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About Gustavus Schmidt



Gustavus Schmidt was born in 1795 in Sweden. His father was a successful governmental official, and later an appellate judge, and his brother Carl Christian became a Swedish Supreme Court Judge and founded the first Swedish law journal in 1830. Schmidt joined the navy and in 1815 left for the United States where he established himself as a lawyer in Richmond, Virginia. In 1830 he left for New Orleans. In 1841 Gustavus Schmidt established the first law journal in the state of Louisiana and in the deep south, the **Louisiana Law Journal**. Schmidt's journal, unlike any other law journal published in the United States but very similar to that of his brother Carl, had an international focus. The Journal was published for two years. In 1844, Schmidt established the first law school in Louisiana, *Louisiana Law School*. In 1851 he published *The Civil Law of Spain and Mexico*, one of the first works on comparative law.
- Prof. Kjell Å Modéer, Faculty of Law, at Lund University, Sweden

"When Anglo lawyers in the early American Southwest were confronted with the region's Hispanic legal heritage, the book they reached for was Gustavus Schmidt's CIVIL LAW OF SPAIN AND MEXICO."

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R. BODIERE

(Translation)

This rare work, published in 1851 in New Orleans by Gustavus Schmidt, must be one of the first treatises in comparative law; I am very touched by this generous act which will enrich our library: it will certainly be the only one in France that will possess a copy of this important work.



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