

Old Clarkson Album
Notes by Pamela Hutchison Garrett

This collection of photos is from a family album belonging to my uncle, Rowland Clarkson (1993). He does not remember exactly when or how he acquired it, but believes it was given to him by his father, Albert Luther Clarkson before his death (1981), or that it was among Albert Clarkson's things at the time of his death. The album is very old and Rowland has had it rebound.

Clues suggest that the photos are Clarkson family members and that the album probably came to Samuel Edwin Clarkson Sr, then to his son Albert Clarkson and then his son, Rowland Clarkson. Revenue stamps on several of the pictures are related to taxation during the Civil War, so at least some of the pictures are that vintage. Clues suggest that these old photos date primarily from 1865-1875.

The album is large and contains space for probably 50 pictures. Identifications written on the latter pages of the album suggest that it may have been full of photos at one time. Presently there are eighteen old Clarkson photos. Rowland Clarkson has moved all the old Clarkson family photos to the front of the album and has added pictures of his wife, Germaine Millspaugh's family, and of their own family.

Only two photos have a name identification written on the photo. There are a few old Clarkson names written on miscellaneous pages toward the back of the album. These were probably related to photos that were once on those pages, but have now been moved or removed.

These are:

Kate Conway Clarkson of Baltimore, Maryland;

Etta ? Clarkson 15 months old;

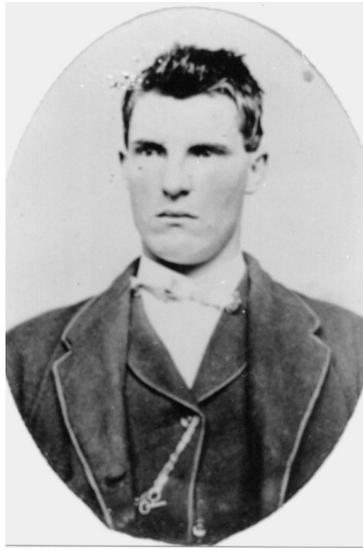
Cammie Hall Clarkson 21 months old.

There were two photos in the group that I did not have Rowland copy for me because I already have them in my Clarkson – Fry - Hutchins photo collections. They were a sweet baby picture of Etta Clarkson and a picture of two young women in hats, identified on the back as Maggie Sales and Aubin Fry. There is also a picture that I feel sure is Cammie Clarkson as a young woman, which I did not copy because I already have several pictures of her.



Father and daughters? These photos were probably taken at the same time and may well represent a father and his two young daughters. The family is well dressed and the female clothing suggests the period about 1865-1874. There is no revenue stamp on these photos and they were likely taken post Civil War. The girls are probably between the ages of five and eight, suggesting their birth years between about 1860-1868, but that is not certain. The girl on the left appears to be a little older than the girl on the right. The age of the gentleman with bushy beard and receding hairline, is difficult to determine. A guess might put him between 25-35. We could approximate that he was born between 1830-1845.

Photographer: AW Wood, Artist, corner 4th and Market Street, St Louis, Missouri



Young Lady in Hat – Handsome Gentleman. These two pictures are tintypes and could possibly have been taken at the same time. The paper frames around them are similar, but not identical. The frame of the female portrait has an imprint on the side reading Potter Patent Mar 7, 1865, probably a patent for the frame. This is likely a fairly close dating for the photo. But, the absence of a revenue stamp might suggest that the photo was taken after the Civil War, perhaps in 1867-68. On the reverse of the female photo someone has written Kate C Clarkson. In 1865 Kate C Clarkson was about 10 years of age, but this photo is more suggestive of a young woman at least age 14-18. So, the identity remains in question. Photos in the album have been moved from their original places, but there is a pair of facing pages in the album that read: Augustus Helimer – Kate Conway Clarkson. Consideration should be given to whether the male photo could be Augustus Helimer. This name does not appear in any family record.

Kate Conway Clarkson was the daughter of Joseph Albert Clarkson and Annie Maria Judson Anderson. She was born 25 Jun 1855 in Virginia. She moved with her parents from Virginia to Baltimore Maryland after the Civil War and married her cousin, Richard Arnold Mundie about 1878.



Young Lady standing by a chair, her age is difficult to determine but possibly age 14-18. On the front of the photo is printed, "JH Phillips, corner Third Street and Washington Ave, St Louis" On the reverse of the photo is a stamp that says Internal Revenue. Hand written on the stamp is JHP Sep 1864. This would be the date of the photo. So, we might guess that this young woman was born about 1845-1850.



Precious Baby. This is a photo of a tintype. There is no identification. The date is difficult to determine, but the simplicity of the setting and the fact that it is a tintype, would suggest pre-1870. The baby appears to be propped in a sitting position and is likely under the age of one year. On one empty page of the album is the written ID "Cammie Hall Clarkson, 21 months old", but this baby is not that old.



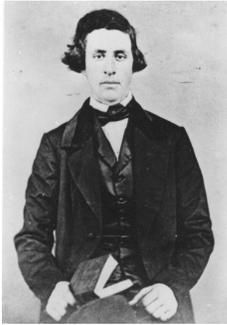
Young woman seated. This young woman could be a matron. Her age might be about 20-30. No ID except an Internal Revenue Stamp, hand-dated 1866. This would be the year the photo was taken and might suggest birth year for the subject of about 1835-1845.



Two men of similar appearance. These pictures were probably taken at the same time. They could be a father and son or two brothers. Ages are hard to determine. One of the pictures has the hand written date on the back, 6 Mar 1871. A guess at the ages might suggest that the older man is between 35 and 40 (born 1830-35) and the younger between 15 and 20 (born 1850-55), but this could be incorrect.
ID "WW Kinnard, Photographer, Potosi, Missouri.

These five photos were all taken by the same photographer:
Hall and Evans, Photograph and Portrait Gallery 63 and 65 Fourth Street bet Olive and Pine, St Louis

The cardboard backing is identical on all five photos and each has a 3 cent Internal Revenue stamp on the back with an "x" in ink across the stamp, but no handwritten date. This stamp tax was in place during the later Civil War years. The picture of the young man with the book is slightly different. The cardboard backing is the same design as the others, but a different color and there is no "x" thru the stamp on the back. It may have been taken at a different time than the others or the photographer may have just had a slight change of materials.



Ages of the subjects are difficult to determine, as are possible relationships. My guess would be:

Young man with book, about age 20-25 (born 1840-45)
might be a brother or husband to –

Young woman with book, about age 15 to 20 (born 1845-50)

Man in uniform, about age 25-35 (born 1830-1840)
might be husband of –

Young woman, about 20-30 (born 1835-1845)
possibly the parents of-

Little boy in checked trousers, about age 2-3 (born 1860-65)