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The Family of Francis Marion Shaw Newsletter

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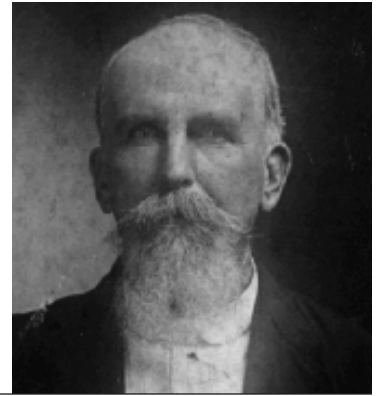
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THE FAMILY OF FRANCIS MARION SHAW



EFFIE CORDELIA SHAW 1871-1932

Once again, we take a brief look at the life of another daughter of Francis Marion and Rachel Shaw, Effie Cordelia Shaw. She was

their fourth child and second daughter, born 3 April, 1871, possibly in her grandfather Jeremiah Shaw's home near Ray's Mill, Georgia. Her father didn't acquire the 122 acres where the Shaw farm was located near Possum Branch until the following March of 1872, from the senior Shaw.

Effie probably attended primer school at King's Chapel, just south of the family farm. The family adhered to the Primitive Baptist faith, attending preaching at the Pleasant Church near Old Lois.

Almost two miles north of the Shaw farm, across the Adel-Ray City road, on the west bank of Cat Creek, was the John C. Clements farm. Clements owned six hundred acres elsewhere in the county, but had purchased 50 more acres on Cat Creek about 1875, and built his home there. John had a large family of eleven, the oldest being William D.

What contact the two families had is open to speculation. Perhaps their Primitive Baptist faith brought them together, at least

socially. Maybe the educational pursuits of the children brought them together. On one occasion in 1884, John Clements attended an estate sale at the home of Jeremiah Shaw, conducted by Francis Marion. Could it be that this was the moment that William and Effie found an opportunity to

initiate a romance? Whatever the circumstance, the couple entered the bonds of matrimony on 9 December, 1888. William was 21 years old; Effie, 16.

They spent the first two years of marriage in Willacoochee, perhaps learning the naval store business. He would later return to the area to help his brother-in-law, Francis Arthur, operate a turpentine still. There also, was born their first child, a son, Claude Columbus, on 16 December, 1889.

By 1890 the Clements family of three had moved to Adel, where they had no real property and only a horse and some household goods valued at \$81.

However, William D. Clements was an industrious worker and had a good sense of business. One year later he purchased commercial property (continued on page 2)

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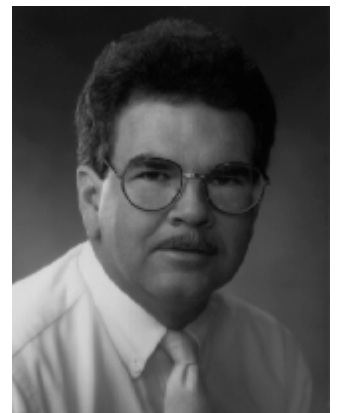
The Family of Francis Marion Shaw is a non-profit newsletter published semi-annually or more frequently for the benefit of the descendants of Francis Marion Shaw and his wife, Rachel Moore Allen Shaw.

Historical contributions are requested. Your family histories including character traits, religious affiliations, professional pursuits and vital information such as birth dates and places, marriage dates and places, and death dates and places, are all welcome.

Photographs help make the newsletter come alive. If you have some special photos of your ancestors which you would like to share with all of the family, please make a copy print of it and send it on to the address below. Do not send the original photo unless you have no desire to have it returned.

*Send your non-returnable manuscripts and photo submissions to:
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THE EARLY YEARS

About the turn of the century, The former mayor of Adel, William D. Clements and his wife, Effie C. posed for this endearing portrait. The dominant personality of Mrs. Clements seems to be only slightly overshadowed by her portly stature.

SALUTE TO THE SOURCES

A special thanks goes out to the descendants of William and Effie Clements, especially William A. Clements, Jr. and B. W. Clements, Jr. for sharing their photos and family histories.

in Adel city valued at \$500. And their family had increased with the birth of Mary Ellen 'Minnie', on 28 December, 1891.

By 1894 he had established his mercantile business, Clements & Company with total assets of \$2157. The Clements family were civic minded and were instrumental in the commercial development of Adel. In 1896 William was elected the first Mayor of Adel, also serving terms in 1897, 1898, and 1899.

That same year, in August of 1896 Effie was caught up in the religious fervor in the community, and was baptized in the Salem Primitive Baptist Church. Perhaps she was prompted by the influence of her brother, Chester, who had just returned from Louisiana, and had obtained employment in Adel. He espoused a gospel enthusiasm in his letters home, and traveled from Adel to

Lois with his sister on frequent occasions, often after attending preaching. What ever stimulated the interest, it caused William to also embrace the faith with some commitment when he was accepted by the congregation in October of the same year.

Their lives were filled with a growing business and a young family. The Clements had one of the finest homes in Adel built on Hutchinson Avenue. But even though they were involved with their own pursuits, they often visited Willacoochee, Lois, and Ray City, helping their extended families with management of their farms and property.

It wasn't until 7 September, 1899 that they again expanded their own family, when their second son, Burie Webster 'Buster', was born. Just two years later, on 5 September, 1901 their third son, William Augustus 'Gus' was born.

As Adel grew, so did Clements & Company. William added casket building to the services offered and acted as the funeral director. Out of this business grew the Wiseman Funeral Home. And the Clements family was growing, with the addition of Effie Idel, born 27 July, 1905.

Effie C. was an optimist and was a dependable neighbor and one of the community's most respected citizens. And though she was generally a cheerful person to be around, she also was a strict disciplinarian, and her voice was one which could be heard for some distance meeting out sharp reproof. She also did not spare the rod.

In 1908 she lost a child near birth, and shortly thereafter, her oldest children started marrying and leaving home. Her young brother Chester, suddenly died in December of 1912. Effie's spirit must have been challenged as she tried to come to peace with her losses. Her own health was failing, her patience wearing thin. She was outspoken and her fiery Irish opinion caused her exclusion from membership in the Salem congregation in 1919. Yet she held to her faith.

Her sister, Ida Parrish, and her mother died in 1921; her father in 1922. Four years later William D. Clements, suffering stomach cancer, died 2 November, 1926. Perhaps because of the tragic losses of her husband and family, she found her strength in her enduring faith and her membership was restored in the Salem church in April, 1931.

But as is so often the case, her reprieve was brief. On November 24, 1932, she inadvertently stepped on a nail, and blood poisoning set in. Within ten days, though given every attention, Effie Cordelia Shaw Clements passed away. Her funeral was attended by a large concourse from several counties in Georgia and Florida. In closing, the congregation sang her favorite song, "Jerusalem, My Happy Home." Effie and William rest at the Woodlawn Cemetery, in Adel, Georgia. —BLS



THE CLEMENTS HOME

Pictured above in this circa 1909 photo is the fine home of William and Effie Clements. Standing in the front yard is, left to right, Claude Clements, Mabel Allen, Minnie Clements, and Lowndes Shaw. The home was located on Hutchinson Avenue in Adel. Unfortunately it was torn down many years ago and was replaced by a car lot.

THE CLEMENTS CHILDREN

*Top: Claude Clements, 'Minnie' Clements Sirmans, Burie Clements
Bottom: William 'Gus' Clements, Effie Clements Daughtrey*

**BITS AND PIECES FROM
THE EDITOR—**

T here are only three more months before the 2nd annual Francis Marion Shaw Family reunion. There is still a lot of work to be done by organizers and family representatives. Photos need to be sorted and identified, vital dates checked and verified, and histories gathered and written. Announcements will be sent out and phone calls made to make sure that the word is out. This year should be even more exciting and enjoyable than last if that is possible. Many of the missing family connections have been contacted and have already made commitments to attend. Several have sent their family organizations and photos to me so that they can be included on the family board. Game sheets for the youngsters are being worked on, so be sure that you share your past issues of the Francis Marion Shaw Newsletters with them. A little knowledge of our family history might just help them be a prize winner come August 6!

Historical Tours

Last year many of you received a packet of self-guided tours of home sites and community points of interest that relate to our family history. As you make your plans to attend this year's reunion, dust off these packets and set aside an extra day to travel about the county area and visit these sites. Many of them are falling into disrepair or have already been lost to the elements. If you didn't receive a packet last year and would like to add this activity to your itinerary, just drop me a line and I will send you a set in time for the reunion weekend. The packet includes photos, brief histories and maps and directions to each site. It really puts you in the mood for a great old family reunion.

—Bryan Lee Shaw

FAMILY GROUP SHEET

FRANCIS MARION SHAW / Farmer
Born: 5 January 1846, Lowndes County, Ga
Died: 1 January 1922, Ray City, Berrien, Ga

Married: 1866
Buried: Pleasant Cemetery, near New Lois, Berrien, Ga

RACHEL MOORE ALLEN SHAW
Born: 1 December 1835, place unknown
Died: 15 April 1921, Ray City, Berrien, Ga

First marriage to Barzilla Allen
Buried: Pleasant Cemetery, near New Lois, Berrien, Ga

CHILDREN

Francis Arthur Shaw 1866-1933
Ida Jane Shaw 1868-1921
Jesse Shelby "Dock" Shaw 1869-1941

Effie Cordelia Shaw 1871-1932
Lacy Lester Shaw 1873-1944
Chester David Shaw 1875-1912

FAMILY GROUP SHEET

EFFIE CORDELIA SHAW / Housewife
Born: 3 April 1871, Ray's Mill, Berrien, Ga
Died: 2 December 1932, Adel, Cook, Ga

Buried: Woodlawn Cemetery, Adel, Cook, Ga

SPOUSE

WILLIAM D. CLEMENTS / Merchant
Born: 30 October 1867, Berrien, Ga
Died: 2 November 1926, Adel, Cook, Ga

Married: 9 December 1888
Buried: Woodlawn Cemetery, Adel, Cook, Ga

CHILDREN

Claude Columbus Clements
Born: 16 December 1889, Willacoochee, Berrien, Ga
Died: 20 March 1946, Ft. Meade, Polk, Fl

Mary Ellen (Minnie) Clements
Born: 28 December 1891, Adel, Berrien, Ga
Died: 21 March 1970, Ray City, Berrien, Ga

Burie Webster Clements
Born: 7 September 1899, Adel, Berrien, Ga
Died: 31 March 1960, Mulberry, Polk, Fl

William Augustus (Gus) Clements, Sr.
Born: 5 September 1901, Adel, Berrien, Ga
Died: 31 October 1963, Panama City, Bay, Fl

Effie Idel Clements
Born: 27 July 1905, Adel, Berrien, Ga
Died: 8 October 1984, Adel, Cook, Ga

Infant Boy Clements
Born: November 1908, Adel, Berrien, Ga

SPOUSES

Mabel Allen Married: 9 October 1909
Born: 14 March 1891
Died: 18 February 1969, Ft. Meade, Polk, Fl

Pleamon Nicholas Sirmans Married: 23 August 1910
Born: 29 February, 1892
Died: 23 February, 1961, Ray City, Berrien, Ga

Margaret (Maggie) Turner Married: 5 May 1920
Born: 25 December 1898, Ray's Mill, Berrien, Ga
Died: 20 September 1980, Polk County, Fl

Lillie Mae Pafford
Gladys Christine Grantham Married: 1925
Born: 11 October 1905, Hawkinsville, Ga
Died: 11 December 1955, Adel, Cook, Ga
Mamie Odell Taylor Grantham
Born: 13 June 1912

Virgil Lacy Daughtrey, Sr. Married: 25 Dec 1925
Born: 1 November 1905, Barretts, Lowndes, Ga
Died: 29 April 1971, Adel, Cook, Ga