**Clardy Family Biography**

There are six members of the Clardy family buried in Mt. Olive Cemetery. They are all members of Samuel Robert Clardy’s family, and to date, no headstones have been found for the members of this particular family.

Samuel Robert Clardy was born to Charles and Millie Clardy in 1856. His older brother Henry was born in 1845. When Samuel was four years old, his father died. The family was located in District 4 of Montgomery County in 1870 and were employed as farm laborers. Listed just below their household on the census is Aaron Griffy who was a rich farmer in District 4. The Clardy family were members of a household headed by Polly Griffy, so it is possible that they were working on the Griffy farm at this time. Just northeast of the Griffy farm was J. Clardy’s farm which might have been the place the family was enslaved before the Civil War.

The 1880 census shows that Samuel’s mother, Millie, and his brother, Henry, were still living in District Four, but Samuel was not with them. On November 18, 1879, Samuel married Annie Reaves and started his own household. Currently, mention of Samuel and Annie has not been found in the 1880 Montgomery County census. There is no record of Samuel and Annie being blessed with children. Sometime before 1887, Annie either died or was divorced from Samuel because on May 31, 1887 Samuel married again to Laura Harris. Again, there is no record of children in this marriage. Laura was either dead or divorced by 1891 because on November 12, 1891, Samuel married Minnie Beaumont. This was Samuel’s last and longest marriage.

The 1870 census listed Minnie Beaumont, age 4, living with her mother Lucy, age 30 and sister Bettie, age 8 in District 1. By 1900, Samuel and Minnie had 4 children, and Lucy Beaumont was also living with them. The four children were: Irvin, age 5, Minnie, age 3, Sam, age 2, and George W., age 2 months. Samuel was working as a teamster. Ten years later, Samuel was working as a Porter in the American Snuff Factory which was located at 820 Commerce Street. He was employed by them just as they were establishing the company in Tennessee. He would be employed by them for the rest of his working life.

The 1910 census shows the family living on South Elder Street in a house that they owned free of a mortgage. They had added five more children to the family: Lucy, age 6, Minerva, age 5, Cecil L., age 3, Hazel, age 2, and William B., age 9 months. The 1911 Clarksville City Directory listed the family as living on Martin Street.

October 14, 1917 began a streak of tragedy for the Clardy’s that would last for four years. Pulmonary Tuberculosis ended son George’s life that day. It killed daughter Minnie on June 22, 1918, and daughter Minerva on July 4, 1918. On June 21, 1919 son Irvine died from a general infection from follicular tonsillitis. This means that the infection in his tonsils spread throughout his body. These four children were buried in Mt. Olive Cemetery.

The 1920 census listed the remaining family living on Martin Street. Samuel, age 65, was still working at American Snuff Factory and now owns the Martin Street house free of mortgage. Minnie, age 46, was keeping house and taking care of children Lucy, age 17, Cecil E., age 12, Hazel, age 11, and Willie B., age 10. Tragedy was not done with the Clardys. On August 23, 1921, Pulmonary Tuberculosis claimed daughter Lucy. She was also buried in Mt. Olive.

The 1929 Clarksville City Directory listed Samuel and Minnie living at 904 Martin Street. William B. was listed separately as a student living at 904 Martin Street. On June 27, 1921, Minnie died of congestion of the lungs from acute bronchitis. The informant on her death certificate was her son Sam who was living at the Clardy’s first house at 635 Elder Street. She is buried in Mt. Olive.

The 1930 census listed Samuel, now age 60, retired and living at the Martin Street house with Cecil, age 22, Willie, age 19, and Hazel, age 20. The house was valued at $250. Cecil was working as an odd job laborer. On May 3, 1936, Samuel died of Lobar Pneumonia and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery. His funeral was held at Fifth Ward Baptist Church, and his obituary lists seven surviving children: Bell, Mary, Annie, Hazel, Cecil, Willie, and Flem.

Samuel Robert Clardy was a remarkable man. He left an estate worth $11,495.52. Cecil was the executer of the estate. After the bills were paid, seven heirs received $1,484.31 each.

**Bibliography**

1877 Map of Montgomery County, Tennessee

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