test, Judge Wade will rank well in the judicial history of the state." He was a gentlemen and a scholar.