Introduction

This issue of the University of Chicago Law Review commemorates the 200th anniversary of the federal judicial system. In 1789, the states ratified Article III of the Constitution. In that same year, the First Congress passed the Judiciary Act of 1789. These two documents form the cornerstones of our federal judicial system, and we choose to commemorate the anniversary of their enactment with a spirit of reverence and respect for their framers.

The articles, essays and book review in this issue reflect the broad range of scholarship on federal jurisdiction and the federal judicial system. Some of the articles examine the historical aspects of our court system; others look at the problems that the system must face as it moves into its third century. Thus each article helps us to understand a separate aspect of what the judicial system devised 200 year ago is all about and where it is headed.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Professor Paul Bator. Mr. Bator was a warm and generous man and a teacher who consistently brought out the best in his students. He was a gentleman in the true sense of the word and he will be missed by the editors of this Review and by all the students and faculty of the University of Chicago. As a teacher, an author, and an advocate, Mr. Bator devoted himself to the explication and betterment of the federal judicial system. It is therefore fitting that an issue dedicated to his memory should have as its theme the 200th anniversary of the federal courts. We hope that the influence he had on all of us is evident in the editing of these pages.