

White Hall

March 12th

My own dear Sister

1861 31

Knowing
that you do not expect
a letter from me I hope
this may prove, as agreeable
a surprise to you, as one
of yours would have been
to me. You do not know
how much I miss you,
I'mt a little home sick
You have heard all about
our carriage here being
taken, so we are literally
fastened up here, the
roads are in a terrible
condition. I suppose

you have noticed Pab's con-
firmation by the Senate,
as Minister to Russia. The
opposition to him was the
influence of Bayard Taylor's
friends, in their effort to
keep him in Russia as
Minister. The rebels took
from us Kate, the man
I'lla bought from Green,
I hope we will meet with
no more accidents of the
kind now. Since we have
two or three thousand union
cavalry troops stationed in
Richmond.

How are you getting on
with your French? I am
still studying, and hope
you will be of service to
me in the summer.

When did you last see
Aunt Julia? I received
a letter from Maria last

night. She has returned
from Louisville says she
enjoyed herself very much,
but does not mention in
what way.

Anne is growing and of
course is more beautiful &
smarter every day. Tell Aunt
Anne when you see her,
that we have taught Anne
a verse, that she repeats very
prettily.

Give my best love to Mother
& remember me affectionately
to Mrs Craig.

Ever your devoted
Sister, Sallie L. Day.

White Hall April 29th 1864.

My dearest Laura,

Let me congratulate you my dear sister, upon your determination of joining the church. I hope you will get Pa's letter in time.

Sophia carries your shes over to-day. If you need another summer shes I want you to take one of those I am having made in Philadelphia. Ma says ask Mrs. Craig to send her the root of the Mexican vine.

Have you had any asparagus yet?

We have been eating it one week.

The work on the house is progressing well. The workmen expect to finish the foundation of the house by the first of June. Won't you be delighted? Ellen and Carrie have arrived safely.

at their new home. They board with
a german family & consequently think
they will soon be able to speak the
german. Corrie writes in good spirits
& Mr. Chanda they are expecting very soon
now. Give my love to Mrs. Chaig &
Mollie.

Most affectionately yours,
Sallie S. Clay.

Mrs. James Clay
Baltimore

Jan. 18th 1865.

Dear Laura,

As usual I have a request to make, and very little time to make it. Will not you go to the Express office and ask for a box addressed to May, from Cin. It was a mistake, being my cloak. I do not want the cloak here. I hope to go to Washington in a few days and will then stop to see you.

Very waits for the letter.

There is no news. Love to Aunt and yourself, from

Your affectionate
Sallie,

D. A. 78th 1865.

Dear Anna,

I was sitting in the breakfast-room, doing nothing, and seeing that desk, reminded me that I had been intending to write to you for some time and I could not have a better opportunity. The house is torn entirely to pieces, this being the only room in which I can have a fire.

We are all sleeping at present in the third story, in mine + Mary's room, + without glass. You can imagine, we are not perfectly comfortable. However in a day or two we expect to come down into Mad, Pa's + the nursery rooms, which are now having the glass + grates put into them.

The house goes on slowly although we now have eleven workmen.

D. A. 78th 1865.

I have some bad news for you, Cousin Mat. Beck, has had a child and there is only the faintest hope of her getting well. What will become of her poor little children & her old Mother? Carrie I am thankful to say, is much better, went to spend the day with Florence, a few days since & is coming down to stay, as soon as there is a room ready for her. For the present she is to have Pa's old room.

I saw Mrs. Burnham the other day, she says, Sallie & Rollins call to see you, but were not admitted. Did you hear of it?

You ask if you must get a white abafraze, When would you wear it?

I have never seen one, although I have seen frequent mention of it.

By all means get a silk winter dress. They are the most useful dresses in the world. I have some silk dresses

that I would like very much to have washed. Could you get it done for me?

Ma was in Lexington Sat. to see Grandma, who is much better, went the day Ma left to spend it with Aunt Julia. She intends going to see Aunt Carrie. Geo. I suppose is about the same, I have not seen him since I was over with you. You never mentioned your leaving without seeing me. How long did you miss being left? I suppose you have received your furs before this & with them your gloves net and airtment.

Mary and I are anticipating quite a delightful winter, We are going with Aunt Anne to visit our relations in N. Jersey, about the middle of December and after spending the Christmas continuing our trip to Washington. Must we come to see you?

Most devotedly Yours,
Sarah Lewis West



School room.

June 5th 1866.

My dear Laura:

I received a letter from Pa today, saying Col. Field had offered to bring you + me home with him and as he (Pa) was so pressed for time had almost accepted his polite invitation. I am dreadfully disappointed but know it is best as Pa is quite unwell



and very busy. Does this ar-
rangement suit you perfectly
well? I disliked to give up
our Washington & West Point
trip; but unfortunate, we will
see home sooner. Write me
if this is agreeable to you.

Affectionately,

Fannie.

Burnham.

Richmond Ky.
Dec. 9th 1897

Dear Lamma,

Cattle have fallen so low
that I am afraid to buy as many
for use on Mama farm this year as
I did last. So I have deposited the
\$1274.30 which I borrowed from Mama
last year with its 6 per cent interest
for the time I had it ^(amounting to 1298.30) to ^{1297.45} ~~1274.30~~
credit in the Farmers National Bank
to-day. And send her some checks
so she may draw it out for her
taxes and other things when she wants
it. If she could just a leave do so
I wish she would leave as much of
it in the bank here as she can, since
Mr. Parks has been very accommodating
to me about money this year.

Of the \$1000 I borrowed from Mama
and deposited in the Farmers Bank
on Dec. 2nd 1896⁷ for use of the farm, I
returned Mama \$200 of it on May 2nd
1897, and \$300 of it on June 7th 1897 by
checks on the farm in the Farmers Bank.
This leaves me with \$500 of this
\$1000 for the use of the farm. And I
enclose Mama a note for this
\$500. And a check for the interest
on the \$1000 for the time I had it
in profusion.

Just before Christmas I will send
Mama a check for her \$800. rent
and \$250. profits.

In sending Mama this \$250 profit, I
have made what I think a fair
estimate of s. & c. left on
the farm. If it should turn out more
or less than I estimated, the loss or gain
will be divided between Mama &
myself when I give up the farm

and sell every thing.

I have not sold my pigs
as yet, and will sell yours along
with mine if I can.

Tell Mama I will write to
her in a few days.

Her fence has not been made
by Loggin.

Love to you both.

Brookly Ford.

S. C. Bennett

~~P.S. I have just sold the sheep~~
Sarah Lewis Clay B

Warren, O. March 1st, 1905.

My dear Sallie,

I am glad to get your letter of Febr. 28th, which has just come. Yes, I am perfectly willing to take the grass seed in payment for the corn the pigs ate. I have an indistinct memory of the quantity of seed and I am confident there was not as much as ten or twelve bushels, as so much as that would not have been overlooked when the seed was sold at first; but I am also sure there was more than enough seed to pay for the corn, so if you are satisfied I certainly ought to be.

It was six dollars that I refunded to Anne for removing dear Cash's remains to Lexington. The whole bill was \$24, and she said Brutus had not asked to share the expense and I paid one fourth of it.

I am much obliged to you for buying the oats for the sheep; I was confident the sheep would eat them with a relish, if they were properly fed to them. I shall want to buy more, if the sheep have to continue to be fed. I had fairly good grass if it was not covered with snow, and sheep will not eat much of anything else when they can get grass.

I am truly glad that Mary has a good man; it is very hard to farm with a hand who is worrying one all the time.

I have not thought of having Howard move to the other house. Mary suggested that I should do so, as it would be more convenient, but there are other considerations that outway it with me.

I note that you say Mr. Sowers has paid the interest into the bank and that you deposited your check, for which I thank you.

I received a letter from Mrs. Berryman, Mrs. Wickliffe's sister, enclosing Mrs. Wickliffe's rent. It is dated Febr. 24th, and she says that Cousin Kate Reid has been quite sick but is better; and that she hears Maria Dudley is quite ill. Do you hear anything from them? I fear Maria's health has entirely failed. I see a long account of Will's marriage. In a letter

received some time ago from Cousin Kate she says that Will was suffering from gastritis and she thought he would not be able to practice his profession after spending eight years in studying it. She thought Maria now had something real to worry about, as he was going to marry before he was established in business of any sort.

I enclose a letter received from Anne a few days ago. Pass it along to Mary. Mrs. Wickliffe is almost confined to the house and she has taken in Mrs. Carr, where we took our meals during the convention. She and her family will stay there until July, at least. I am glad the dear lady has some kind and congenial people with her. I proposed it to Mrs. Carr before I left Lexington, but Mrs. Wickliffe is so independent that she did not like the idea of having any one in the house.

Mrs. Upton and I went to Cleveland the 17th of Febr. to address the Winedaughian Club and again the 24th to organize a suffrage club for Mrs. Marie Jenney Howe. The meeting was held at the house of Mrs. Southworth, and we organized with 26 members. On Monday we went to Girard, a town on the street car, where we gave addresses in the Methodist church to the Girard and Niles suffrage club. Mrs. Upton has some other engagements in view, so I hope we can do a good deal to build up membership.

You do not say how all the family are, so I suppose all are well. Give my love to all and write soon again.

Your affectionate sister,

Richmond Ky.

Jan. 24th 1899.

Dear Lema,

Am in receipt of your last note. I find I am mistaken in thinking that I gave Mama a note for the money she deposited in bank to the credit of firm the first year we began business. I did not give her a note for any of this money, because neither Mr. Bennett nor I thought of doing it. But when I returned \$500 of the money Mama had deposited in bank for another year, it did occur to me that Mama ought to have a note. And I gave her one. So if you credit the \$80 I have paid Ma for interest on this note up to ^{Dec 3rd 1898.} ~~the~~ it will be all right at last.

Mr. Bennett says that Mr. Dittle wants to know if you have any hogs to sell. If so, How many and at what price.

I think you are right in what you say you think of writing to Mrs. Holt in regard to the money sent to National Association for Southern work.

And I am very glad to have you get such a

kindly letter from Mrs Henry. And to hear that she intends to do what she can for the bettering of the condition of human being even if she does not believe in the inspiration of our holy bible.

In regard to the corn I do not want to sell any, but was willing for you to have what I had left in Mr Dix's field if you wanted it. So you had better write to Leonard to get you some ^{from some one else,} He have had a dreadfully rainy fall & winter, and I am putting most of my corn up in Rail pens to keep it from spoiling.

I am very sorry that Anne has the grip. I hope it may not have any serious effect upon her. Mr. Bennett and I have both had a slight attack of it ourselves, but we are better, and were not much sick.

Helen is still out at Lalla's. Bonlus writes that he is not through with his business as yet; but he is having a pleasant time &c.

Love to you all from me & Mr. Bennett
Sincerely yours
Sarah Selay Bennett.

Richmond Ky.

March 18th 1905

My dear Sama,

As you will see from the
enclose letter, Milo Shanks has sent
Warfield a check of \$35 for you.
Warfield asks me to say that he
has deposited this money to your credit
in the Farmers Bank and wants you
to send Mr. Shanks a receipt for the
same.

In one of your letters you say that
alfalfa seed are so high that you

think that you will not sow your
entire field with it. But if I were
you I would put the whole field in
one thing or the other. I am trying
Alsike clover this year. This clover is
very much like the common red
clover, but it is a perennial instead
of a biennial as the common red clover
is. We are all very well.

Sincerely yours,

S. C. Bennett.

Mary Selay has gotten Mr. Bales
established on her farm, and is
now in Cincinnati on a visit of a
few days to Green to attend the opera.

Warren, Ohio. Mar. 8th, 1871

My dear Sallie,

Your letter of the 7th inst. is just received. In reply I will say that on Febr. 9th I wrote to the State Bank and Trust Co. as follows:

"I received today a letter from Mr. Turley, saying you are preparing to make a final settlement as administrator of the estate of my father. Therefore I suppose it is the proper time to say that I relinquish any claim I may have on any part of the estate on account of any share I may be entitled to in what has been designated as the Contingent fund, under the will of my grandfather, Green Clay; and I request that you distribute the funds in your hands as if no such claim existed!"

So you see I have relinquished it, and have no right on earth to indicate how it shall be distributed. The executors will have to decide that by their own interpretation of the law. You will remember, if you think of it, that I told you, and I think the other members of the family, that I intended not to have any share in the Contingent fund, not as a matter of principle, but as a matter of taste. I am ready to pay my share of Dr. Perry's bill as soon as I know what it is. As for debts that the Committee did not incur, I held myself in no manner responsible for, and shall not concern myself about them.

As for my share of the \$800, I have not relinquished it, and it can be placed to my credit in the bank, and I will send a check for what I owe Warfield.

I learned yesterday that the President had given the appointment as Minister to Switzerland to Brutus, and I am rejoicing with him. I suppose there is no doubt that the Senate will confirm the appointment. I received a letter from Brutus and Lalla a few days ago, and I am going to send it first to Mary Collins and

ask herte send it to you.

I am very sorry Mary is thinking of throwing good money after bad by carrying that suit to the Court of Appeals. I hope she will be dissuaded from it.

I find I am just as busy all the time as I can stand. I do a good deal in the office, and then I want to keep all my work in Ky. going. I am now concerned about sowing my alfalfa. How is the ground drying out? I shall order the seed through Covington & Arnold, and I find it is higher than clever and takes several times as much to the acre? So I am thinking of sowing only half of the field.

You do not say how all the family are, so I suppose they are in their usual health.

Give my love to all, and write soon.

Your affectionate sister,

Warren, O. Mar. 20th, 1905.

My dear Sallie,

I received your letter this morning. Please thank Warfield for attending to depositing Mr. Shanks' money, and tell him I have written to Mr. Shanks to acknowledge it.

About the alfalfa, - I think it too expensive to sow the whole field, unless

I were there to attend to the sowing; so I shall sow half the field and put common red clover on the other half. That will do to graze at the same time, and if I succeed with the alfalfa I will sow the other half when the clover dies out. Clover inoculates the ground for alfalfa, and will help the second sowing to catch.

I received a letter from Mary Collins lately, which I am going to send to Annie. I sent Mary Brutus' last letter and told her to send it to you, as I know she writes to you regularly, though she says all of you treat her like a step-child in the matter of writing. I have not received another letter from Brutus, and I suppose he will be at home the first of next month.

Mrs. Agnes L. Eifort, of Ashland, wants me to speak at her W.C.T.U. county convention in May; and I expect to go, as it will help our E.B.A. there, and I may also be able to organize in Catlettsburg. Had you heard that Miss Laura White's mother was dead? Mrs. Eifort writes that she died several weeks ago.

Have you received the minutes I sent a few days ago? They are very nice this year. Mrs. Roebuck is the best recording secretary we have had.

When you write, tell me more how things are coming on on the farm. I suppose ploughing is in full swing now. How does the wheat look?

I got a postal card from Mrs. Carr; you know she is now in Mrs. Wickliffe's house. She writes that Cousin Kate is well again and that Maria Dudley is well enough to go to church. That is a decided improvement.

I have not heard from Anne lately. Send me her letters, if you get any. Miss Anthony and Miss Shaw are still in Florida, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Blodgett; Miss Shaw is continuing to improve, though we think she works imprudently, trying to keep up a large correspondence. The weather here shows that spring has come, as the snow has gone before a heavy rain, which is followed by a very cool spell.

I am glad Mary is having a little visit to Green. I hope they will decide to drop that suit, as it is a waste of time and money. She is not strong enough to stand constant work or worry.

Give my love to Mr. Bennett and the rest of the family. Tell the girls I would greatly appreciate a letter from them. Goodbye.

Your affectionate sister,

Bennett

Warren, O. April 4th, 1905.

My dear Sallie,

Last night I received a letter from Brutus, telling me of his arrival at home and that he is to start for Europe in three weeks. I did not think of his going so soon, but thought he might be at home for some months yet. Of course, I am not willing not to see him when he is going for so long a time and I would come home at once, except that Judge Taylor, Mrs. Upton's father, had a slight apoplectic stroke just one week ago, and I do not like to leave the whole responsibility of the office on her immediately. Judge Taylor is rapidly recovering and was down to breakfast this morning and his physician holds out hopes that he will entirely recover, but Mrs. Upton has not returned to the office yet. However, I have determined to come home for some weeks in plenty of time to see Brutus and his family. He writes and asks me about the gift of our father's papers to the Congressional Library, and says if I am not at home I should have some one to represent me in the distribution of them. I wrote him that I would ask you to act for me, if it was desired to divide them before I got home. As he has so much to do, I think it best to do every thing that can be done without waiting for anyone, and I am perfectly willing that you should not wait for me.

I am willing to give all my share of the important papers to the Congressional Library. Of what remain, I wish my share, to be decided by any means that you are willing to accept for your share, as I suppose you also will want your share. I think those private letters in which he refutes Hawthorne's remarks about what he considers his complaint of our mother ought not to pass into the hands of any one of the family as long as any of us are alive as there might be serious dispute among us as to the propriety of their being published. Please represent me on this point, both in regard to those particular letters and others similar. I think the right to protect the privacy of our family life is one that ought not to be given up to the discretion of any one of us as long as there are others of us alive. I hope there will not be a division of opinion about this, but if there should happen to be, I am

unwilling to part with any right I may have to prevent such a division as will not protect the feelings of each one of us in a matter in which we all have a personal interest. Would it not be a wise thing to have all of us sign an agreement that no paper in our possession shall be published without the written consent of all the living children? I do so long that our affairs shall rest from any more publicity.

Brutus invited me to stay with him if I came now to Ky. But as I think he and Lalla will have all they can do to attend to business I declined, and I shall want to go to Mary's, if she has a room vacant, as I suppose she has.

I had not expected to return till the middle of May, but I think it is just as well as it has turned out, as I will have a chance to see a little about sowing my alfalfa.

Do write me a line on receiving this, to let me know what you think about the papers.

I hope all of you are well. I quite long to see all of you, and if Mrs. Upton were not feeling so dependent upon me even before her father's stroke I should have taken wing home even without the object of seeing Brutus off.

Give my love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

375 Yamhill, Portland, Oregon.

Sept. 14th, 1905.

My dear Sallie,

I only hope you will not think that I have quite taken leave of my senses when I tell you that I have decided to stay here during the campaign,--that is, till next June. I have become so interested in the work and I believe we shall win if we put in enough work and care. It seems that I can be useful, for we have not a great many available workers; therefore, I have considered it and have decided that it is worth the sacrifices I must make to stay. I think a victory in Oregon will be of more value in creating suffrage sentiment in Ky. than a ten thousand dollar educational campaign there would do; therefore my help here to bring it about is really the best I can do as president of the E.R.A. Therefore I am not neglecting my duty to it, though I expect some of my executive committee will think so when I write to them to have the convention without me.

Then I have to sacrifice myself in being away so far and so long from all of you. If all of you were not so thoroughly in sympathy I do not know how I would reconcile myself to that; but I know when you think it good for the cause you think it worth a great sacrifice.

When it comes to my business, I have made up my mind to be extravagant for one year of my life, and to live beyond my means, if need be, for I am giving my services without any compensation, except what satisfaction I derive from my pleasure in helping. But I must look after my business the best I can, and I am depending greatly upon the kindness of you and Mary.

I want to know if you have paid all my taxes, what they were, if I had money enough or if I had any left over.

I shall not buy either cattle or sheep this fall, but make my farming operations as small as possible.

Could you look after selling my fat cattle? I shall keep my ^{of} small ones, I think, though if they sell well this fall it may be best to get rid of them and run as little risk of losing on my farm as I can. I should be very much obliged to have you advise me from time to time, for as I wrote to Anne yesterday I have made up my mind to this sacrifice of my interests and after speaking of it once to all of you I intend not to say anything more about it. But I wish to be as careful as I can.

I am very sorry to lose my visit to Mary. I would have liked to become better acquainted with Paul and to have seen Mary in her own home. Perhaps I can do so next year.

I have been writing a great deal this morning, so will stop now, hoping you will write at once and let me know how much you can help me in my business.

Give my love to Mr. Bennett and all my dear ones, and with much to yourself, I am

Your affectionate sister,

Saura Clay.

Paul & Mary Collins are still with us. They do not intend to return to Washington until the 1st of March if they can.

We are enjoying Paul's visit very much. He is easy to entertain. Goes about with different people. He went over to Lexington with Greale Bennett to attend a horse sale on Monday, and has just now gone to our Scott farm with Mr. Bennett to see our cattle.

Paul & Mary are spending this week with Elsie, but will return to our next week. And I am expecting Sama & Mr. Garland to pay me a visit before Mary & Paul return to Washington.

I am sorry to have to tell you

ASHLAND

Richmond Ky.

Feb. 7th 1906

My dear Sama,

I have received your last letter, and send you Mr. Wolfarth's account as you request.

I have sold some of your blue grass seed for eighty cents per bu. and sent the money to your account in the Citizens Bank. And I intend selling the rest of your blue grass seed as soon as I can, now that they are selling at such a good price.

I am glad to hear that you all are doing much good work for the cause in Congress and do hope & pray that we may meet with a great victory,

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That Mr. James Bennett is feeling badly. Has lost all the flesh that he gained last summer.

She now weighs only $134\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Mary Selay is in her normal health. She & I are going down to our farms to-morrow. When we return I will write you about your stock. When I saw Leonard on Monday you did not have any lambs. I had five on yesterday.

Warfield & I have rented Brinkley Selay's farm for next year at \$1000. and I need about two hundred dollars, to pay for some corn, which I wish you would loan me until I sell my lambs in June. I will pay you five percent; and I have had your Bank Book balanced up to date; and you now have \$470 in Bank.

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Don't hesitate to refuse to loan me this money, if for any reason you do not wish to do so, for Robert Burnham has told me that he will lend me any money that I need at any time from the Madison National Bank. But I expect that he would ask me 6 percent for it.

Let me hear from you as often and as soon as you can, even if as you say, you have nothing to write.

Devotedly Yours.

S. C. Bennett

Bennett

Richmond Va.

March 7. 1905-

My dear Lema,

Mr. Sullivan
says that he has received a
letter from you, in which
you said that you did not
want any of the money that
he has of Pais in his hands
for distribution, and Warfield
says that he wants me to

write you a letter about the matter. If it is true that you do not want any part of Pa's share of the contingent fund left by Grandpa's estate, Mr. Sullivan says that he will do either one of two things with it. Divide it among Pa's other children or pay ~~Pa's debts~~ Pa's ^{bill} with it. He is not willing to divide it among all of Grandpa's heirs. Dr. Perry was only allowed 15 per cent of his bill by the Court. Pa's share of the contingent fund amounts to \$413,16. And he wants to know which of these two

things you desire.

I think that we have all agreed among ourselves to see that Dr. Perry's bill is paid in full by us.

In regard to your share of the \$800 due us children by Pa's, Warfield says that you agreed to pay him \$10 for attending to it for you, and he succeeded in getting it - let be declared of equal dignity with the contingent fund.

Of this \$800 your share will be \$25.50. What do you want done

with it. Mr. Sullivan distributes
the money to-day to the other
heirs, but will await your
reply to this letter before doing
any thing with your share.

I only heard of your letter to
Mr. Sullivan on yesterday & I
would have written to you sooner.
If you do not want it,
I wish you would write Mr.
Sullivan to let your share of
Pa's share of the contingent fund
go as far as it will toward
paying Dr. Perry's bill, rather than
have it divided among Pa's other

children. In this way you will have paid more than your own share of Dr. Perry's bill, and reduced Mary's share to a very small amount - or released her entirely if you so desire. (Mary's suit with Kit Schenck - has gone against her, but she thinks of carrying it up to the Court of Appeals.) Your share of the contingent fund amounts to \$82,43. And there is still about \$100 for us to pay on Dr. Perry's bill. If you decide to pay your share of the contingent fund to Dr. Perry, mention the fact

Bennett

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This fact distinctly in your letter,
because for some reason Mr.
Sullivan wants us to Dr. Dumm
\$30, that he claimed, and the
court refused to allow. And I
do not think that Dr. Dumm
ought to be paid this money, before
we see whether it is honestly due
him or not. I think that Dr.
Dumm claims this \$30 as a witness
fee and that it is dishonest.

Mary's new man Mr. O'Boles
has arrived and she is now
down at the farm. We are all
about as usual. Lovingly yours,
D.C.B.

189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

June 5th, 1919.

My dear Sallie,

Well, the Anthony amendment has passed the Senate! I thought you would be interested to know how I would act, now that the submission to the states is an accomplished fact; so I am writing to say that I have just finished two letters, one to Mrs. Breckinridge and the other to Mrs. Foster, secretary of the Fayette E.R.A., telling them that I withdraw from the Kentucky E.R.A. and resign my place on the Advisory Board of the Ky. E.R.A. and my presidency of the Fayette E.R.A. I explain that as the Boards of the N.A.W.S.A and the Ky. E.R.A. have declared in favor of ratification of the Anthony amendment there is no longer any consistency for a firm believer in State rights, as I am, in remaining in these associations, even though there has been no change in their constitutions to which I subscribed.

I suppose you are busy with your blue grass seed. I thank you for your letter reminding me of the approaching season; but Green had already agreed to strip mine for me on the terms of last year.

I am getting very anxious about hearing from Annie. The trial was to come off May 26th, and I have been expecting a letter daily ever since; but I have heard nothing in any way. If you have heard, please write me a few lines to tell me what has happened.

I expect to come over about the 16 or 17th of this month to see about cutting my wheat. I have some things in which I am much interested here, so that unless it is necessary I will not come sooner. I have not yet got any one to cut it for me; so if you know any arrangement I can make, let me know, though I have written to Riddel and also to Green to let me hear also. Green says Jane will not come till July, so I will stay down on the farm until she comes. I hope Mary and all of you remain well. Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

Richmond Kentucky
May 20th 1919

My dear Lena,

Our Madison County League has voted
unanimously for working for the Oite Amendment at
once,

There are the Ladies who voted	Miss Anna Beyemuth
Mrs. James Caproni. Treasurer	Mrs. Warfield C. Bennett
Mrs. James Bennett - President	" Kennedy
Mrs. Ed. McCarroll 1 st Vice P.	Miss Prager
Mrs. Buchanan R. Sec.	Miss Johnnie MacKenzie
Mrs. Ellen Gibson Cor. Sec.	Miss Thomas H. Collins
Miss Emma P. Mills	" D. G. Smith
Mrs. Miller Bennett	" Sam Baldwin
Miss Lucy Burnson	Miss Nellie Baldwin
Mrs. May B. Clay	Mrs. William Parks
Miss Lucy White	Mrs. Thompson Burnson
Mrs. Matt Burnson	Mrs. H. B. Hanger
Mrs. Grace Bennett	
" Jack Miller	
" Jennie Greale	
" Alice Dottle	

son

I am coming over to Lexington to stay with you on the
afternoon train on Tuesday.

And Helen will bring Mrs. Jones Caperton, Mrs. James
Burrora and Lucy Burrora over in her car. And
Mrs. Thompson Burrora, Mrs. Ed M. Cunn, Mrs.
Steele Bennett and Collier may come over in
other cars. To ask as citizens if you desire.

If our State Association desires to work for a State
Amendment - once, I will add two hundred
dollars to my subscription, and will do all I can
to get the other members of our Prohibition League
to contribute liberally. I have written the same thing to
Mrs. Buchanan's (Lear) yours
D. C. Bennett

Lexington, Ky.

Sept. 18th, 1911.

My dear Sallie,

I enclose a letter from Mrs. Upton, which explains itself. I had already sent her all the money I had to invest; and I wrote her I did not suppose you had any you wished to invest that way.

I expect to stay here for a week or probably longer. I ordered the tailor suit from Mrs. Morris; and she says she has to have several fittings at intervals, so I suppose I had as well stay here as run backwards and forwards. So I have rented this machine and set in for a week's work. I wish, if Mr. Wagers wants to take my lambs while I am gone, that you will sell them to him at what you are willing to take for yours. I see they have gone up some in the market.

Cousin Kate is going to start to Missouri tomorrow for her annual business trip. She is not at all well, and did not go to church yesterday, which is unusual with her. She says she got Helen's nice letter to her, and intended to answer it; but I told her I would send the message. Of course, she cannot accept Helen's invitation, as she is going to Missouri. She never got the telephone message from Elise and therefore never gave the negro man the five dollars, though you may tell Elise that she said she would have been glad to have let him have it if she had received any word from Elise.

I want to get my lambs off, if possible, before the first of Oct/ and if Green hears from the man about the bucks, I wish he would write to me, as I must buy one.

It is not as hot in my flat as I feared it would be. Don't you or the girls want to come over whilst I am here? I shall be glad to see you or them.

Affectionately your sister,

199 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

May 5th, 1919.

My dear Sallie,

I have been thinking of writing to you, and I got your letter this morning.

On talking to our friends here they thought it is best for us to ask a hearing before the Republican convention just as citizens, without any connection with the Southern Suffrage conference. If I think differently when the time comes, I can speak of myself as vice-president; but just now I think it better to act on the judgment of the others. Later when we have more time we may form a branch in time to go before the Democratic convention in August.

Mrs. Breckinridge tells me the women in Louisville have decided to ~~ask~~ ask for support of Presidential suffrage, the Federal amendment and what ever the Ky. E. R. A. may want when the legislature meets. They have ~~not~~ decided to wait till Congress submits the Federal amendment or adjourns before they decide to ask for a state amendment. That is, they are trying to hold in their own hands the decision whether ever to submit a state amendment. Mrs. Breckinridge is very much vexed; but I do not see what she can do to help herself. I shall tell her our plans explicitly later, but have not yet found suitable opportunity.

I have asked a few of the older suffragists to go with us, - Mrs. Mary Merton, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Harbison, Mrs. McQuaid, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Oldham. Mrs. Oldham is going to try to get some of the suffragists from Winchester to join us. Every one seems to think it is the right sort of step to take. I have not yet asked for a hearing, but I think it will be granted; if not, the newspaper notice we shall be able to get will do us much good. I shall ask other suffragists to join us also.

Since Miss Gordon thinks you meant your money for the dues of a branch I would let it stay that way; and if you choose you can get some members in time for the Democratic convention.

I want you to make all of your plans to come over and to bring others with you. I hope you can get some of the Burnams, as they are such a well-known Republican family. I shall expect you to stay with me, and I shall have a bedroom for one more person. If you come in your car I shall want the party to be my guests at dinner at the Phoenix. I hope Esther can come.

I shall write again as I complete my arrangements. If the time is short, I will use the long distance telephone.

If you have any suggestions, be sure to write. I feel the principal good effect of our effort will be to show the parties that the citizens are not going to be governed entirely by those who set no value on party pledges; and who are determined to hold on to a Federal Amendment in spite of every thing. We may do much good; and I do not see that we can do any harm. All are agreed that we will avoid any appearance of disagreement with the E. R. A.; but that we will accentuate the fact that there are more suffragists outside of the Association than there are in them. All whom I have asked expressed perfect accord with our views, and are willing to help. I shall ask others as our plans mature.
Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

Richmond Kentucky
May 13th 1924

My dear Sama

I had an interview with
Marfield on Sunday. He said there was
nothing for us to do at the present time.

That a commission in charge of Mary's
property could not sell any of it, unless Green's
creditors forced it to do so in payment of their
debts. That the duty of the commission
was to administer Mary's estate for her
benefit. And that if a commission was
ever created we could go before it, and tell
them what we wanted.

I saw Gene Clay on Monday. She
said nothing had been done as yet.
And that she thought that Mary ought to
be kept where she is at present.

I have arranged with Gene Clay that
she is to help Mary to dress five days in the
week, for which I will pay her 25 cents per
day each week, and Lettia is to give Mary
a bath the other two days of the week.

I am to supply Mary with a tonic that
Dr. Jester has suggested, and Gene is to give
Mary this tonic twice a day without any charge.
And Lettia is to ~~go~~ ^{continue to} see about Mary's

~~dinner~~ every day to see about her dinner &
to clean her room, &c.

Mary is with me at present, and sends you
her love.

I enclose you my last letter, and I will
keep you informed as to what I am & shall
be doing in regard to Mary's property.

Devotedly Yours,

S. C. Bennett

4

can find this real as the
large seed stems.

Hoping to hear from
you soon I am

Dear truly yours

S. C. Bennett

Richmond Kentucky
July 17th 1924

My dear Lema

Jane Clay went to
Dumbfries a few days ago,
she be with her mother while
she has an operation performed
upon her, and left Mary
Clay with me, to stay until
returned to Richmond.

About ten days ago, Jane
found Mary lying on the

2

ground in her yard at two
o'clock in the night.

And I find it very
difficult to keep Mary
in my bed-room at night
although I sleep in the room
with her.

While Lema Garland and
Sarah were in Richmond
with me, Lema received a
telegram saying that her
husband was very ill. So
Sarah has returned to
Countryside and left
Sarah with me for the

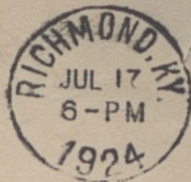
3

present.

Mr. Bennett & her sister
Sarah Greenleaf have gone to
Connecticut to visit their
sister Midge White, and expect
to be gone about two weeks.

I have not heard from
Anne Crook since I wrote
asking her to visit me this
Summer.

Lena I wish you would
buy me about one pint
of the "Crown of Gentlemen"
Sugar corn seed, and send it
to me by mail. I think you



Miss Laura Clay
189 North Mill Street
Lexington
Kentucky

189 N. Mill Street, Lexington, Ky.

Jan. 6th, 1912.

My dear Sallie,

This morning I received from Llew Parltan a check for \$722.50, interest and principal of the balance of Aunt Laura's legacy; and I enclose my check for your share, \$257.50, with a receipt, which I wish you would sign and return, as Llew wishes me to sign a voucher as executrix.

The weather is dreadfully cold; and the flow of natural gas is very low, so that those depending upon it for heat are actually suffering. I am wearing a cloak in my dining room, where I had a fire all night on account of the water pipes. As soon as I finish my letters I shall go into my bed room where I have a coal fire.

I had a pleasant day with Elise and the Board on Thursday. She told me of Dabney's improvement, and of his having gone to Hawfield. I suppose you never went to Washington.

I would be very much obliged to you if you would sell my wether lambs, of which I have nine or ten. I will keep the ewe lambs. I see they are bringing a good price now; and at any rate they are as fully grown as they are going to be this winter. You can phone to Howard about them, and explain that I wish to sell only the wether lambs.

I hope you are all well, and are not as cold in the house as I am here.

It is snowing, and I hope that indicates a moderation of the temperature.

Give my love to all the family. I hope some of you will come to see me soon. I have got my blue furniture which Brutus sent over, and it looks very well with the light wood of my parlor.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year, I am

Your affectionate sister,

[Mrs. Sarah Clay Bennett]

89 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

Jan. 22nd, 1917.

My dear Sister,

I received your letter Saturday; but as I was much occupied, I could not answer it sooner than today, as you asked me.

You ask me to "help to get some bills introduced into Congress for the protection of women in voting at Federal elections under the 14th Amendment".

While you do not say so, I suppose you mean bills founded on the argument you use. At the risk of repeating what I have said to you before, I will say that I do not think your argument conclusive. The Supreme Court has discussed and decided that the right of suffrage of any sort is "not one of the necessary ~~rights and~~ privileges and immunities guaranteed to citizens by the 14th Amendment". If it is not one of the "necessary privileges and immunities" it is of no great importance that, by your inferences, they have since decided that the right to vote for some citizens is derived from the Federal Constitution.

I do not think your quotation from Judge Gray is conclusive, either. As I take it, Judge Gray meant that when certain citizens had been granted the right to vote at U.S. Elections their right to do so could be protected by the U.S. Constitution. But as women have not been granted that right this is no profit to them. Even if you are correct in what you think Judge Gray meant, yet other people do not take the same view as he, and as he never had the authority to decide what the Supreme Court meant, it would be necessary that other people besides himself should take that view.

I probably have said all this, and more, to show why I do not coincide with your views; so now I shall amplify only to say that I think there are some practical political reasons why it is not desirable to try to get woman suffrage on the 14th Amendment. The 14th and 15th Amendments

are exceedingly obnoxious to the Southern Democratic States. Even Sen. Lodge has recently publicly stated that they were great failures in some important particulars. Now to attempt to enlarge the force of the 14th by a construction which has been denied by the Supreme Court, and which would have almost as much effect as a new Federal Amendment, with the further disadvantage than if such constructions can be put upon it the country has no security against some new and unexpected developments at any time, seems to me would arouse popular objections far more vigorous than the S.A. Anthony Amendment, which would give complete suffrage at once, without further complications. As you know, we have no power to force Congress to, pass a law which is perfectly clear to be within their power. How much less could we persuade them to take a risk of passing what might be an unconstitutional law, and which is certain to rouse the most violent opposition and resentment among the constituents of many of the members.

If we should try to frame a bill which is founded on some argument different from yours, I shall simply say that I do not know of any other which is now used. I think the suffragists generally have abandoned hope of getting any help from the 14th Amendment. All these reasons make it impossible for me to comply with your request. I will only add that I have been scrupulous in avoiding any antagonism to your bill in my attempts to draw attention to the claim founded on the 1st Article of the Federal Constitution. The Bill introduced by Sen. Owen is still before this Congress; though it seems that Sen. Owen is not working to push it as he said he was ready to do at St. Louis. I suppose he is not willing to push it unless the large body of suffragists urge him to do so; and the National seems bent only of the S.B. Anthony Amendment. Personally

I intend to await the developments of this Congress. I feel it almost hopeless to fight for anything the National does not sustain. Possibly, if it finds it cannot do anything with the Anthony Amendment, it may be

Richmond Kentucky
Jan. 23rd, 1917

My dear Louisa,

I have just received your letter of yesterday. And am very sorry to have you say in it that you will not join me in asking Congress to protect women in every of all Federal elections by laws made under the 14th Amendment. I hope however that you will change your mind. You declare in your letter that you think, if the 14th Amendment is capable of such a construction as I put (I think that the Supreme Court has put) upon it, that ~~the~~ "the country has no security against some new and unexpected developments at any time, and that this would arouse popular objections" to it. But I don't see why my putting such a construction upon the 14th Amendment, can be more dangerous to the "security" of the country than the construction that you put upon the 10th Article of our Federal Constitution.

So far as agreeing with you in thinking that my construction of the 14th Amendment would arouse popular sentiment against it, I think that people will be glad

No find that All citizens of the United States have
been protected against denial of a right to vote for
all of the elective officers of the United States by the
14th Amendment. And Mr. Justice Gray expresses
this thought when he says in the case of *Mr. D. or Mosley*
of 1915: "Just as the 14th Amendment, to use the
happy analogy suggested by the Solicitor General, was
adapted with a view to the protection of the colored
race, has been found to be equally impartial in its
application to the rights of all."

I in answer to your question as to what Manful and
I are going to feed our cattle this winter, I say -
I am going to feed my big cattle ~~two~~ two hubs of corn
every day, which I have left in the field. Manful
is going to feed his cattle some cotton seed. He has
already a dead one, and may let you have some, if
you want it.

Love to you

Sarah Lely Bennett

[Mrs. Sarah Clay Bennett]

Bxington, Ky.

Jan. 31st, 1917.

My dear Sister,

Have you noticed in the "Woman's Journal" of Jan. 27th the new Federal Amendment proposed by Poindexter? You will find it on page 20, third column, headed "Poindexter Says Eliminate Sex".

I have called Mrs. South's attention to it, and that of other members of our E.R.A. Board. It may present a phase of Congressional work on which all parties may unite. I have not yet formed my own opinion of it; but I want to call your attention to it before you lose the copy of the paper.

Hope you are all well. I learn that the Tennessee partial suffrage bill does not come up in their Senate until Thursday, Febr. 1st. I thought my telegram meant last Thursday, and feared bad luck for the bill when I heard nothing further from it.

I am enclosing an Illinois leaflet. It seems to me the best refutation of the argument that state amendments are too hard to get to be profitable work that I have seen. Mrs. McCulloch says Mrs. Trout is opposing the state amendment because she says Mrs. Catt thinks it is not opportune. I think Mrs. Catt is overdoing her opposition to State amendments. I trust Mrs. McCulloch's judgment in Illinois affairs more than I do hers.

Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

[Feb 22, 1917]

CIRCULAR LETTER

— TO —

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE
ASSOCIATION**

— BY —

MRS. JAMES BENNETT

My dear Loma

I do not think that many persons know that in 1871, Miss Susan B. Anthony and some other ladies claimed that under our Federal Constitution as altered by the adoption of its 14th Amendment, women had a legal right to vote at public elections, and petitioned Congress to make a federal law protecting them in the exercise of that right.

So I now write to you, and to other members of our National American Woman Suffrage Association, to call your attention to the above mentioned fact, and to some decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States that bear upon it, in the hope that I may thereby induce you to join with me and some other ladies, in signing a Memorial in which we request our National American Woman Suffrage Association to adopt at its next annual convention the same Resolution in regard to the 14th Amendment of our National Constitution that it adopted at its annual convention of 1914 and of 1916.

A Resolution which said:—"We petition Congress to protect women against State denial of the right of citizens of the United States to vote for Members of Congress, Presidential Electors and United States Senators in the State wherein they reside, by making federal laws in pursuance of that clause of the 14th Amendment of our National Constitution which says:— No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

Miss Susan B. Anthony tells us in her Wmoan Suffrage History, Vol. I, pages 497 and 498, that on December 12, 1871, she, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Isabella Beecher Hooker, Elizabeth L. Blanden, Olympia Brown and Josephine S. Griffen, "united in a Memorial, which was presented in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee, asking for a recognition of the rights of women under the 14th Amendment" That this Memorial was addressed to "The Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled," and read as follows:—"The undersigned citizens of the United States, believing that under the present Federal Constitution all women who are citizens of the United States have the right to vote, pray your honorable body to enact a law during the present session, that shall assist and protect them in the exercise of that right."

The "14th Amendment" referred to in the above mentioned Memorial is

My dear Loma

*I send you a copy of this letter, because I want you to read it, and note one point, in which I think of the argument —
S. C. Bennett*

Sent by Bennett

that clause of this Amendment which says:—"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

And in 1875, the Supreme Court of the United States decided in the case of Mrs. Virginia L. Minor that this clause of the 14th Amendment did not annul the word "male" in the Constitutions of our States which confined the right to vote for Members of Congress and Presidential Electors to men, and thereby enable women to have a legal right to vote for these federal officers, as counsel for Mrs. Minor claimed that it did.

And the Court decided this, by holding or deciding in its Slaughter-House cases decision of 1873, that the above quoted clause of the 14th Amendment only prohibited States from making or enforcing laws which deprived citizens of such rights as "owed their existence to the Federal Government, its national character, its Constitution or its laws," and then deciding that the right to vote for Members of Congress and Presidential Electors did not owe its existence to our Federal Constitution, by deciding that the Constitution of the United States did not confer the right of suffrage upon "any one," by using the below quoted words in the conclusion of its *Minor vs. Happersett* decision of 1875:—"Being unanimously of the opinion that the Constitution of the United States does not confer the right of suffrage upon any one, and that the Constitutions and laws of the several States which commit that important trust to men alone, are not necessarily void, we affirm the judgment of the Court below."

But the Supreme Court held in the first part of its *Minor vs. Happersett* decision of 1875, that the above quoted clause of the 14th Amendment "prohibited" our States from making or enforcing any law which deprived female citizens of the United States of any right that did owe its existence to our Federal Constitution.

And in 1884, this Court decided that the right to vote for Members of Congress and Presidential Electors owed its existence to our Federal Constitution, by deciding in the case of *Ex Parte Yarbrough* of 1884, that the right to vote for these federal officers was secured to citizens by the Original Constitution of the United States.

So the Supreme Court has now held in its combined *Minor vs. Happersett* and *Ex Parte Yarbrough* decisions that the 14th Amendment "prohibited" our States from making or enforcing any law which deprives female citizens of the United States of a right to vote for Members of Congress and Presidential Electors.

And since the right of private citizens to vote for United States Senators owes its existence to the 17th Amendment of our National Constitution, the 14th Amendment prohibits our States from making or enforcing any law which deprives women of a legal right to vote for United States Senators, as well as of a legal right to vote for Members of Congress and Presidential Electors.

And by doing this, the 14th Amendment has annulled the word "male" in the Constitutions of the majority of our States which confined the right to vote for Members of Congress, Presidential Electors and United States Senators to men, and thereby left their women in possession of a legal right to vote for these federal officers. Just as the removal of the word "male" from the Constitutions of eleven of our States as a qualification for voting, has

left their women in possession of a legal right to vote for Members of Congress, Presidential Electors and United States Senators.

Because the 14th Amendment is a part of our Federal Constitution, which is the supreme law of this land, "any thing in the Constitution or law of any State to the contrary notwithstanding," as its 6th Article expressly declares.

The reason that women cannot exercise their legal right to vote for the above named federal officers in the majority of our States at the present time, is because these States are enforcing laws which forbid their officers to register the names of women as legal voters at federal as well as at state elections. And because Congress has refused or neglected to make federal laws under the 14th Amendment to protect their women in exercising their legal right to vote at federal elections, as our National American Women Suffrage Association has petitioned Congress to do.

I say, as this Association has petitioned Congress to do, because soon after the Supreme Court decided in the case of *Ex Parte Yarbrough* of 1884, that the right of citizens to vote for Members of Congress and Presidential Electors owed its existence to our Federal Constitution, Miss Anthony appointed me chairman of the "Federal Suffrage Committee" of our National American Woman Suffrage Association, and made it the duty of this Committee to petition Congress to make federal laws under the 14th Amendment to protect women against State denial of the right of citizens of the United States to vote at federal elections in the State wherein they reside.

And from that day down to the present time this Association has continued to petition Congress to do women this justice.

We have recently been advised to stop petitioning Congress to make federal laws under the 14th Amendment to protect women against State denial of the right of citizens of the United States to vote at federal elections in the State wherein they reside, and to go to asking the Supreme Court to protect women against State denial of this right.

But Congress made federal laws to protect colored men in exercising the rights that were guaranteed to them against State denial by the 13th and 15th Amendments of our National Constitution, and the 14th Amendment is like these two, in that it provides that Congress must enforce its provisions by "appropriate legislation."

And the Supreme Court has declared this to be a fact, by using the below quoted words in speaking of the 14th, 13th and 15th Amendments in its *Ex Parte Virginia* decision 1879: "It is not said the judicial power of the General Government shall extend to enforcing the prohibitions and to protecting the rights and immunities guaranteed. It is not said that branch of the Government shall be authorized to declare void, any action of a State in violation of the prohibitions. It is the power of Congress which has been enlarged. Congress is authorized to enforce the prohibitions by appropriate legislation. Some legislation is contemplated to make the Amendments fully effective."

Hoping that I may receive a favorable reply from you, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Sarah Clay Bennett

Richmond, Kentucky, February 22, 1917.

Richmond Kentucky
Jan. 20th 1918

My dear Lama

In answer to the substance of your last letter, I write to say that I have changed my attitude toward the Susan B. Anthony Amendment of our Federal Constitution, which is similar to the 15th Amendment.

I will give you my reasons for this change, and wish you would write me what you think of them, so I may be helped to decide whether I am right or not in ~~this~~ change.

The 15th Amendment has had the effect of giving white + colored men a right to vote at elections that is denied from our Federal Constitution.

And I once hoped that our States would repeal or change the 15th Amendment in some way similar to that by which they changed our Federal Constitution so as to make it confer a right to vote in most States directly upon the people of our States instead of their Legislatures.

But the United States House of Representatives by voting to recommend the adoption of the Anthony Amendment, has destroyed my hope of having the

15th Amendment repealed or changed.

And if men are to have a right to vote at
state elections, that is derived from our Federal Constitution
I want women to have one also.

Because a right that is derived from our Federal Constitution
is superior to one that is derived from the Constitution of
a state.

Hoping that I may hear from you at an
early date, I am

Affectionately Yours

S. C. Bennett

P.S. Helen has gone to Louisville, and Mary
is now with me, and will remain for two weeks.

Richmond Ky

Jan. 17th 1918

My dear Loma

I have received your last letter. And in it, you say that Sen. Lee Combs recommends us to ask for a State Amendment, as well as the adoption of the Susan B. Anthony Federal Amendment.

But - I cannot see any sense in our spending time and money in getting a State Amendment, if the President Wilson and 2/3 of our Congressmen have recommended the adoption of the Anthony Federal Amendment which would confer a right to vote at State elections upon women, which would be so superior that it would even outride, any thing that any State has done or can do in that line.

The Prohibitionists of Kentucky are in a similar box, and I am looking with interest to see what they will do about a State Prohibition Amendment.

I enclose you a clipping that tells of the purchase of some cotton-seed meal by our Madison County farmers. Because the winter has been so severe that I think you may need some for your cattle. I will not need any for my cattle

And I do not know whether Warfield does not visit.
Suppose you come over, and stay with me for
a few days to see about your farm.

Mary Cely is in Richmond at the Glynndon
Hotel, and has been there for nearly one month.

Scout Jones

S. C. Bennett

P.S. If you will need any cotton-seed meal
for your cattle you might phone Warfield to
put in an order for you in Delmar. Corn is selling
over here at $6\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per bbl. of ^{thick} S. C. B.

189 N. Hill St., Lexington, Ky.

Jan. 30th, 1918.

My dear Nellie,

I am just back from Louisville, as Lise asked me to stay last night with her, which I enjoyed doing.

I regretted you did not come to the board meeting. Mrs. Hutchison was sick, and could not go. Mrs. South stopped at the Seelbach with me, and we talked over the situation together. Her letters from Washington do not indicate that the amendment will pass the Senate soon. Mrs. Catt says she will not have it voted on until she is sure of passing, and thinks that will be soon, but speaks nevertheless, what must be done next winter, if it does not pass. I was sorely disappointed to find she did not intend to ^{XX} to cease to interrupt our state amendment because the House had passed the amendment, but intends to keep Ky. working to ratify when the Amendment does pass, if it is years from now. This has disappointed me so much that I pointed out to Mrs. South that since the political parties had endorsed suffrage it is now a question in which many not belonging to the W. S. R. A. are interested, and if the Asso. does not keep in the lead it need not expect others to hold back on their account. I stated that I was immovable in my position that both the state and national suffrage constitutions assured all members an equal right to work for state or federal legislation; and that the present policy of the National to discourage and interfere with state legislation is autocratic and oppressive; that I believed their policy of going into ~~territories~~ ^{territories} to fight men elected on state route suffrage amendments because they would not repudiate their party platforms was to my mind repulsive, and as they would surely result in attacking only Democrats that there is little difference between this policy and that of the Congressional Union. In short, I expressed the fact that the policy of the National is not approved by either my judgment or my conscience. I said that I

(Over)

believed it would be a telling policy if we made a strong appeal to men of all parties to be loyal to their party pledges and make woman suffrage ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ a party issue, whereby they could surely win at the polls and relieve women of the hardships of struggling for the rights solemnly pledged to them, and add the burden of that to what they are already bearing from the war; that, as Pre. Wilson has pointed out, it is a war exigency, and the men ought not to require such efforts from women. By this means, we would escape large campaign expenses, and be much more certain of victory.

Mrs. South said she had the presidential suffrage bill drawn up and ready to introduce when she received a letter from Mrs. Catt asking that Ky. should not ask for it; so she held it back till after this Board meeting.

Next day we found that Mts. Henning had a sick child, and could not come; Mrs. Leech has tonsillitis, and could not come. Mrs. Judah and Mrs. McDowell came, and Mrs. Whiteside came in for a little while, but explained that she was going to New York for some months to study to take some paying position, and could stay only a short time. Neither Mrs. Alderson nor Mrs. Post came. So we would not have had a quorum except that we agreed that we would take the votes of Mesdames Leech and Henning over the 8phone. I found immediately that I had no one with me in opposing calling an emergency convention. They claimed that sufficient notice had been given at Lexington that such a convention might be called. However, I got the ruling that only delegates elected to the convention at Lexington, even if they did not go, were eligible for the emergency convention. They seem willing to meet in Frankfort, though I claimed they ought to meet in Lexington. However, as I saw any opposition would be useless, and only cause friction, I let it pass. I voted "no" to the emergency convention. Then we decided that we would first get a vote by mail to eligible delegates, as follows:

(Over)

Jan 30, 1918

ing postponement as follows: Moved; That the intent and purpose of the above motion to call an Emergency Convention shall be accomplished temporarily, if feasible, by a letter sent by the president of the Ky.E.R.A. to every delegate entitled to vote at the Emergency Convention, briefly stating the emergency which seems to call for further consideration of the instruction of the annual convention of 1917 to submit in the Ky. Legislature now in session bills to grant presidential suffrage; and to submit a state Constitutional Amendment; and to postpone till the 15th of February action on these instructions, If any further action be necessary, then to call a meeting of the Board. I think they expect the majority vote to rescind the action of the Lexington convention.

In the discussions, they noticed that I said that the question now belonged to others besides the suffragists; and Mrs. Judah asked me the direct question if I felt myself free to aid in a demand from such persons in asking for a fulfillment of the party platforms. I answered that she was asking me a personal question about what I thought as an individual, but I answered that I would not feel free to do so as an officer of the Ky.E.R.Asso., but that I did not think my liberty of action as an individual was limited by what the Asso. might decide to do. I emphasized the fact that I considered the actions of the National as violating a clause in the constitution which if broken by one section of the Asso. ceased to be binding upon the other. I think they were somewhat surprised by my statement, though I do not think it will change their resolution. However, other things may happen between now and the 15th of Febr., and I am going to hope that juster counsels will prevail. I moved a resolution that if the Federal Amendment passed the U.S.Senate the Ky.E.R.A. should immediately try to have it ratified. It seems this was overlooked in the Lexington convention; and by my motion I showed that I intended to be

faithfull to the rights of those who believe in the Federal Amend. only just as I am demanding that others should be fair to those who are in favor of State action.

This was about all the important busines transacted. I was made chairman of the Prize Contests, and I am going to conduct tham like Mrs.Roark has done in the Normal at Richmond.

Give my love to all. I hope you and Mary are both well. I was glad to be assured by Helen that you considered you had recovered from the sprain you got in Washington?

Affectionately your sister,

Laura Clay.

Lexington, Ky.

May 2nd " 1917.

My dear Sallie,

I am enclosing my last letter from Anne, with Dr. Sharpe's findings; which please pass on to Mary and Bantus, as she requests.

All the city is busy with the war preparations, and I spend much of my time reading the papers. At the latter part of next week I am going to Columbus, Ohio, to the Miss. Valley Conference. I go Saturday the 12th and

Return the 15th May address
there will be Hotel Desher.

Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

Saura Cley.

P. S. Ask Mary to return to me
Dr. Sharpe's findings.

Richmond Kentucky
April 8th 1918

My dear Lena,

I hear through the
Lexington Herald that our Egypt
Rights Association has decided to
buy an ambulance to go with
Dr. Barrow to France. And that the
money to buy it is wanted at once,
so I have just written to Mrs
South to say that our Madison
County League will give \$300.

I thought that you might
be interested to know what
Madison would give. And we
can and will give a little more
money if necessary, in order to

buy the Ambulance.

Let me hear from you
how much Dazelle County will
give.

Very truly
yours

S. C. Bennett

Richmond Kentucky
Feb. 3rd 1918

My dear Lema,

After seven of our Kentucky Congressmen voted for the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, I do not think that we can do anything to prevent women suffrage from being forced on our State. So I intend to stop trying to do it.

In the present - I intend to sit still, and let things go as other persons make them go, until they reach such a stage that I can make up my mind what I ought to do under the changed circumstances brought about by the desertion of State Rights by the Democratic Party.

I enclose you a clipping from the Louisville Courier Journal about a suffrage bill being introduced into the Kentucky Senate, that you may not ~~have~~ missed it.

I have a note from Christine Duthie telling me of a board meeting that is to be in Louisville, on Monday, but I am still lame, and will not go.

Sincerely yours

S. C. Bennett

Richmond, Kentucky
Feb. 13th 1918

My dear Lema

Your last letter is received.

I think that the Democrats under the leadership of President Wilson are now striving to enfranchise the women of these United States before the Republicans can do it, in the hope of thereby obtaining the votes of women for their party.

I think that the Democrats have repudiated their platform pledge to enfranchise women by other action, and are urging the giving of the ballot to women by the adoption of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment to our Federal Constitution in order to enfranchise women before the Republicans can do it.

I enclose you a clipping from the Louisville Courier-Journal of yesterday, which informs us that the "Executive Committee of the National Democratic Committee" "after a referendum to the committeemen representing the 48 states, have adopted a Resolution by a vote of 5-2, which endorsed the Susan B. Anthony Amendment to the Federal Constitution providing for woman suffrage and urges "the prompt action thereon by the U. S. Senate"

Mary Selby was up to see me day before
yesterday, and I think that she is still down
at the Glynndon Hotel.

I told Mary that you had written me that
she must come over to pay you a visit, but
she does not seem to have remembered it. So
I think that you had better write to her and
invite her. When I suggested that she might
go over to Lexington and pay you a visit, she
said that she would not go unless you invited her.

Affectionately yours

D. C. Bennett

189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.
Febr. 8th, 1918.

My dear Sallie,

I was glad to get your letter of Febr. 3rd, with clipping from the Courier)J.

You and I have come to about the same conclusion as to fighting the Federal Amendment. I am strongly attached to the States Rights doctrine; but I feel that I am helpless unless the dominant political sentiment sustains it; and I am not going to beat my head against a stone wall. I have dismissed that part of the suffrage question from my sense of responsibility. But I am deeply regretful that our Board did not feel obligation to carry out the instructions of our state convention, but set them aside at the dictation of the National Asso. In a day or two I suppose you will receive a copy of the minutes of the Board meeting. You will observe that I voted "No" to all acts contrary to the convention; and I made it perfectly clear that I would, individually hold myself unhampered by the vote of the majority which were contrary to the instructions of the convention. Therefore, if I should see anything hopeful in the state amendment brought in by Sen. Richardson I shall feel free to co-operate to the extent of my ability. I was glad that Mrs. South chose Elise as Corresponding Secretary. She did not announce her choice till the voting was over; so Elise is not involved in those votes.

Now about the vote in the Congress: It seems to me so evident that the passage ~~by~~ of the Federal Amendment and its ratification by the states would be a great Republican victory, and that if woman suffrage plays as important a part in politics as negro suffrage did, that it would mean the defeat of the Democratic party nationally for a generation that as the days go by I am beginning to be shaken in my thought that the Democrats are going to allow the credit of the success of woman suffrage to go to the Republicans. I do not believe, and I shall not believe until I see it done, that having the game in their hands they will give the triumph to Republicans. I am inclined to think, rather, that they are playing a game of politics which I do not understand with my limited means of information. I do know that the Senate is not acting as soon as I expected it would.

Have you read the open letter from Roosevelt to the Republican Senators, in which he already claims the prestige for the vote in Congress for the Republicans? It is printed in the last Woman's Citizen. You should keep up your reading of that paper in these times. If that letter does not rouse the Democrats to seeing the result of what they are doing, it is either because they are wilfully blind, or that they are playing a game of their own. I think nothing can save the credit to the Democratic party except a vigorous policy of giving suffrage by state action. If they cast aside states rights and their St. Louis platform at one and the same time, they deserve defeat and I am not going to mourn over their defeat, though I shall mourn over the injury to states rights.

I enclose a letter from Anne which I received lately. Give my love to all, and with much to yourself, I am
Your affectionate sister,

Richmond Kentucky
Jan. 12th, 1918

My dear Lema

Congress has recommended the adoption of the Anthony Amendment to our Federal Constitution, which will confer a right to vote at all public elections upon women, and there is no limit to the time in which our States can adopt this Amendment.

So I write to say what I think under these circumstances, and want to know what you think in order to help me to decide what I ought to do.

Since two thirds of our Congressmen have voted to recommend our State to adopt an Amendment to our Federal Constitution, that will confer a right to vote at all elections upon women, I think that it is worth for our State to amend their Constitution and do the same thing, since the Federal Amendment overrides our State Constitutions.

And since I thought that the members of our Equal Rights Association who wanted the Anthony Amendment, ought to help us to get the Constitution of Kentucky amended, I now think that I ought to help them to get the Anthony Amendment

& closed.

The Louisville Courier Journal of the 20th & 21st
has a much fuller account of the the action of
Congress & President Wilson in regard to the
Anthony Amendment than the Lexington Herald. I
advise you to get the Courier Journal. I have
put these articles in my Scrap-Book.

Affectionately Yours

S. P. Bennett

12 .il .icinto, v.

Jan 14th , 1871.

My dear Fannie,

Well, the unexpected has happened, and Pres. Wilson has come out for the Federal Amendment! Of course, this has changed my attitude towards it; for it is futile for me to hold out opposition on account of States Rights when a great statesman and head of the Democratic party contends that it is not an infringement of States Rights.

Mrs. South appointed a meeting on Saturday with Sen. Thomas Combs, Mrs. Hutchison and me; but the trains were delayed so long by the storm that she was unable to come. However, Mrs. Hutchison, Sen. Combs and I had a conference. I told him that my attitude had changed after Pres. Wilson endorsed the National Amendment. He explained to him that there was a division in our official board about the state amendment; and I said that we had money enough in sight to make a good fight for one year; and then if the 41 legislatures which vote in the early months of 1919 carried the amendment we need not work the second year; but if they did not, we could and would find means to carry the state amendment campaign through the second year and to the vote. But that on account of the division in our board; we would have to depend more upon the help of the political party or parties which endorsed the state amendment than we need to have done otherwise. I said also that I thought it was now a political issue, and that the Democratic party for its own advantage should support it. He said that he had intended to do exactly as the N.P.A. asked him to do; and that his advice would have been to have a member of one party bring in the resolution in one house, and a member of the other party bring it into the other house. He told him that there was now some uncertainty as to what the N.P.A. would do, on account of this division of

opinion in the Board, and the attitude of the National; though we
thought the attitude of the National might be now changed, since the
amendment had gone through the House. His advice is for us to ask
for everything in sight;- presidential suffrage, a state amend-
ment and ratification of the Federal amendment in case it passes
the U.S. Senate in time to act upon it in our legislature. Mrs.-
South asked Mrs. Hutchison to note carefully what he said, and to re-
port to her. Mrs. Hutchison agrees with me in her attitude, and in
what Sen. Combs says.

I see from yesterday's papers that it is likely that both par-
ties will endorse the state amendment in caucus; and if even only
one does so, it is almost certain to pass, for the other cannot
afford to take the opposite side. Therefore, I am hoping that ev-
en if the Ky. E. R. A. will not ask for the amendment, it will be
submitted any way, as it has been done in some other states ~~ixix~~
without waiting for the women to ask for it. In that case, I shall
do all I can to support it; ^{and} though I believe ^{is} the op position in
our ranks will not go so far as to oppose it in those circumstan-
ces. Mrs. Hutchison certainly expects a board meeting befo^{re} an
emergency convention is called; and in that case I shall do my best
to avoid calling an emergency convention and thereby proclaiming
our division to the public. I shall endeavor to see that we retain
the right to spend the money in the treasury for state work, and
thereby tide over this year, in the expectation that the state a-
mendment will be submitted, either by our efforts or by the politi-
cal parties. That will be my attitude, until some other occurrence
changes it;- such as its passage through the U.S. Senate before
our legislature adjourns, and its ratification by Ky. Even then I
think now that I would want to go on with the state amendment; but
I would be guided by circumstances. I am writing thus fully so

Jan 14, 1918

that you may know what is occurring as far as I know it myself; and also that you may understand why I shall not oppose the Federal Amendment any longer. In the Fayette Equal R/Sec. I shall organize as soon as I can in every precinct in the city and county for the purpose of increasing our membership and finding out how the voters stand. In short, in preparation for a state campaign.

I had written this letter thus far when I received your letter of the 12th on the same subject. I am glad to see that we agree in the main. But the Federal Amendment has not yet passed the Senate, and I see that the women are not at all certain that it will do so,- at least, not in time for the Ky. Legislature to act upon it. I have read the big dailies at the library, and know the current comment. I consider it yet possible that the state may not ratify it quickly; for there was some quite sharp criticism of Wilson's attitude in the discussion in the House and it said that even the opponents were surprised that it did not pass by a larger vote. Therefore, I do not think by any means there is no longer need for work for state amendments. If it does not pass the Senate in time for action in Ky., or if Ky. fails to ratify it, then I think by all means we should go right on to increase sentiment in Ky. by working for a state amendment. If it passes Congress and is ratified in the early months of 1919 then we can stop work. If it does not, then Ky. may have the honor of granting suffrage without Federal coercion; and its moral effect will certainly be great in winning it in other states. I think the fact that the U.S. House has endorsed the Federal Amendment will make the task of winning a state amendment much easier in any circumstances. But I am not willing to stop the fight until victory is actually won, and not merely when it seems to be in sight.

I am watching the papers carefully; and I hold my views open to change if occurrences seem to demand it; but at present they are

what I have written you. We might lose the final victory by overconfidence as well as by some other means. If the states do not ratify the National Amendment in the early months of 1919 it would be well worth our while to work for a state amendment rather than to wait perhaps for years for its final ratification, and also for the help it will give other states.

My plumbing is frozen up, causing both much inconvenience and expense/ But with my one coal fire I am managing to keep warm.

I wish you had mentioned where Mary is this dreadful weather. I never hear from her, and I would have been glad of a few lines about her from you.

I will let you know when I learn anything more about our state action.

Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.
Jan. 21st, 1918.

My dear Sallie,

Your letter of the 20th inst. is just at hand.

I have been so occupied by the likelihood that this legislature might be allowed to pass without any action taken to secure enfranchisement of women that I have given little thought to the aspect of which you speak. I have always believed that after women once got the franchise there would be no more chance of taking it away from them than there is of taking it from men. It is different with what might happen to negroes; for a recrudescence of race antagonism might occur a hundred years from now. My adherence to States' Rights is because I think a country with diversified interests like ours can never enjoy domestic tranquility unless a very large share of state authority is reserved to the states. And my fear of giving additional power to the Federal government to interfere with state regulations and authority outweighs my fear that suffrage may be taken from women after it is once granted. I believe you can get much better material for forming an opinion on the points mentioned in your letter on the discussions in the papers than from anything I can say.

Mrs. South writes me she is going to call a Board meeting the last of Jan. or the first of Febr. I see from the morning paper that a vote in the U.S. Senate on the suffrage amendment is expected on Jan. 26th. So we shall not long be in suspense now.

I am glad to hear Mary is in town, where she can have fire and company in this intensely cold weather; and that she is having the pleasure of a visit to you. I hope she will come sometime this winter to pay me a visit. I suppose she noticed in the paper that Mr. E.D. Shelby died a few weeks ago. I have not seen Mrs. Shelby or Miss Lucy lately.

Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,
Laura

189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.
Jan. 4th, 1918.

My dear Sallie,

A Happy New Year and many returns!
I have received your two recent letters. I wrote to Annie at once and enclosed the letters she asked to have returned.

I have not answered your first letter because I have heard nothing whatever from Mrs. South. A few days ago I received a note from Irene Mattern her clerk, saying Mrs. South was not well and did not come to the office, but would write to me soon.

Yesterday I received a letter from Miss Rebecca Averill asking the Fayette E.R.A. to send telegrams to the Ky. members of Congress. She says: "This is the very most important time in our history as we have given up doing anything in the legislature of Kentucky. We want you to do everything in your extreme power to get the people to telegraph to these Congressmen at this time. It is the very most important thing that you or your organization can possibly do."

"If you will send the amount you have expended on telegrams to me the Kentucky Equal Rights Association will be glad to defray the bill"
Cordially yours, Rebecca Averill, Chairman Seventh Congressional District of Ky. E. R. A. "

I shall present the letter to our Fayette E.R.A. next Tuesday afternoon, and will probably telephone to some of our members who may be interested in doing something. I do not feel myself obligated to send any telegrams personally, as it is well known that I believe in States Rights.

Now about the situation: I have decided not to make up my mind definitely about any course of action till after the 10th of Jan. I hope you noticed the article in this morning's Lexington Herald, Page 4. I enclose the same thing, though not so complete, from yesterday's Leader. It seems there will be a big drive. I do not know what Mrs. South is going to decide about legislative work in Ky. But she knows I will support her in any effort she wishes to make to carry out the vote of our convention. In case she is not willing to go contrary to the wishes of the Louisville officers and the National, there will be no one else on the Board except Mrs. Hutchison and Mrs. Alverson; and I do not know how Mrs. Alverson stands. Now I believe we could win in Ky. if we are united; but I cannot hope for victory if we are divided. So I am not going so far as to give any excuse for division. It is true that the Louisville officers cannot control the whole of the Louisville League; but if they should secede, the National can and probably would assist them with organizers to form clubs in at least ten towns, which are required for a new organization; and would then recognize their new association. For it is evident that the National Board wishes to win Ky. for the Federal Amendment, as is shown by the fact that previously as well as at present it is supporting an organizer in Ky. for the purpose of forwarding the Federal Amendment. If we allow a division, I believe we will have to face some such position as that. If we ~~subst~~ ^{subst} (and we cannot win the state if we divide) it may result in Ky's apparently going over to the other side. As long as there is no division it will be impossible for them to put Ky. on the side of the Federal Amendment.

I offer these suggestions for your reflection; but as I say, I shall not decide on anything till after Jan. 10th.

Am glad to hear your leg is all right.

Lovingly yours,

Laura Clay.

189 N. Mill St., Lexington Ky.
Jan. 18th, 1918.

My dear Sallie,

I thank you very much for the clipping about the cotton seed meal. If I decide to order, I will telephone Warfield.

About the State Amendment: I think you are taking altogether too much for granted in supposing that Congress will submit the S.B. Anthony Amendment. Only the House has passed it. By last accounts, the necessary majority in the Senate still lacks eight votes pledged to pass it. The Senate may refuse to pass it. Then, we can have no idea at all whether it will ever be ratified by three fourths of the state legislatures. Many think that Congress may submit it merely to get rid of the importunity of the suffragists, in the expectation that the state legislatures will not ratify it. In any case, it may hang on for many years, as you saw that the convention in Washington laid plans for years to come how to force the states to ratify. Now I think we have a good chance in Kentucky to pass a state amendment without any humiliating campaigns to force the legislature to ratify the S.B. Anthony Amendment in years to come. The parties are so evenly divided now, that with the aid of the declarations of both National platforms, Pres. Wilson's influence on the Democrats, and party rivalry on both parties, together with the influence of the war, that a victory at the polls in the fall of 1919 seems very hopeful to me.

As for the waste of money and effort; we have now in hand and reliable pledges enough money to make a good campaign in 1918. Then if the Federal Amendment passes Congress and is ratified by 36 state legislatures in the early months of 1919, the campaign will stop automatically. But if it is not ratified by that time, then it is very desirable that Ky. should be among the enfranchised states, which it could be by a victory for the state amendment in November of 1919.

I do not think money would be wasted by a campaign for one year in Kentucky. For as you know very well, suffrage sentiment is not strong enough in Ky. to give any promise of victory either for the National Amendment or the State amendment without the influence of political motives and the effect of women's work in the war. But if suffrage activity should now stop in the states, particularly in the southern states, the politicians might well begin to hope that after all they could defeat suffrage for many years yet, at any rate; and the fear of not making the greatest party advantage out of being forward in the grant would be removed. But if they see active state work as well as active national work they will realize that it is only a matter of time, and they had better be looking out for their party interests. President Wilson will not be in the White House to help us materially after this legislature; and the war may cease, thereby taking away that influence, also.

You need not be in any doubt about what the Prohibitionists wish. They are fighting very hard for the State Amendment, though their national campaign must close in seven years. They are not willing to wait even seven years for prohibition to go into effect; whereas the Federal Suffrage bill will hang on an indefinite number of years, and may never pass at all; and all the time Ky. will be disfranchised, while if we work now we may be enfranchised in 1919/
Love to all.

Your affectionate sister,

angular and "raw-boned"
as Sam Stone says -
wish to know of Sam's
success - I trust (with
not knowing positively)
be well & with satisfactory
arrangements with Peter.
He only remained till Sat-
day & passed directly
thro' Lexington, so he
was unable to see you, but
we charged him to give
his "kind regards to Mrs
Laura". I wish I could
see you to tell you
the curious things that

happened at the
party - I thought to
write you but was
too busy to do so
I received your
kind letter
and was glad to hear
you were present a
week - I miss you
greatly & think I can
offer sufficient evidence
to you that I care
for you - Richmond
is still the same
section of party
Democratic Party was
a brilliant success
enjoyed seeing as a

33 March 1840
Saturday 7 PM
Laura
I received
your kind letter
and was glad to hear
you were present a
week - I miss you
greatly & think I can
offer sufficient evidence
to you that I care
for you - Richmond
is still the same
section of party
Democratic Party was
a brilliant success
enjoyed seeing as a

July "en train" (Mr
Dennis French) We
were conveyed from
Duncannon Station to the
house by means of carriage
and we sat all
fatigued or cramped.
Mr Dennis (from Louis
ville) was very good &
the supper excellent -
Miss Fox did not re-
turn; but two ladies &
three gentlemen from Dan-
ville were present. One
of whom was Mr. Geo

Gardner (our admiral)
who was more agreeable
than our other ladies
our host Miss Burrhead
Beed, who, Gulliver says.
"came as envoy Chloris
portraying of Peace from
Miss Joe (her sister to
Col. D." I hardly think
she was successful in her
mission - By the way
she & her sister are the
most execrably
ugly girls I have
ever known. Both

The "Club" will meet at
Bill Miller's & then at
other places & the best
clubs (young & old) will
beard at the hotels will
wind up the petition
by a large Ball. A
Special train has been
engaged to carry the
Pucknabites to a "Grand
Coaster Hop" the evening
of the 28th. My interest
in this Hop & its ad-
habitants is not great
enough to induce me
to go, so I will

and done by him, Mr.
Payson had enjoyed Pettie's
company to the party, then
pre-telling him - I should
like to give a small party
last night, to which I
have been unpleasant for
the young men, being
fifteen of them & four
girls. We are sewing
now and for Hugh
Morrison's Club meet Thurs-
day - He is so anxious
to have a pleasant
party but I prefer a
"Pucknabite Walk-around"

will soon be after
"Episcopalian Dances,"
You know we have
been counted on for
still & Duncan strongly
enjoy our church
and hold yourself in
readiness to return to a
magnificent fête chez
Petro, to be given the
26th ult. at Mr. J. J.
Walker's - Chris Haupt
with a full band
to furnish music &

supply the supper &
wine. Dr. Mullins has
been to Lewisville making
the arrangements and
I told Beckins confidently
that he has just
confided the fact to our
for your benefit. Don't
mention it but he
wants to come over. This
party is elegant for an
entertainment and I don't
doubt it will be delightful
- After Christmas

Remain at home - I have
endeavored to give you an
idea of our festivities, which
does not include eight parties
to be given over by the young
for population. I da
remains against the season
by a dance on Tuesday
Miss Kate called out
Thursday with Judge & Pearce,
where I found very
pleasantly entertained. I
think she must have
given him encouragement
as he extended his visit
from four days - After her
call, she told me he would

learn next morning), with
woman's curiosity I dash-
ed in pell-mell on a
pumping occasion, thence
ving him far away, but
was told by the girl as
I started to open the
parlor door, "that gentleman
is in there", whereupon I
retreated ingloriously. I
called this afternoon but she
was out, when I learn the
result of his visit will will
you - Judge Beckner paid
her a call yesterday of 4 1/2 hours
which decidedly speaks of
seriousness - I hear faint
whispers of an elopement
in high life, but de jure
don't mention it; should the
rumor become more prevalent

Richmond Kentucky
Oct 19th 1922

My dear Larna,

After learning the facts, underscored
in the enclosed article, I have decided to vote
for the 20 percent road tax.

And I enclose the article, because I think that
it may determine you, not to bother the trouble
to come to Madison to vote against this tax.

I do not think that Jones & Green have
entered into an agreement about Mary's home as
yet. I have asked them to let me know
when they have.

I told Jones the other day that I was
unwilling for Mary to go to any other home
because I could not do anything for her unless
she staid in that home. She said that she
knew that. Would let me know as soon as
she made up her mind. And was ready
for Mary to return to her room at once, if she
desired to come. And Green has told me that

he intends to bring Mary up to town the
first of November.

I will have her room gotten ready for her.

Mary Collins writes me that Sarah
has not experienced much trouble about her
studies on account of her detention in Kentucky.
And that she has succeeded in getting a
dormel school-girl to help in her homework.

I have heard through Dobson that Anne
has hurt her knee, so that it will keep her
in bed for a week or two.

With much love

devotedly yours

Sarah C. Bennett

Goodloe and Forbes Answer Green Clay on Road Tax Issue

To the Editor Daily Register:

Dear Sir:—Much discussion, pro and con, is proceeding as to the proposed extra tax of 20c per hundred dollars for roads and bridges to be voted on by the people at the November election and as much more discussion will and should come before election day I think it is my duty as County Judge of Madison County to state the reasons, as I see them, for the calling of the election by the Fiscal Court.

No answer can be made to the assertion that taxes are high enough already, nor to the fact that money is wasted in conducting almost every public work from the smallest unit like a school district to the national government at Washington City and I shall not attempt to discuss these features in this statement but will briefly state the case as it confronts the Fiscal Court and the Court only desires in calling the election to place the problem where it properly belongs, before the people of Madison county.

There are within the county, pikes or roads that are now or have been what is called macadamized, 294 miles of which

Richmond-Winchester	12	3-4
Richmond-Irvine	11	1-3
Richmond-Lancaster	12	1-2
Richmond-Lexington	10	2-5
Richmond-Nicholasville	12	1-2
Richmond-Mt. Vernon	16	1-2
Kingston-McKee	10	1-2

making in all 86 1-2 miles, have been designated as a part of the state primary inter-county seat roads by act of the legislature at the 1920 session.)

This 86 1-2 miles has been absorbing and will continue to absorb under the present system 80 per cent of our income, leaving only 20 per cent for the other 207 1-2 miles of pike. It is perfectly apparent that the 80 per cent for the inter-county seat roads and the 20 per cent for the remaining 207 1-2 miles are wholly inadequate. The State Aid plan plainly stated is this: The State says if Madison county will put up 50-50 with her she will build our roads and when completed will maintain them. In one sweep ridding the county of 80 per cent of her road expense. Next, where does the State get her part of this fund? From the auto license and gas tax only, which produces \$3,000,000 annually, and of the sum Madison county pays about \$35,000 annually which we can get back only by accepting her proposition for State Aid; otherwise it goes out of Madison county and some other county will get it. It will have to be paid out

and whether we bring it back or not is for the people to decide. After we once get our roads built it will come back without any further outlay on our part, for the maintenance of these roads.)

This will leave the county in the new position of having only 207 1-2 miles of the secondary roads with the present fund and the use of the entire force of men and machinery of the county for maintenance.

Next, how is this money to be spent? The state, after the county accepts any proposition, advertises for bids and lets the contract at Frankfort and the work is done by contract under State supervision and on demand of the State Department the Fiscal Court directs a check to be drawn on the treasury for the county's part. Neither the Fiscal court nor the Road Engineer will have anything to do with the spending of this money and do not want to, as the Road Engineer has all he can properly attend to.

An erroneous idea has gotten into the minds of many of our citizens that the tax is to build the Richmond and McKee road—that is not so. The tax is for the purpose of taking care of all our state roads of which the McKee road is one.

\$100 assessment pays 20 cents tax; \$1,000 pays \$2; \$10,000 pays \$20 averaging 12 cents per acre for the lands of this county.

The State Department says it will put up 50-50 with the county. They have been doing it, they are doing it, and they have the money—your auto license and mine, and the tax on the gas you and I burn, so why question that fact? It is going anyhow. Shall we bring it back for our roads or let it all go to some other county?)

I have tried to put all the facts before you plainly and clearly without arguing either for or against the tax so you may study the question for yourself, but if there is any point not clear I shall be glad to discuss the question with any man who desires to do so. There are many excuses a man might give for voting for or against the tax, but this is too big an issue for any one to stoop to excuses—whichever way you may vote, have a REASON and not an excuse.

J. D. GOODLOE

From Mr. Forbes

To the Editor of the Register: Sir:—Referring to Mr. Green Clay's letter in last Saturday's Register regarding the proposed 20 cent road tax:

Mr. Clay is entitled to the thanks of both sides for starting this discussion, for it is only by a full and frank discussion of the proposal that its relative merits and demerits can be shown.

Mr. Clay's letter, however, contains several errors which should be corrected. In regard to the farmer who does not live on an inter-county seat road, nearly all of the people in the county have to travel one of these roads to get to Richmond, and the improvement of these roads will be a direct benefit to them regardless of whether or not their own roads are improved. The case cited by Mr. Clay of the farmer who pays on a \$10,000 assessment may very well be considered. This farmer undoubtedly owns an automobile and the amount he will save in the operation of his car will easily be more than \$20 per year even if he has only three or four miles of good road to travel out of a possible nine or ten. This is not taking into consideration the money saved on the cost of getting his produce to market with a good road part of the way or the saving in time which will result from even a few miles of good road. As to increasing value of this man's farm \$120 in six years, it would be a small improvement which would not cause that much increase (about 1 1-4 per cent) in the value of any farm and it is a known fact that good roads increase property values all over a county, even to lands not directly touched by these roads.

It is, however, inconceivable in case this tax is voted and the proceeds applied to inter-county seat roads, that there will not be extensive improvement in the other roads. As matters stand now the Court feel, very wisely, that they must match as much state money as possible, in order to get as much road as possible for the money which they have available in the regular road fund. With the entire mileage of inter-county seat roads off their hands, the regular road fund, accruing from the 25-cent levy, can be applied to nothing but other than inter-county seat roads.

Mr. Clay makes a point of the fact that the money received from the state and federal aid comes out of the taxpayers' pockets now in various forms. This is true. It is also true that they will continue to pay their automobile license tax, their one cent per gallon gasoline tax and their

three cent ad valorem tax regardless of whether they vote the 20-cent road tax or not. But, if they do not provide some way to match the state and federal aid funds, the money paid in these taxes will be spent in other counties than Madison, while if funds are provided to match the state and federal aid, this money will be spent at home on our own roads.

As regards the Richmond-McKee road, it is admitted that the opening of this road will benefit Richmond merchants. So also will it benefit Berea merchants, and the entire southeastern part of the county. And Richmond, Berea and the southeastern part of the county pay a large part of the county tax and are entitled to consideration as much as any part of the county. No especial favors are asked for the McKee road, but simply that it be built as a part of the State Primary system, to which it belongs.

As regards maintenance of roads, rather than constructing new ones, it should be known, but perhaps is not generally known, that the State Highway Department has a complete and excellent maintenance department, and that this department takes over all roads of the State Primary (or inter-county seat) system as soon as they are built up to State standards, and maintains them from that time on, without expense to the county. And the maintenance question is receiving constant attention as regards state roads. As for the maintenance of our county roads, in most cases these roads have passed beyond the maintenance stage and must be reconstructed before they can be maintained. There is no use in putting a new roof on the barn when the frame is rotten. Further, it is not proposed to build any new roads under this tax system except the three miles from the end of the present Big Hill pike to the Jackson county line but to reconstruct our old pikes so that they can be maintained. The McKee road is estimated to cost \$60,000 in Madison county, \$30,000 of which is to be paid by the county or 10 per cent of the amount to be raised by the proposed tax. Surely the southeastern part of the county is entitled to 10 per cent of this money.

State aid and Federal aid truly spells money out of the Madison county taxpayers' pockets; money which will be spent in other counties and leave Madison forever unless we can match State and Federal aid as offered.

H. deB. FORBES.

95000 = Ant. toy for Machine Co

50

Richmond Ky
Feb. 10th 1923

My dear Lorna

I was in Lexington
yesterday to see Mame Barmett -
on account of her mother's death,
But I could not get to see
you, because I was in Mame
Collins' car.

I enclose you an article about
Dr. Ginn's resolutions, that I have
had published in The Register
do not doubt you
D. P. Barmett

Mary Clay is about the same, and
comes over to see me nearly every day

2

in Europe for an indefinite time
I will try to arrange some cash
letters for us.

Clay & Alice and their three
boys are coming to Richmond
next week to see Mary on their
way to the Monacan Co. course.

They intend to remain in
Richmond for a day or two and
I have asked them to play with
me while in Richmond.

Let me hear when to
expect you

Love
D. C. Bennett

Richmond, Kentucky
June 11th, 1923

My dear Lema

Helen expects to leave home
for Europe on next Sunday the 17th
of this month.

Come over on Saturday, if
convenient to you, and we will
ride over to Manchester with
Helen on Sunday.

Bring all of your clothes when
you come, prepared for a long
visit. Helen is going to stay



Miss Louisa Clay
189 North Mill Street
Lexington
Kentucky

Richmond Kentucky
Dec. 25th 1929

Dear Loma

I have never seen a full report of the election as yet, and I intend to hope for the adoption of our constitutional Amendment, as long as I can.

I enclose your beads

I miss you very much. You must come over and spend the Christmas with us.

I think Mary is a little weaker. But she comes over to

my home nearly every day,
She allows Gene Selby to help
her with a bath once a week.

With much love

Sarah C. Bennett

P.S. Marfield has succeed. in
selling my two Narridheat houses
and I am investing the money I
got for them in registered government
bonds. Also the 50,000 Belle Bennett
left me.

Helen has gotten some beautiful
evergreens, and put them around
the front of my home.

I received your check for me,
and put the money in bank.

Good-Morning Band.



ORDER OF DANCES.

1. QUADRILLE.....
2. QUADRILLE.....
3. VALSE.....
4. *Lancier*.....
5. QUADRILLE.....
6. *Gallop*.....
7. QUADRILLE.....
8. *Lancier*.....
9. VALSE.....
10. QUADRILLE.....
11. *Lancier*.....
12. QUADRILLE.....
13. *Gallop*.....
14. QUADRILLE.....
15. QUADRILLE.....
16. REEL.....

ENGAGEMENTS.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5. *J. M. Stone*
6.
7. *W. E. Walker*
8. *R. MacLeod*
9.
10. *Jim Bennett*
11. *Wm. Stone*
12. *Simpson*
13.
14. *W. A. Stone*
15. *R. MacLeod*
16. *Jim Bennett*

Miss S. Gray.

RICHMOND, KY.
NOV 24
11:22 AM
1923



Prof Lena a Clay
189 South Mill Street
Lexington
Kentucky.