EX ANTE

OUR MISTAKES

Every once or twice in a while we find our mistakes all by ourselves. Recently, we pulled ourselves up short when we saw that on page 273 of our Winter 2008 issue (vol. 11, no. 2), “Rhioe Island” appeared where “Rhode Island” should have been. And then we also saw that in our Winter 2007 issue we had given the wrong cite for Cooley v. Board of Wardens. See Curtis E. Gannon & Ross E. Davies, B.R. Curtis & G.T. Curtis, 10 GREEN BAG 2D 209, 210 n.4 (2007) (where “53 U.S. (12 How.) 852” should be “53 U.S. (12 How.) 299”).

EXEMPLARY LEGAL WRITING 2012

Congratulations to this year’s Green Bag “exemplary legal writing” honorees. Samples of their good work appear in the forthcoming 2013 edition of the Green Bag Almanac and Reader. They are:

Opinions for the Court

José A. Cabranes, Rivas v. Fischer, 687 F.3d 514 (2d Cir. 2012)
Ojetta R. Thompson, Schatz v. RSLC, 669 F.3d 50 (1st Cir. 2012)
Ex Ante

Concurrences, Dissents, etc.

Marsha Berzon & Richard Tallman, *Miles v. Ryan*, 697 F.3d 1090 (9th Cir. 2012)


Books


Long Articles


News & Editorial


Jonathan Macey, *Tackling the Power of the 1%*, Politico, November 29, 2011
Ex Ante

Miscellany

Frank H. Easterbrook, Commencement Address, Swarthmore College, May 27, 2012


Christy Susman, Letter to Patrick Wensink, Jack Daniel’s, July 12, 2012

PUTTING LAW ON THE MAP

William C. Wooldridge has been collecting old maps of Virginia since 1970. Last year the University of Virginia Press put out a big book based on his collection under the title *Mapping Virginia: From the Age of Exploration to the Civil War*. It is a handsome cross between a historical atlas and an art museum exhibition catalog. The reader sees the evolution of what Thomas Jefferson called “my country” through the eyes and cartographic artwork of contemporary observers from the sixteenth century to the nineteenth.

For the lawyer-reader, there is one section of *Mapping Virginia* that ought to be especially interesting, and gratifying. Chapter 9—“Virginia in the Young Republic”—includes a fairly lengthy recounting of the creation of an unusually large, detailed, and well-executed map by Samuel Lewis in 1794. The map reflects Virginia’s non-urban (even anti-urban), agrarian social and economic structure at that time. There are many towns scattered along the coast, but few roads leading inland and few towns for those roads to serve. But there is another scattering across the Virginia hinterland on the Lewis map: little “C.H” notations. They mark the locations of the courthouses that were the centers of a great part of governmental, political, economic, and social life in early Virginia.

The centrality of the courthouse is illustrated even more clearly in John Reid’s 1796 copy of the Lewis map. The Reid map is reproduced on pages 118 and 119 below, with the permission of the publisher. Turn past the map for a moment, and take a close look at the detail from it reproduced at the top of page 120. There is the usual descriptive title, and below it a legend consisting of just one entry: