

Justice William Cushing

The Annotated Bobblehead

As the story goes, he set out to walk to the Court's first sitting in New York in 1790, wearing a large traditional English wig, but returned to his lodgings for a change of headgear after drawing stares and comments in the street.

The third volume (3 Dallas) of the *U.S. Reports* contains *Ware v. Hilton*, 3 U.S. 199 (1796), in which Cushing and his colleagues issued opinions seriatim exercising for the first time the Court's authority to pass judgment on the constitutionality of state laws.

He was the first member of the Court appointed from Massachusetts. Between his long tenure on the Supreme Court and similar previous service on courts of last resort in his home state, Cushing spent 38 years as a supreme court judge.