Ischua Valley Historical Society

LUCY THAYER WARING



Lucy Thayer Waring was born in San Francisco, California, but came east when a young girl to attend the Emma Willard school for girls in Troy, N. Y. Having completed her education, she went to Ingham University and took the fine arts course and graduated in two years. She then spent one year in New York City studying at the Art Students' League.

In 1898, Mrs. Waring entered the Law Department of the University of Buffalo, riding to and from Buffalo every day for two years. She graduated from there in 1900, receiving the degree of L. L. B. In July of the same year, she passed the New York State bar examination, since which time she has been a junior partner in the law firm of Waring and Waring. Mrs. Waring has the distinction of being the first and only woman lawyer in the County of Cattaraugus and the first woman to practice in the Supreme Court in Buffalo.

Mrs. Waring is an ardent believer in Woman Suffrage. In 1909, after being denied a vote in Franklinville on one pretext or another for two years, she made an application for a writ of mandamus to compel the Board of Inspectors to register her name as one of the electors of the Town of Franklinville. Judge Emery, before whom the motion was argued, wrote an opinion, in which he held that Mrs. Waring had the legal right to vote on all questions of appropriations, and that the Board of Inspectors must receive her vote when she offered it. Since that time, many women taxpayers of the Town of Franklinville have availed themselves of the opportunity to vote, and have made their influence felt in several instances.

Mrs. Waring is not a militant suffragist, but she firmly believes in the equal rights for men and women, and she quietly practices what she believes. She has a great many women clients, for it is generally known that she is on the side of the woman, every time.

From: Franklinville, NY in Pictures and Story, August 1914, Page 101

Lucy Thayer Waring passed away on April 2nd, 1946.