

## Henry Clay

He was the leader of the Wig Senators, he was the greatest orator the fire of his eyes his voice was distinct and clear, rich and Captivating. his head hung on a long neck, when speaking he would step forward and backward. He was rather restless when sitting in his seat. He was remarkable fond of snuff and he often displayed bad temper to me and brought blushes to my little face. when I would go to him with messages from ladies and gentlemen sometimes I thought he was excusable. Often when he was preparing to speak he was annoyed by persons sending to him to admit them to the floor of the senate to hear him speak. He was not over cautious in debate of phrases and epithets.

I shall never forget that Henry Clay was tall and slender his mouth was large, his forehead high as an orator he ranked the highest, his smile when speaking was peculiarly happy his voice was deep and commanding his actions when speaking were gracefull, I must be permitted to say that from the time I entered the Senate as a Page up to the time that I pen these words which is the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 1885, I have never heard so equal as an orator.

Thursday Feb - 2. 1832

Mr Clay spoke in reply to Mr Hayes speech another immense crowd attended. The ladies had the blessing of the two pages for they had to bring the chairs in and I must say that they were put closer together than I ever saw them before every inch was occupied, even the platform of the Vice Presidents desk was occupied by the ladies. After Mr Clay had concluded his speech for that day the Senate adjourned on account of <sup>he</sup> being very much fatigued. A very handsome lady beckoned to me to come to her. She was sitting very near to Mr Clay and said these very words, "wont you go to Mr Clay and say that a lady wishes to kiss him for that speech. That it was the grandest that she had ever heard him make and she had heard him make most all of his speeches in the senate." That lady was the wife of a Senator, of course I declined to deliver her message for while she was talking to me Mr Clay left out of the door of the senate. On Monday Feb 6. Mr Clay finished his speech he spoke more than 3 hours. The crowd was greater than on any former day. in the galleries men stood on each others shoulders and it was impossible for us to furnish seats on the floor. The ladies stood in "Compact Mass" and this for five hours.

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Henry Clay-

In the Senate Jan'y 11. 1832. made one of his powerfull speeches on a resolution submitted by him that the existing duties upon articles imported from Foreign Countries ought to be forthwith abolished. The Senate Chamber on this day was crowded with Ladies and Gentlemen even the floor was taken posession of by the ladies and we poor little pages had to bring chairs in and place them between the seats of the Senators this was the day that I stepped on that ladies & corn that I speak of in another part of my notes which created quite an excitement.

Quite an exciting scene occurred to July 6-1832, between Mr. Clay and Mr. Smith of Maryland immediately after Mr. Clay finished speaking. Mr. Smith took the floor and replied to Mr. Clay in the conclusion of his remarks he said he could draw a picture of the gentleman, but he would ~~a~~ restrain Mr. Clay under great excitement defend him. Mr. Smith said he should take his own time, Mr. Clay alluded to the age of Mr. Smith now about eighty - Mr. Smith replied that he would have him to know that he was not too old, that he was prepared to meet him on any and every occasion.