

Dear Miss Laura

I had the opportunity to talk to Mr Charles Staples about his information about Walter Warfield. He sent me afterwards the information which I am enclosing. I hope it will be interesting to you. He found no connection I believe

between him and Elisha
Warfield.

Very affectionately,
Elizabeth W. Smith.

April 3, 1934.

ERN RAILWAY SYSTEM
RAILWAY BUSINESS



Miss Laura Clay.

193 N. Mill St.

Lexington -
Ky.

Warfield
Family data.

225 So. Limestone
Lexington
Ky.

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Fayette County Clerk's Office-

Deed District Court Book "A", page 467- December 29, 1797
Trustees of the Town of Lexington conveyed
to Walter Warfield - - In Lot No. 66, at
corner of High street, Mill street and to
Water Street - - .

Deed Book No. 2, page 99- September 1, 1826- Heirs of Walter
Warfield - to wit; Charles Henry Warfield,
Annie Henry Blair, late Annie Warfield, and
William C. Warfield conveyed to their mother
Margaret, widow of Walter Warfield, deceased-
house and lot in Lexington, etc- - .

Deed Book "M"- page 269- March 18, 1815, Walter Warfield and
William Morton, conveyed to John Ward, John
D.Clifford, et.al., lot at corner of Market
street and Church street, purchased by them
from Mrs. Keziah Barton, for the use and
benefit of the Protestant Episcopal Church
and no other - -etc.

Deed Book "20" page 477- Sept. 19, 1842- Joice Warfield, widow
and Sarah Winston Warfield, Matilda Warfield,
and Walter Warfield, heirs of William C.
Warfield, conveyed lot at corner of Short and
Upper street to E.K.Sayre, etc-.
(same information found in Deed 21, p. 554)

Marriages

Bondsmen.

Annie H.Warfield to Wm.R.Blair- Apr.15, 1818- T.T.Crittenden.
Walter Warfield to Martha Wilson, Feb.27, 1806- Wm. Leavy
Benj. Warfield to Nancy Barr, Sept. 13, 1837- W.P.Warfield.
Elisha Warfield to Maria Barr, Jan. 14, 1805- Robert Barr,
Elisha N.Warfield to Eliza B.Brand, Oct.13, 1846- H.W.Brand,
Lloyd Warfield to Mary Barr, Nov.8, 1821 - Samuel Steele,
Lloyd Warfield to Elmira Eubank, July 2, 1850- F.K.Hunt.
William Warfield to Mary C.Breckinridge-Dec.21, 1848- Elisha Warfield
and R.J.Breckinridge.

Dr. Walter Warfield

Dr. Warfield was born in Maryland, and removed to Kentucky sometime during the year of 1796. He was given an in lot by the trustees of the town of Lexington, by deed dated December 29th 1797 which would indicate he had been a resident for a period of more than twelve months.

He seems to have died in July or August 1826 as an administrator for his estate was appointed in last named month. According to deed (Book 2, page 99) he left a widow named Margaret and children- Charles Henry Warfield, Annie Henry Warfield and William C. Warfield.

Dr Warfield was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church and with William Morton purchased from Mrs. Keziah Barton the lot at corner of Market and Church streets, which he held until 1815 at which time conveyance was made to the vestry of said church. Tradition has it that after this church was erected there was some difficulty in completing the payments and furnishing the pews etc, so a lottery was devised under the auspices of Walter Warfield, William Morton, Daniel Sheely and John Wyatt, but this was not entirely successful so Warfield and Morton agreed to put up necessary amounts and that their pay in the pew rents. The parish was regularly organized in 1809, by election of a vestry consisting of Walter Warfield, John Jordan, Wm.Morton, John Wyatt, W. McBean, David Shirley and John Johnston.

Of his children no record has been found of Charles Henry Warfield. Annie, married Wm. R. Blair on April 15, 1818. No further record found.

William C. Warfield married away from Lexington as his record is not found in this county. He died in August 1842 and left a widow Joice Warfield, and issue- Sarah Winston Warfield, Matilda Warfield, and Walter Warfield.

Dr Warfield's estate at time of his death in 1826 consisted of sixteen pieces of property inside the town of Lexington.

GRADE { Available Phos. Acid %
 Ammonia - - %
 Potash (K₂O.) - - %

FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL		MAY		SUMMARY			Average Cost Per Ton
Material	Expenses	Material	Expenses	Material	Expenses	Material	Expenses	Material	Expenses	Tonnage	

Co. Mr. Clay + Mary Jane Warfield massed Feb. 18, 1885,

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TONNAGE PRODUCTION BY MONTHS.

FACTORIES	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN'Y	FEB'Y	MARCH	APRIL	MAY												
1 Virginia Division.	<p>Cassius Marcellus Clay, & Mary Jane Warfield Clay, his wife, married Febr. 18, 1853.</p> <p>The said Cassius M. Clay, was son of Brig. Gen. Green Clay, the said Green Clay was the first Deputy Surveyor of Kentucky, and first historian of Clay family. In 1798 was sent as a delegate from Madison County to the Virginia Convention, which ratified the Constitution of 1777 of the United States.</p> <p>Said Green Clay was the son of Charles Clay, born Jan. 31, 1716, died Febr. 25, 1789, in Powhattan. Wife of said Charles Clay was Martha Green, born 1719, married 1741, mother of said Green Clay.</p> <p>Said Charles Clay was the son of Henry Clay, born 1672, died Aug. 3, 1760, at "The Beech", and Mary Mitchell, his wife, born Jan. 1693, died Aug., daughter of William and Mary Mitchell, of Chestfield Co., Virginia; buried west side Swift Creek.</p> <p>The said Henry Clay was the son of Charles Clay, born 1638, died 1686, and his wife, Hannah Wilson, daughter of John Wilson.</p> <p>(Charles, Thomas, and Henry Clay, three sons of Sir John Clay, of Wales, sent by their father to Virginia in, reign of Queen Elizabeth, under Sir Walter Raleigh, with \$10,000 specie, settled on James river, near Jamestown, of Henrico Co., Virginia.)</p> <p>Wm. Matthew Clay, older brother of Green Clay, was father of Mary Clay, whose death by fire is recorded on the memorial monument at the entrance of Monumental Church, in Richmond, Va., in memory of those burned to death in the theatre on whose site the church is built, Dec. 26, 1811.</p> <p>Anne Warfield Clay, wife of Spottwood Dabney Cranshaw, born Nov. 20, 1785-9, married Nov. 6, 1786, daughter of Cassius M. Clay, born Oct. 19, 1810, died July 23, 1903, and his wife, Mary Jane Warfield Clay, born Jan. 20, 1815, died April 24, 1900.</p> <p>Said Cassius M. Clay, was the son of Gen. Green Clay, and his wife Sally Lewis, Green Clay, born Aug. 14, 1757, died Oct. 24, 1828. Sally Lewis, born Dec. 14, 1776, died 1867. Married, March 14, 1798.</p> <p>The said Green Clay was the son of Charles Clay, born Jan. 31, 1716, died Febr. 25, 1789, and Martha Green, his wife.</p> <p>Said Martha Green, born Nov. 25, 1719, died Sept. 6, 1793, was the daughter of Thomas Green and Elizabeth Marston, his wife, born Nov. 25, 1672, died Aug. 11, 1757.</p> <p>Said Thomas Green, born about 1665, died 1730, was the son of Thomas Green and his wife Martha Filmer. Said Martha Filmer was the daughter of Mayor Henry Filmer and his wife, Elizabeth.</p>																							
2 Petersburg																								
3 Alexandria																								
4 Staunton																								
5 Lynchburg																								
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7 Allison & Addison																								
8 Richmond Chemical Works																								
9 Pinner's Point																								
10 Baltimore																								
11 North Carolina Division	<p>Said Charles Clay was the son of Henry Clay, born 1672, died Aug. 3, 1760, at "The Beech", and Mary Mitchell, his wife, born Jan. 1693, died Aug., daughter of William and Mary Mitchell, of Chestfield Co., Virginia; buried west side Swift Creek.</p> <p>The said Henry Clay was the son of Charles Clay, born 1638, died 1686, and his wife, Hannah Wilson, daughter of John Wilson.</p> <p>(Charles, Thomas, and Henry Clay, three sons of Sir John Clay, of Wales, sent by their father to Virginia in, reign of Queen Elizabeth, under Sir Walter Raleigh, with \$10,000 specie, settled on James river, near Jamestown, of Henrico Co., Virginia.)</p> <p>Wm. Matthew Clay, older brother of Green Clay, was father of Mary Clay, whose death by fire is recorded on the memorial monument at the entrance of Monumental Church, in Richmond, Va., in memory of those burned to death in the theatre on whose site the church is built, Dec. 26, 1811.</p> <p>Anne Warfield Clay, wife of Spottwood Dabney Cranshaw, born Nov. 20, 1785-9, married Nov. 6, 1786, daughter of Cassius M. Clay, born Oct. 19, 1810, died July 23, 1903, and his wife, Mary Jane Warfield Clay, born Jan. 20, 1815, died April 24, 1900.</p> <p>Said Cassius M. Clay, was the son of Gen. Green Clay, and his wife Sally Lewis, Green Clay, born Aug. 14, 1757, died Oct. 24, 1828. Sally Lewis, born Dec. 14, 1776, died 1867. Married, March 14, 1798.</p> <p>The said Green Clay was the son of Charles Clay, born Jan. 31, 1716, died Febr. 25, 1789, and Martha Green, his wife.</p> <p>Said Martha Green, born Nov. 25, 1719, died Sept. 6, 1793, was the daughter of Thomas Green and Elizabeth Marston, his wife, born Nov. 25, 1672, died Aug. 11, 1757.</p> <p>Said Thomas Green, born about 1665, died 1730, was the son of Thomas Green and his wife Martha Filmer. Said Martha Filmer was the daughter of Mayor Henry Filmer and his wife, Elizabeth.</p>																							
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Family Register.

Henry Clay Sen. Born 1672

Henry Clay Sen. Died August 3rd, 1760

Mary Clay (Mitchel) his wife born Jan'y 1698

Mary Clay departed this life Aug. 20th 1777

Charles Clay son of D.^r Born Jan'y 31st 1716

Died February 25th 1789
Green Clay's Father aged 73

Martha Clay (Green) his wife Born Nov. 25th 1714

Martha Clay, Died in Powhatan Sept. 6th 1798

Green Clay's Mother aged 74

Martha Clay (Bount Dutey) married
Hopkins Lewis, Born July 13, 1768

Green Clay, married to John Downer
May 14, 1795

C. Warfield Clay, eldest son
of Cassius Marcellus Clay
and
Mary Jane Warfield Clay.
Born May 18, 1835. Died
July 29, 1852, Taken after
death. Lying by his side is
his brother, Cassius M. Clay, jr.
He was born January 27, 1845.
Died April 15, 1857.

Editorial in
Lexington Morning Herald
of
July 24. 1903

Cassius M. Clay.

To those who knew Cassius M. Clay in the prime of his life no words of praise of his extraordinary physical strength, grace, and attractiveness could seem overdrawn. He was a stalwart, virile splendid man in the perfection of his superb physical manhood. We remember him with vividness since 1849 - possibly since 1847. In 1849 he was in his 39th year - in the glory of a perfect physical manhood. He was strong agile, handsome, courtly graceful. His personal qualities were equally as remarkable. He never knew fear: his courage was calm, alert, intelligent, absolute; he was generous, frank, polite, gracious, gentle in manner - even deferential in his habitual intercourse with those he respected. He was also an unusually well educated and trained scholar; and he was possessed of ample fortune and was of the highest social rank.

In intellect he was vigorous, direct, powerful. It was therefore not strange that he lived a marked and distinguished life. The details of that career have been published in other columns of this paper and in various other journals. His life and

Career form part of the history of his state and country and he will neither be forgotten nor will his deeds pass from the memory of men. But his career was far different from what he and his friends expected when he entered life.

He was a Kentuckian of eminent ancestry; he inherited a magnificent landed estate in the very heart of his state, and with this estate inherited a large number of slaves; he was a member of a large slave holding family, raised, educated and trained in a slaveholding community.

There was apparently nothing in his antecedents, in his blood in his antecedents in his blood, in his education and his environments that gave any intimation of the career that has been his. It is to the basic quality of this dead citizen and soldier on which that career was based to which we desire to call

attention this morning: his splendid loyalty to his convictions. He had grave faults; in his maturer life and old age he may have developed weaknesses; his faults have been buried in his grave, and his weaknesses we can leave to his

Maker. His loyalty to his convictions and his courage in maintaining that loyalty will be remembered when his faults and weaknesses are forgotten and the mere detail of his life and career are crusted over by the debris and sediment of time. We hold up for praise and imitation this superb loyalty to the truth as he saw it; this dauntless and unflinching courage in advocacy of that truth.

Personally we always had a strong feeling of friendliness to him. During the legislative service of the father of the writer,

John Speed Smith - one of the most elegant gentlemen Kentucky ever had - was his roommate and he was the brother-in-law of Cassius Clay. Sixty years ago that father was advertised to speak here and threats were reported to have been made that he should not speak; and Cassius Clay voluntarily and without giving notice of his purpose was present and stood within a few feet of the speaker. In 1849 our father was a candidate for the Constitutional Convention in this county and Cassius Clay in Madison county and he was several times at our house - we were then living on the corner of Second and Jefferson streets. Long afterwards Gen. Clay advocated the election of Mr. Greeley and he and the writer several times spoke from the same platform. In 1876 he advocated the election of Samuel J. Tilden and again we spoke to the same audiences; and we were members of the convention which convened in Louisville on January 18th 1877, to protect against the seating of Mr. Hayes as President; and at all times the writer was the recipient of unfailing courtesy and kindness at his hands; and in our intercourse he was the singularly pleasant, courteous and suave gentleman - and when drawn out full of most interesting reminiscences. When he was scarcely more than a youth he became convinced that slavery was a wrong - a moral wrong to the black, a moral wrong in the white and an evil in every respect; and was economically a tremendous blunder, and he devoted his life to the emancipation of the slave. The story of his

life in its devotion to this remarkable purpose is full of romance, and is heroic. Yet he was an American of Anglo Saxon descent and so was always obedient to the law and kept himself strictly within the law in all he did. He fought the proposition of those who claimed there was a higher law than the constitutions and statutes of the Republic and the States, and denounced the violence and crimes of John Brown and his followers. He stood on the law, and fought for its repeal or modification according to the orderly methods of our race; and he always appealed to the law and his right under the law in the defense of his own position and of all his acts; and in his long, stormy, violent life amid a hostile people and with unmeasured prejudice against him he was never found by court or jury beyond the limits of the law. This is the rare and impressive quality of the English-speaking races, that they are not, even in their revolutions; breakers of the law, but adhere to the spirit and forms of customary law and established institutions; even in their revolts they appeal to immemorial rights and take on the forms of traditional customs. And Gen. Clay was a striking illustration of the power of this hereditary disposition. He believed in the equality and autonomy of the states; he was a generous and magnanimous foe; and so his convictions and his nature forced him to oppose the policy of Reconstruction and to make another fight for the right of the states; for their restoration to all their rights and

and privileges as sovereign, equal, and independent states. And so he supported Greeley in 1872 and Tilden in 1876; and his habitual submission to the law and his unquestioning acceptance of the consequences of truthful obedience to right forced him to unite in the protest against against the rape of the Presidency and the improper declaration that Gen. Hayes had been elected. When President Hayes withdrew all the troops from the southern states and they were fully represented in both Houses of Congress General Clay returned to the Republican party. He saw what is given to few men to behold; he saw the victories accomplished in both of these wondrous contests; the slaves were freemen and all the states were equal and sovereign.

Perhaps it had been better for his fame - for the sweetness of his name if then he had lain himself down to death and been buried under the bluegrass he so loved - for always and everywhere he was indeed a loyal and loving son of his mother - Kentucky.

From 1810 to 1903 is a long period to be covered by a single life; it was a most wonderful period; crowded with marvelous events. Our readers can find no more interesting pastime and few as valuable as comparing that era with this; with making themselves familiar with the stupendous changes since then; and among those changes few are so pregnant of future glory and good as the change of the weak and divided United States with her free and her slaveholding states to the mighty and puissant Republic of this twentieth century with

her forty-five free commonwealths; and who can estimate the exact part played by this brave, loyal, dauntless spirit in the accomplishment of this change.

Let us walk backward with the mantle of our generous admiration and cover whatever there might have been of nakedness, and record in imperishable sentences all that was noble, heroic, devoted and loyal, in his long and strangely forceful and stormy life. Kentucky has given birth to no son like unto him; he will stand forever unique. She receives him in her heart to rest-forever - the first rest his restless, mighty resolute spirit ever knew since he sprang from her womb; let us pray that life's fitful fever o'er he sleeps well.

Martha Green (Patey) b. Nov. 25, 1719 - d. Sept. 6, 1793. Married our ancestor Charles Clay, son of Henry & Mary (Mitchell) Clay November 11, 1741. Her older sister, Lucy Green, married his older brother, Henry Clay. Martha had 11 children, viz: Mary; m. Stephen Sockett; Cleaver; Baptist minister. Charles (Episcopal minister) Henry, a soldier in Revolution. Thomas, m. Polly Callahan. Bettie & Lucy, twins, Bettie m. Alexander Murray; Lucy m. William Shaxton, 8. Matthew, 9 Green, b. Aug. 14, 1757. - 10. Priscilla. 11 Martha (called Patey) Married Hopkins Lewis. No children.

Lucy and Martha Green are identified as the daughters of Elizabeth ^(Marston) Green deceased, whose will was probated Jan. 24, 1760, in Amelia County. She gives to each of them 20 shillings, to buy a gold mourning ring, and to Martha, to buy a gold ring. Elizabeth Marston was b. Nov. 25, 1672, d. Aug. 11, 1759, daughter of Thomas Marston, Justice of Henrico in 1682, and his wife, Elizabeth (Marvell) Marston.

Lucy & Martha Green were daughters of Thomas Green and said Elizabeth Marston. Thomas Green was born about 1665, and died in 1730; was the son of Thomas Green, "The Sea Gull" (so called from

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having been born on the sea en route
to America) and his wife, Martha Filmer,
daughter of Major Henry Filmer, officer
of the British army of occupation. Ma-
jor Henry Filmer and his wife Elizabeth
were married in England. They settled in
James City County, which he represented
in the House of Burgesses in 1642.

Thomas Green, "the Sea Gull" was the son
of Thomas and Martha Green, immi-
grants from Holland, who settled near
Petersburg, Va.

Sallie Lewis, born 1776, d. July 7, 1867
married Green Clay March 14, 1798. was
daughter of Thomas Lewis (born March 8, 1749)
who married Elizabeth Payne, Oct. 27, 1773.
Thomas Lewis d. in 1809, and Elizabeth Payne
Lewis March 24, 1827. One of their sons
was Douglas Payne Lewis; who served in the
Revolutionary war, and was a member of
the first Constitutional Convention of Ky.
~~Another~~ Another of their daughters was Nancy Lewis
married Gen. James Garrard.

Sally Lewis' father, Thomas Lewis, was the
son of Stephen and Elizabeth (Affitt) Lewis.

John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, 1899.

Cassius Marcellus Clay, b. Oct. 19, 1910—
July 23, 1903. Son of:
Brig. Gen. Green Clay, b. Aug. 14, 1757—Oct. 31, 1828;
married Sallie Lewis, ^{March 14, 1798} b. ^{who was} Died July 7, 1867,
Green Clay, son of Charles Clay, b. Jan. 31,
1716—Febr. 25, 1789, in Powhatan County, Va; mar-
ried Martha Green, Nov. 11, 1741. She was b. Nov.
25, 1719, d. Sept. 6, 1793. Sister of Lenny Green, who mar-
ried Henry Clay's ^{elder} brother of Cephalus Clay.

Charles Clay, son of Henry Clay and
Mary (Mitchell) Clay, ~~born~~ Jan. 21, 1672
Henry Clay, was born about 1672, and
died at "The Baells", August 3, 1760, of the
"rattles", aged 88 years. He was married
about 1708-9 to Mary Mitchell, b. Jan.
1693, and died "of flux", Aug. 7, 1777. (Gen.
Green Clay's manuscript).

Said Henry Clay was son of Charles
and Hannah (Wilson) Clay. Said
Charles Clay was born 1638, d. 1686. Said
Charles Clay was son of Captain John
Clay and his wife Anne. He arrived in
this country, in Virginia in the Treasurer,
Febr., 1613. His wife Anne, in the Ann,
August, 1623. He was living in Charles
City in 1624. In 1616 there were only
350 English people in all North America.

Dates on Grandpa Clay's monument at White Hall.

Genl Green Clay, Died October 31st, 1828, aged 71 years, 2 months and 17 days. That is, born Aug. 14, 1757

End Comes To Miss Laura Clay

erald - June 30, 1947

(Continued From Page 1)

of the federal Congress and placed in the hands of the state legislatures, where they rightly belong."

Was Staunch Democrat

The ability displayed by Miss Clay in the campaign for equal rights for women and her staunch adherence to the principle of state rights as opposed to federal authority combined to bring her into several political campaigns.

Her ability as a speaker was utilized frequently by the Democratic party, of which she was an ardent member. In 1928, at the age of 79, she made a dozen addresses in behalf of the presidential candidacy of Alfred E. Smith.

The high point in her political career came, however, in 1920. She was a delegate to the national Democratic convention of that year at San Francisco and when the gathering got into its long deadlock over the aspirations of William G. McAdoo and James M. Cox for the first place on the ticket, she had the thrill of hearing her own name placed in nomination for the place. She was given one vote on the thirty-sixth ballot.

Miss Clay for many years was a member of the Democratic Woman's Club of Fayette county.

Not all of Miss Clay's work was along political lines. She helped to establish the first juvenile court in Kentucky and for years managed a farm of 275 acres.

Miss Clay once said she was never heckled or treated rudely by an audience.

Was No Feminist

She believed that the granting of the vote to women had resulted in better polling conditions. But this was due, not to "the refining influence of women" but rather to the fact that "men would not stand for women what they had long stood for themselves," she asserted.

Despite all her work on behalf of her sex, Miss Clay was no believer in the feminist movement. She was opposed to all organizations that sponsored the association of women for political or business favor, declaring that the existence of such societies indicated that there was a difference in the capabilities of the sexes.

"I don't think that women are superior to men, but neither do I think that men are superior to women," she explained.

Miss Clay was honored on her 90th birthday, Feb. 9, 1939, at a dinner given by the Lexington Business and Professional Women's Club of the Y. W. C. A. It was one of her last public appearances.

Miss Clay was a member of Christ Episcopal church.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. S. Dabney Crenshaw of Richmond, Va., and a number of nephews and nieces. Among them are Green Clay, Warfield Bennett, Miss Helen Bennett and Mrs. Laura Garland, all of Richmond, Ky., and Mrs. George E. Haw, S. Dabney Crenshaw Jr., Miss Fannie Graves Crenshaw and Caly Crenshaw, of Richmond, Va.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Feb 28, 1935

MRS. BENNETT PASSES AWAY

Daughter of Gen. Cassius M.
Clay Succumbs at Her Home
in Richmond After
Long Illness

AIDED WOMAN SUFFRAGE

[Special to The Herald]

RICHMOND, Ky., Feb. 28.—Mrs. Sally Lewis Clay Bennett, 93, daughter of Gen. Cassius M. Clay, died at noon today at her home on West Main street following a long illness. Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the grave in the Richmond cemetery.

Mrs. Bennett was born November 18, 1841, and was the second daughter of General Clay and Mary J. Warfield Clay. Her father was minister to Russia from the United States under President Lincoln and was one of the earliest advocates of the abolition of slavery, a cause in which Mrs. Bennett supported her father.

Mrs. Bennett was one of the first of her generation to uphold and work for the enfranchisement of women and all her life was active in philanthropic enterprises. She devoted much time and energy to the woman suffrage movement, advocating this cause both by speeches and written articles.

She was the among the oldest, if not the oldest citizen of Richmond at the time of her death.

Mrs. Bennett was married on June 3, 1869 to James Bennett, who died in 1908, and she is survived by their five children, Mrs. Mary B. Collins, of Bellingham, Wash.; Mrs. Elise B. Jefferson, of England; Miss Helen S. Bennett, Mrs. Laura B. Garland and Warfield Clay Bennett, all of Richmond, and two sisters, Miss Laura Clay, of Lexington, and Mrs. Anne Clay Crenshaw, of Richmond, Va. Nine grandchildren also survive.



DEATH ENDS CAREER—The above likeness of Miss Laura Clay was taken from a photograph, made several years ago, which now is the property of Sayre College, formerly Sayre Institute, from which she was graduated in 1865.

Herald — June 30, 1941

End Comes To Miss Laura Clay

Brief Illness Fatal To Suffrage Leader

Miss Laura Clay, nationally known as a pioneer in the woman suffrage movement and a member of one of the state's most distinguished families, died at 6:15 o'clock last night at her home at 193 North Mill street after an illness of several weeks. She was 92 years old.

The daughter of the late Gen. Cassius M. Clay and Mary Jane Warfield Clay, she was born on a farm in Madison county Feb. 9, 1849. Her father was minister to Russia when Alaska was purchased by the United States. He was a cousin of the famed statesman and orator, Henry Clay.

Miss Clay was educated at Sayre Institute, Lexington, where she was graduated in 1865; at Sarah Hoffman's Finishing School, New York, from 1865 to 1866; the University of Michigan in 1879-80, and Kentucky State College, now Transylvania, from which she was graduated in 1870.

Soon Began Active Career

She soon started an active public career. After 18 years of effort by Miss Clay and other Kentucky women, the Kentucky Equal Rights Association was formed at Covington in 1888. She was its first president and held the office 22 years.

One of the chief aims of the association was to extend the property rights of married women. Wives had few property rights then and the struggle to convert the Kentucky legislature was a long one, but finally it was successful. Laws were also passed making husbands and wives joint guardians of their children instead of vesting all the authority in the father.

Miss Clay carried this fight into other states, making many addresses in the 90's in Indiana, Ohio and Kansas, where her eloquence won many converts.

Next she enlisted in the nationwide fight for equal suffrage. She was one of the women who took the stump in this campaign and on one tour was away from Kentucky nearly a year, speaking chiefly in Kansas and Ohio.

Miss Clay was of the suffrage school which contended that the franchise should be granted by the individual states. When the federal suffrage amendment was adopted, she contended that it overrode tenets of local self-government in other sections of the Constitution and she hoped to live to see the day when "such local matters would be taken from the hands

(Continued on Page 11, Column 4)

14 crald July 1, 1941
She Spoke For Freedom

In the land of "the new freedom" it is difficult to realize that when Miss Laura Clay became the first president of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association half a century ago women could not make wills, could not enter into contracts or own personal property. The right to vote was hardly considered then to be even an aim. Later widows were given the right to vote in school board elections.

In the long fight for suffrage and for better government, Miss Laura Clay was an earnest advocate of equal citizenship for women.

In these days when the most fundamental of all human rights are being denied in some countries once again, the voice of this great woman whom all Kentuckians admired and esteemed, is stilled. She lived within her time to see full and equal rights of suffrage, of property ownership and of the right to service in public office upheld and recognized not as a gift bestowed but as an inalienable and essential foundation of free government.

In her nineties, Miss Laura Clay considered the responsibilities of citizenship as much an obligation as a right. Within the commonwealth where her life's work was done no better example could be found of unselfish consideration of public problems upon their merits than the study and interest which she gave to the issues of the day. From time to time the Democratic Women's Club of Fayette county, of which she was a member, observed her birthdays or invited her as guest of honor to occasions largely arranged for the purpose of giving to members an opportunity of hearing her express her views. Her belief in women's rights was not limited to civil and political rights only but included a belief that women in church affairs, in business and in other activities should have complete equality of opportunity. Those were not for their own benefit only but to eradicate those barriers which mar and mock the democratic processes.

In the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco in 1920, which she attended as a delegate, she received a vote for president. To her, personally, the vote was complimentary but it was more significant as a recognition of the aims which she had espoused.

Thirty years ago those few women who went to Frankfort to discuss with members of the Kentucky legislature their objectives for progressive legislation and for advancement of Kentucky's laws for the benefit of children were often met without any profound appreciation of the unselfish service they were rendering. In the face of an antagonistic attitude not only toward women suffrage but toward legislation in behalf of women and children in labor and in life, Miss Laura Clay soon gained the respect of all not only for her viewpoint but for the earnest and intelligent purposes for which she was a spokesman.

The chasm that her life and work have bridged seems now never to have existed. The past seems now never to have existed as it was when she began to champion the rights which are enjoyed today and the protection which is afforded to the women and the children of this state and many others.

Because of her wisdom and sincerity, her clear thinking and determined efforts many today know a better life and enjoy a larger freedom.