

# Kentuckians and Civic Action



Kentucky Historical Society

Colonial Dames at Middletown, KY, Kentucky Historical Society

## ***Mary Florence Taney***

Kentuckian Mary Florence Taney created multiple organizations that still work to improve communities.

Born in **Campbell County** in 1856, Taney founded three national heritage organizations. In 1907, she established the Colonial Daughters of America. In 1915, she founded the Colonial Dames, 17<sup>th</sup> Century. In 1921, she led the creation of the Dames of the Court of Honor. The last two continue to perform charitable work.

As a community leader and author, Taney wrote *Kentucky Pioneer Women* and the lyrics for the “Kentucky State Song.” In 1889, Gov. Simon Bolivar Buckner appointed her the first female licensed Notary Public in Kentucky. Taney was active in centennial celebrations for both the City of Covington and the commonwealth. She helped to forge the way for women by her contributions to the arts and her work with the government.

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100 W. Broadway, Frankfort KY | 502-564-1792 | [history.ky.gov](http://history.ky.gov)

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