Foreword: Volume 75—Of Legal Scholarship and the Louisiana Law Review

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Foreword: Volume 75—Of Legal Scholarship and the *Louisiana Law Review*

*Paul R. Baier*

George Holmes, Articles Editor of Volume 75, invited me to render a screed in celebration of the *Louisiana Law Review* at age 75 (I mean the *Review*, not yours truly). I turned George down. I was too busy litigating the constitutionality of Louisiana’s prohibition of same-gender marriage in the Louisiana Supreme Court. Briefs were due; oral argument was set for January 29, 2015. The reader may recall the celebrated *Baier Baby Case,* an earlier foray into court. As usually happens when I practice what I teach, I lost the case at trial and on appeal, only to win it in the court of experience.

All of which means I have been ensconced in “Professor Baier’s Museum” at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center for over 40 years. Apropos of the *Law Review* let me say that I have nursed student scholarship in my “acclaimed Constitutional Law Seminar” (I borrow from Yiannopoulos’s trumpeting of his Civil Law Seminar at Tulane). Allison Kingsmill is the latest seminarian to suffer what Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., called, “A good case of lead poisoning,” that is, publication in the golden anniversary of Volume 75, Issue 3—*Of Butchers, Bakers, and Casket Makers: St. Joseph Abbey v. Castille and the Fifth Circuit’s Rejection of Economic Protectionism as a Legitimate State Interest.*

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* To the memory of James Winfield Bowers, born of Montana, 1942, and of the Yale Law School, 1967. He taught, *inter alia*, Bankruptcy Law and the Legal Scholarship Seminar. It was in the Legal Scholarship Seminar that our Captain Jim was at his best—“brainfire.” In his kitchen at home with Lucy McGough and his students at his side, he was Chef Paul stirring a big pot of gumbo. He was a magnificent man, friend, and colleague.


I claim four members of the Louisiana Supreme Court as my students—“Professor Baier’s Alumni”: Justice John Weimer, Justice Greg Guidry, Justice Marcus Clark, and, of late, Justice Jefferson D. Hughes III (“Jeff”). This, to their teacher’s great joy. “A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

I. A PAST ROOTED IN THE CIVILIAN TRADITION

I start with Dean Paul M. Hebert, the Commander-in-Chief of the Law School in 1938. He was present at the creation of the Louisiana Law Review. His pediatric note is online at http://lawreview.law.lsu.edu/about/. Let me toot Dean Hebert’s founding horn anew in this hard copy golden anniversary salute to the Review:

[It] is perhaps not too much to say that with common law influences pressing on us from every side, the very existence


7. HENRY ADAMS, THE EDUCATION OF HENRY ADAMS 300 (1931).
of the juridical method of the civil law in Louisiana is seriously threatened and its survival would appear to depend upon the ability of the law schools and the legal profession to develop and make available the essential doctrinal materials dealing with modern civil law. With this end in view, it will be the policy of the Louisiana Law Review to place special emphasis on matters pertaining to civil and comparative law.  

Dean Hebert’s vision for the Review has been richly fulfilled. As an example, let me point to one civil law treasure in the *Louisiana Law Review* that is a favorite of mine. It is pure gold. This was 15 years ago, from my erstwhile civilian colleague A.N. Yiannopoulos: *Of Immovables, Component Parts, Societal Expectations, and the Forehead of Zeus.* Read it. I do not mean to slight Symeon Symeonides’s *One Hundred Footnotes* or Benjamin West Janke’s *Revisiting Contra Non Valentem,* a rich piece of civilian scholarship that took Janke to France. You can read about Ben’s success, as well as other mighty achievements of members of the Review, online.

Just the other day the Law Faculty voted to hoist the Civil Law Pennon of our Law Center even higher in the 21st century, to reemphasize to the world the proud civilian tradition that is ours, to reach out to prospective students from every state of the Union and every corner of the Globe, inviting them to share the treasure of LSU’s bi-jural education, either as juris doctor or masters of law candidates. I give away no secret when I say that Chancellor Jack Weiss so advised our student body and faculty in a recent memorandum.

Moreover, the Russell B. Long Eminent Scholars Academic Chair, Professeur Olivier Moréteau, has broadcast the work of our Center of Civil Law Studies globally. Olivier and his civilian

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colleagues urge the *Louisiana Law Review* to continue its publication of civilian scholarship, with respect to Louisiana’s private law and, indeed, with respect to both private and public civil law worldwide.

The civil law is a doorway to global jobs. Take Max Marx, a former research assistant of mine and editor of *The Civilian*, as an example. Max went to New York City, passed the New York bar exam, and then lightning struck: He was invited to join Mori Hamada & Matsumoto, a giant international law firm in Tokyo, Japan. Max flew to Tokyo, learned Japanese, and practiced international corporate law at Mori Hamada & Matsumoto, and later as legal counsel to Sumitomo Corporation, Tokyo. Max is now back in Baton Rouge as Assistant General Counsel with Turner Industries. I am very proud of Max Marx, esq. Max is a golden exemplar of Dean Hebert’s dream come true.

II. A PROMISING FUTURE: PROPOSED SCHOLARSHIP

Members of Volume 76 approached me seeking “hot topics” worthy of discussion in the *Louisiana Law Review*. I provided a copy of Judge James L. Dennis’s Fifth Circuit opinion in *Bell v. Itawamba County School Board*,\(^\text{13}\) which is garnering national attention in the blogosphere. Judge Dennis is one of us—LSU Law Center class of 1962; Associate Editor of Volume 22 of the *Louisiana Law Review*;\(^\text{14}\) Associate Justice, Louisiana Supreme

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\(^{13}\) 774 F.3d 280 (5th Cir. 2014).

\(^{14}\) James L. Dennis’s best scholarship on the *Review*, if I may judge it, is his Comment, *State Involvement in Private Discrimination Under the Fourteenth Amendment*, which is a compact piece of research, writing, and reflection: “But it would seem that when a sufficient amount of jurisprudence has been developed, the formulation of rules is desirable and even necessary if justice is to be done.” *See* 21 LA. L. REV. 433, 448 (1961). Next in line is his Note, *Evidence—Unreasonable Search and Seizure—Pretrial Motion to Suppress*, written under the tutelage of Professor George W. Pugh and sensibly advocating adoption of pretrial challenges to unconstitutionally seized evidence: “Without some compulsion to dispose of the issue before trial, it would seem that the result might be undue interruption and prolongation of criminal trials.” *See* 22 LA. L. REV. 842, 845 (1962).
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Court, 1975–1995; Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the
Fifth Circuit, appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the
Senate, 1995. That’s 20 years of writing the law of the Constitution
from his chambers.

Here, briefly, are the facts of Taylor Bell’s case. “Ex facto jus
oritur” (“From the facts arises the law”) as Brandeis used to say.16
An aspiring student rapper, Taylor Bell, gets himself into trouble
with the School Board for his off-campus Internet posting during
non-school hours of a rap song recorded at an off-campus studio
unaffiliated with his school criticizing with vulgar and violent lyrics
two named male athletic coaches for sexually harassing female
students at the school.17 Bell posts his song on his Facebook page
and on YouTube using his personal computer.18 The Board
disciplines Bell.19 He turns around and sues the School Board for
violating his First Amendment rights.20 Query, is this Tinker v. Des
Moines Independent Community School District21 revisited? Is it
Morse v. Frederick?22 Or, is this something new at the cutting edge
of the Internet?

You can read the facts and Judge Dennis’s conclusions of law
in favor of Taylor Bell in his panel opinion, 2–1.23 The Fifth
Circuit has granted rehearing en banc24 and is likely to reverse.
Whatever the outcome on rehearing en banc in Taylor Bell’s case,

15. Justice Dennis, then an Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme
Court, wrote a letter (Dec. 5, 1990) to the Articles Editor of the
Louisiana Law Review congratulating the Review “on fifty years of excellence.” His letter was
later published in Volume 51 of the Louisiana Law Review. He quotes Dean
Erwin N. Griswold, apropos of the Harvard Law Review and of our own
Louisiana Law Review: “‘The zeal and zest of youth, continuing year by year,
have undoubtedly brought benefits to the Review far exceeding any loss that
may have come from inexperience.’” Judge Dennis adds: “Indeed, any author
would be fortunate to have had the editorship of F. Hodge O’Neal, Alvin B.
Rubin, Jr., George Pugh, or Henry Politz, to mention only a few whose works
are familiar to the bench and bar.” James L. Dennis, Remarks, 51 LA. L. REV.

16. Adams v. Tanner, 244 U.S. 590, 600 (1917) (Brandeis, J., dissenting)
(“That ancient rule must prevail in order that we may have a system of living
law.”).

18. Id. at 285.
19. Id. at 286.
20. Id. at 289.
23. Bell, 774 F.3d 280.
granting rehearing en banc).
it suffices here to say that Judge Dennis’s panel opinion is worthy of a Comment in the Louisiana Law Review.

One new feature of the Review is its recently renamed online journal, the “LLR Lagniappe.”25 The posts are from both students and faculty. Here is instant scholarship on “hot potatoes.” I like metaphor. It keeps your reader awake, assuming you have one. Don’t forget the classic division of cases among lawyers: There are the “interesting cases,” and then there are “the other fellow’s cases.” This sage dichotomy is the wit and wisdom of Colonel Frederick Bernays Wiener, Note Editor of the Harvard Law Review, 1929–1930. You can read about him online, a feature of the LLR Lagniappe.26

III. THE LAW REVIEW HONORS ITS OWN

I asked Christopher Ulfers, Editor-in-Chief of Volume 75 of the Louisiana Law Review, what subjects belonged in my Screed 75. He suggested a listing of members of the Louisiana Law Review who had gone on to “live greatly in the law.”27

The list is endless, so Ulfers and I agreed on one alone, and that one being Alvin B. Rubin—Class of 1942; Editor-in-Chief, Volume 4 of the Louisiana Law Review.28 You can see his visage and Janice G. Rubin’s on the bronze plaque announcing the Alvin B. Rubin and Janice G. Rubin Endowed Visiting Professorship. The likenesses are true to life. This is on the fourth floor corridor leading to the Chancellor’s Suite. The walls are covered with our bronze benefactors—our di Medici. We are not Florence’s Uffizi Museum. We are Bologna’s Law School—our flowering from 1906 to 2006. It continues. There are inscriptions preserving


27. “[A] man may live greatly in the law as well as elsewhere; that there his thought may find its unity in an infinite perspective; that there as well as elsewhere he may drink the bitter cup of heroism, may wear out his heart after the unattainable.” Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., The Profession of Law, in SPEECHES 22, 23 (Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1891).

memory on these bas-reliefs. My favorite is an excerpt from one of Janice Rubin’s poems. It adorns her bas-relief, next to her husband’s:

“On Reading Law”
“Stretch across the reaching dark:
here, scholars chat across the centuries;
pull up a chair.”

Janice Rubin is thinking of the chairs of the *Louisiana Law Review*.


29. *E.g.*, “The Civil Law is beautiful.” This from a mighty bas-relief celebrating the endowment of the A.N. Yiannopoulos Professorship of Law, courtesy of the generous donations of Richard J. Dodson, Esq., a former Paul M. Hebert Law Center student of Dr. Yiannopoulos, circa 1960s, thereafter a lifelong admirer and friend.

30. Here is Judge Rubin’s: “This feeling that justice is a supreme goal, this sense that it is a predicate to organized society is no mere yearning, for it is only in a fair proceeding, one that comports with our sense of justice, that we can with any legitimacy call another human being to account.” United States v. McDaniels, 379 F. Supp. 1243, 1249 (E.D. La. 1974).

31. “Judge Tate urged me to come to LSU Law School. ‘You’ll have fun,’ he told me. Al Tate was right.” Paul R. Baier, *100 Years of LSU Law, 1906–2006*, 67 LA. L. REV. 297, 297 (2007).


38. “Of all the judges I have known, Al had the largest heart for mankind as well as for each and every human being. He really cared.” Mack E. Barham, *In Memoriam: Albert Tate, Jr.*, 47 LA. L. REV. 921, 921 (1987).
As for living alums, Judge Dennis gets my vote. His Member scholarship shows up in Volumes 21 (1961) and 22 (1962).39

I have heard rumors that Volume 76 will honor the Law Center’s civilian tradition in a Symposium issue, prompted by the retirement of Professor Alain Levasseur, the Law Center’s Empereur Napoleon. Alain is “mon cher professeur de francais who straightens up my French when I mumble something like “libre recherche scientifique” or, worse, the title of François Gény’s great book “Méthode d’interprétation et sources en droit privé positif.”

Alain is Director of our Center for European Studies. He richly deserves such a tribute. Of course, there must be a regal portrait “Monsieur A. Levasseur” as frontispiece, rendered by Jacques Louis David.40

I hope the Members of Volume 76 will invite me to contribute to their mélanges Levasseur. I have my tribute planned: “The Constitution as Code,” which is inspired by Levasseur’s Code Napoleon or Code Portalis?41 This was written at a time when Alain was at Tulane Law School. He jumped ship, bonne chance, and joined our Faculté de Droit circa 1977. A Festschrift Levasseur—Excusez-moi, des mélanges Levasseur—in the Louisiana Law Review would certainly hoist our Civil Law Pennon even higher in Alain’s native France where he is “New Pothier.” Of equal importance, our Hebert Law Center’s civilian glory, like Napoleon’s army, would be spread out far and wide.

IV. A GLOBAL REACH

What else? The Review is distributed in hard copy to law offices and law libraries across America. It is read all over the globe on the Internet. How many times has it been cited by the Supreme Court of the United States? Ulfers did the research for me, instantly—26 citations42 to my great delight. This accolade belongs to others,43 not to me.

42. Here are Professor Baier’s favorite United States Supreme Court citations to the legal scholarship of Louisiana Law Reviewers: Garner v.
The Louisiana Supreme Court and the Louisiana Law Review are symbiotic. The Court has relied on the scholarship of the Review in over 1,000 cases, shaping the path of Louisiana law for three-quarters of a century. It has even been bold enough to rely on me, *eo nomine*, a brilliant insight to be sure: “As Professor Paul R. Baier of Louisiana State University Law Center reflected, ‘[i]t would seem that the Teacher’s Tenure Law was not meant to guarantee job security where there were no jobs.’” How do you like that?

43. We start our list of LSU Law Faculty who, by virtue of United States Supreme Court citation to their Louisiana Law Review scholarship, are justly crowned Volume 75 gold medalists by going all the way back to Volume 1—J. Denson Smith, *Coercion of Third Parties in Labor Disputes*, 1 LA. L. REV. 277 (1939) (cited in Woodwork Manufacturers v. NLRB, 386 U.S. 612, 623 n.10 (1967)); Dale E. Bennett, *The Louisiana Criminal Code: A Comparison with Prior Louisiana Criminal Law*, 5 LA. L. REV. 6 (1942) (cited in Garrison v. Louisiana, 379 U.S. 64, 78 (1964)); George Willard Pugh, *Historical Approach to the Doctrine of Sovereign Immunity*, 13 LA. L. REV. 476 (1953) (cited in United States v. Nordic Vill., Inc., 503 U.S. 30, 43 n.11 (1992) (Stevens, J., dissenting)). Here is our beloved Professor Pugh’s opening—“Generations have genuflected before the divine alter of sovereign immunity, and as a result, countless litigants have been stunned by the rigorous application of the dead but lethal residuum of an outmoded doctrine”—pure George Pugh. *Nordic Village*, 503 U.S. at 43 n.11. For additional LSU Law Faculty citations, see infra Appendix B—“SCOTUS Citations.”

Publication of its Members’ scholarship is the golden gift of the Louisiana Law Review. So it is; so it has always been. Each new issue of the Review is politely delivered to me or silently tucked into my faculty mailbox. The waft of fresh printer’s ink is intoxicating. I pass over lead articles that don’t interest me—“the other fellow’s cases”—let’s say a Symposium on the latest developments in bankruptcy law—bankruptcy, I try to avoid. But I always inspect the table of contents to see whether any of my students is published. If so, I pen a note of condolence on their having suffered a good case of lead poisoning.

Bon 75e anniversaire! Yours, Richard Henry Jesse.[**]

APPENDIX A: “BLACK INK”

O fearful meditation, where alack,
Shall times best Jewell from times chest lie hid?
O none, unless this miracle have might,
That in black ink my love may still shine bright.

“[T]he law review is an indispensable part of the American system of legal education. The training in research and legal writing under faculty supervision which is made possible for the students through the medium of the law review serves inevitably as a stimulus to a higher standard of scholarship—experience in original and independent work can hardly be provided as effectively through any other means.”

45. For a listing of “interesting” student scholarship of the Louisiana Law Review, Volume 1 (1938–1939) and Volume 75 (2014–2015), see infra Appendix A—“Black Ink.”

[**] Editor’s Note: Professor Baier plays Richard Henry Jesse in his nationally acclaimed theater production, “Father Chief Justice”: Edward Douglass White and the Constitution, which premiered in the theater of the John Lafitte National Historic Park, March 8 (Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes’ birthday), 1997, Thibodaux, Louisiana, and played most recently on November 9, 2012, at the Social Law Library, John Adams Courthouse, Pemberton Square, Boston, featuring four members of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court playing the parts of Chief Justice White (Justice Ralph Gants, now Chief Justice Gants), Justice Brandeis (Justice Francis Spina), Fanny Holmes (Justice Margo Botsford), and Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes (Justice Robert Cordy). Richard Henry Jesse (Baier’s role) was the first academic Dean of the University of Louisiana, now Tulane University, and a close personal friend of E.D. White. Our bard professor’s play written from history has been in production for fifteen years. Editor-in-Chief Christopher Ulfers, Articles Editor George Holmes, and the entire membership of Volume 75 thank Professor Baier for what he calls his “Screed 75.” It is a vibrant keepsake of 75 years of the Louisiana Law Review.

46. Hebert, supra note 8, at 158.
Remembering that “the interesting cases” count the most, here are the student notes from Volume 1 that are “interesting”—H. M. S., Constitutional Law – Due Process – Fixing of Minimum Prices in Barbering Business; F. S., Constitutional Law – Eminent Domain – State Slum Clearance Housing Projects; F. S. C. Jr., Constitutional Law – Intergovernmental Immunity from Taxation – State Income Tax on Salary of Employee of Federal Instrumentality. Notice how the student authors are identified in Volume 1 only by their initials, not their names. This has changed. In the interest of full disclosure, I know that F. S. C. Jr. is Frank S. Craig, Jr. How do I know this? Frank S. Craig III took Contracts and Constitutional Law at my feet. And the son, like the father, was a Member of the Louisiana Law Review. He wrote about nasty door-to-door sales practices and the constitutionality of a proposed federal Door-to-Door Sales Act. Frank S. Craig III wore a green baseball cap to my classes; he was memorable then and now. For the sake of a complete record, it should be noted that Frank S. Craig I graduated from the LSU Law Center in 1912 when the Law School was located in downtown Baton Rouge.

To Allison Kingsmill’s lead poisoning in Volume 75, Of Butchers, Bakers, and Casket Makers: St. Joseph Abbey v. Castille and the Fifth Circuit’s Rejection of Economic Protectionism as a Legitimate State Interest, I should add three other pieces of “interesting” constitutional commentary—J. Benjamin Aguiñaga, Comment, Confronting Confrontation in a FaceTime Generation: A Substantial Public Policy Standard to Determine the Constitutionality of Two-Way Live Video Testimony in Criminal Trials; Mallory Chatelain, Comment, Same-Sex Marriages Are Not Created Equal: United States v. Windsor and Its Legal Aftermath in Louisiana; Michael J. Lambert, Comment, A Gunman’s Paradise: How Louisiana Shields Concealed Handgun Permit Holders While Targeting Free Speech and Why Other States Should Avoid the Same Misfire. I congratulate these four authors for their radiant legal scholarship in constitutional law.

47. 1 LA. L. REV. 218 (1938).
48. 1 LA. L. REV. 221 (1938).
49. 1 LA. L. REV. 846 (1939).
51. Kingsmill, supra note 2.
52. 75 LA. L. REV. 175 (2014).
54. 75 LA. L. REV. 543 (2014).
APPENDIX B: SCOTUS CITATIONS

Citation of one’s scholarship by the Supreme Court of the United States is thought by some to be the *ne plus ultra* of academic achievement, worthy of a gold medal. Here then are other LSU Law faculty members whose scholarship is mentioned in the *United States Reports*—Melvin G. Dakin, *The Protective Cloak of the Export-Import Clause: Immunity for the Goods or Immunity for the Process*; Donald H. Wollett, *Race Relations*; W. Lee Hargrave, *The Declaration of Rights of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974*; H. Alston Johnson III, *Death on the Callais Coach: The Mystery of Louisiana Wrongful Death and Survival Actions*; and Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., *Augmented Awards: The Efficient Evolution of Punitive Damages*.