

Justice Jacob Rush

1746-1820

Term

April 12, 1784-March 18, 1791

Education

College of New Jersey, A.B., 1765

Professional Experience

- Served in American Revolutionary War
- Admitted to; Pennsylvania Supreme Court, February 7, 1769, January 20, 1773; Philadelphia bar, February 7, 1769; Berks County bar, May 10, 1769
- Private Practice, 1773-1784
- Pennsylvania General Assembly House of Representatives, 1782-March 20, 1784
- President John Dickinson appointed Rush, Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, February 26, 1784
- President John Dickinson appointed Rush, Judge, Pennsylvania High Court of Errors and Appeals, February 26, 1784-1806; Governor Thomas Mifflin appointed him on September 1, 1791 under reorganization act of April 13, 1791
- Governor Thomas Mifflin appointed Rush, President Judge, Third Judicial Circuit (Berks, Northampton, Luzerne, and Northumberland counties), August 17, 1791
- Governor Thomas McKean appointed Rush, President Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, commissioned March 1, 1806; June 1, 1806-January 5, 1820

Honors and Awards

- Honorary LL.D., Princeton University, 1804

Publications

- An Address, Delivered July 8th, 1790, to the Jury in the Case of the Commonwealth Against John Purdon and Others (1791)
- Charges, and Extracts of Charges, on Moral and Religious Subjects: Delivered at Sundry Times, by Jacob Rush ; with a Recommendation by the Reverend Clergy of the Presbyterian Church, in the City of Philadelphia ; to Which Is Annexed the Act of the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, Respecting Vice and Morality (1803)
- Observations on the Character of Jesus Christ: Written in the County of Berks (1806)
- Opinion of the Honorable Judge Rush upon the Construction of the Act of Assembly Entitled an Act to Regulate Arbitrations and Proceedings in Courts of Justice: Delivered January 20, 1807 ... (1807)
- Letter and Documents from Judge Rush to the Chairman of the Committee of Senate on the Judiciary System (1810)
- Charges, and Extracts of Charges, on Moral and Religious Subjects; Delivered at Sundry Times, by the Honorable Jacob Rush ... to Which Is Annexed, the Act of the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, Respecting Vice and Immorality (1815).
- Smith, Richard, D. 1816, Defendant. The Trials of Richard Smith as Principal, and Ann Carson, Alias Ann Smith, as Accessary, for the Murder of Captain John Carson, on the 20th Day of January, 1816, at a Court of Oyer and Terminer Held at Philadelphia, May, 1816, by the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Judge Rush ... President; Together with the Arguments of Counsel, the Charges and Sentence of the President. Taken in Short Hand by J. C., a Member of the Philadelphia Bar (1816).
- An Inquiry into the Doctrine of Christian Baptism: With a View to Unite Christians of Every Denomination at the Lord's Supper, Exhibiting Some Objections to the Baptism of Christian Adults and of Infants ... (1819)

Sources

Louis Richards. Hon. Jacob Rush, and the Early Pennsylvania State Judiciary, 20 Report of the Pa. Bar Assn. 295 (1914), slightly revised in Hon. Jacob Rush, of the Pennsylvania Judiciary, 39 Pa. Mag. Hist. & Biog. 53 (1915); John Hill Martin, Martin's Bench and Bar of Philadelphia 22-24, 308 (1883); G. S. Rowe, Embattled Bench 175, 177, 184, 186, 194, 195, 202, 203, 236, 237, 239 (1994); 1 Twentieth Century Bench and Bar 405 (1903); 5 Nat. Cyc. of Am. Biog. 150 (1894).