

## MRS. JOHN M. CLAY DIES AT HOME HERE

Widow of Son of Henry Clay Was  
Remarkable Horse Owner  
and Breeder

Mrs. John Morrison Clay died Monday morning, at her home, Ashland-on-the-Tate's Creek pike. She was 85 years old and had been ill all winter, but not in a serious condition until within the last few weeks.

Mrs. Clay was the widow of John Morrison Clay, the youngest son of Kentucky's famous statesman, Henry Clay. She was Miss Josephine D. Russell, the daughter of Colonel and Mrs. William H. Russell, and was born in Fulton, Mo. Her father was a well known man, in public life, a jurist and statesman and the devoted friend of Henry Clay. She was twice married, her first husband having been Colonel Eugene Erwin, the grandson of Henry Clay, who was killed at the Battle of Vicksburg, and Mrs. Clay's two daughters, surviving her, are children of that marriage, Mrs. Minor Simpson, of Ashland-on-the-Tate's Creek pike, and Mrs. M. W. Anderson, of Kansas City, who came several days ago called by her mother's illness. She leaves also five grandchildren, Eugene Erwin Simpson, Miss Josephine Simpson, Henry Clay Simpson, Henry Clay Anderson, and William Matthew Anderson.

The funeral of Mrs. Clay will be held Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Christ Church Cathedral and the burial will be in the family lot at the Lexington Cemetery.

In the passing of Mrs. Clay, Lexington loses perhaps the most remarkable woman of her generation, a writer of prose and poetry, a successful business woman, fearless and intrepid in spirit, brilliant in mind and admired for beauty, wit and all the womanly graces as well. She was engaged in activities which won for her a national fame, having been the world's most noted and successful woman owner and breeder of fine thoroughbred horses. At the death of her husband, Mr. John Morrison Clay, August 10, 1887, she succeeded to his business of rearing and racing thoroughbreds and under the Ashland colors, yellow and blue, won several of the classics of the turf.

From an illustrated article which appeared in one of the magazines several years ago, called "The World's Most Noted Woman," the following is quoted:

"With scarcely half a dozen brood mares in her possession, Mrs. John M. Clay, proprietor of the famous Ashland Stud in Kentucky, has had more great horses than a number of the famous stock farms in which thousands of dollars are invested.

"Mrs. Clay strolls among her mares and horses at will. They all seem to know her and have learned to appreciate the tender care with which she guards them.

"Of all persons interested in breeding and rearing the thoroughbred horse in America there are none as picturesque as this Kentucky authoress who, in spite of this and other business cares, finds time to give the public popular stories, her latest novel, 'Uncle Phil,' being now in its second edition."

The life of Mrs. Clay was closely interwoven with the Henry Clay family, as her first husband, Colonel Erwin, whom she met while on a trip to California, was the son of Henry Clay's fifth child, Anne Clay, his father being James Erwin, of New Orleans. Being brilliant and accomplished her father took special pride in her and she was said to have been more like him in intellect than any of his eleven children.

Colonel Erwin was an officer of the Sixth Regiment of Missouri Volunteers, and was killed while leading a charge against the enemy at the battle of Vicksburg. He had been a leader on half a dozen battlefields where he was noted for his coolness, daring and bravery. After his death Mrs. Clay and her children came to live at the home which was part of the original tract of land settled by Henry Clay more than 100 years ago, and several years later was married to Mr. John Morrison Clay, the youngest son of the "Sage of Ashland" and the namesake of the founder of Morrison Chapel.

Of the pioneer and aristocratic lineage

## RECKLESS BUYING ERA NEARING END

Federal Reserve Bank Statement  
Takes Hopeful View of  
Situation

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Nation-wide reports from federal reserve bank officials, made public tonight, disclose their opinion that the post-war era of "extravagance and reckless buying" by the public is nearing its end.

"A hesitation, if not actual recession" of prices is noted, and the federal reserve board's statement summarizes its advices as indicating a generally more hopeful view of the country's business condition than for several months.

While the price changes were shown by the board not to be universal, they nevertheless were regarded as positive and of importance as a basis for reckoning what the immediate future holds.

Relief from the high prices for the consumer will not be completely obtained

on all sides, it seemed the birthright of Mrs. Clay to perform unusual duties and to meet with success in her undertakings. While a girl she read the works of the world's greatest writers and with her observations on many trips with her father she was thus splendidly equipped. An article says of her that she first appeared in print against her will. She had been on a trip to Mexico with her father and as they came through California she was asked to write of some of their experiences. She refused the requests, but her father required her to comply and after writing the article she added as a postscript, "my father made me write this." The editor was very much amused at this and when the article appeared it was widely read and copied in the other California papers.

Mrs. Clay took great pride in her old home and its many valuable Clay relics. It was there that the wife of Henry Clay, Lucretia Hart, died.

Among the most noted of the writings of Mrs. Clay were: "John Logan," dedicated to Henry Clay; "Some Little of the Angel Still Left," "Uncle Phil," and her last work, "The Sport of Kings," a group of racing stories.

A patriot, a suffragist, a musician and a scientific gardener are some of the other qualifications of this wonderful character.

During the Civil War she devoted a great deal of time to work for the soldiers and when the United States went to war with Germany she recalled her accomplishment of knitting and made more than 100 pairs of socks. She had not finished her self-imposed quota when the armistice was signed and so she sent many of the pairs of socks to Belgium to be presented to the common soldiers of the country which had won her admiration. She said that in all her life nothing had given her more pleasure than this knitting she had done for the soldiers.

At a meeting of the International Conference of women held in Toronto, Canada, a few years ago, Mrs. Clay was asked to make an address. She could not be present, but wrote the address and sent it to be read at the conference. Her subject was, "Women and the Professions." After expressing her opinion that women could succeed in all the professions, Mrs. Clay tells in the address of her experience as a horse breeder. She says that she sold one yearling for \$8,200, which won three of the Kentucky Derby honors and the rich Realization stake of \$41,000. The address was printed in the Kansas City Star and in several other newspapers.

Private funeral services will be held for Mrs. Clay at Christ Church Cathedral Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, the Very Rev. Robert K. Massie, dean of the Cathedral, officiating. The pallbearers will be: Dr. Thomas Bullock, Thomas H. Shelby, W. K. Berry, James A. Todd, Colonel C. D. Clay, Captain T. J. Clay, Prof. Walter Patterson, Louis des Cognets. Burial services will be private.