

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

CLAVERING, Lady Augusta, née Campbell

Inverary 31.III.1760 – Roseneath 22.VI.1831

The daughter of the 5th Duke of Argyll and Elizabeth Gunning, “Lady Aug. Campbell” appears in a list of women of fashion with the “amusements that they principally delight in”: her hobby apparently was painting in crayons (*European magazine*, .VII.1782, p. 16). The report is confirmed by one in the *London magazine* for .VI.1782, p. 259: “a wish to attain every polite accomplishment commends her attention to music and drawing, in which she excels.” At this time her name was linked with that of the Prince of Wales, but within a few years, in 1788, as “a very spirited lady”, she eloped with and married Brigadier-General Henry Mordaunt Clavering, a notorious gambler from whom she soon separated. As a small child she was herself portrayed by Katherine Read (exhibited in the Free Society in 1764); later portraits include a profile by Angelica Kauffmann.