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Title: Book-24

Provenance: Provided by Bryant Randall Clark to the Ezra T. Clark Family Organization's "History

Project"

Courtesy of Farmington Museum in Farmington, UT.

Category: **Volume**

Person:

Date:

"She knew poverty. She was without flour for a three week period. They dug roots and made shoes and coats of canvas. From 1871 to 1901 she was president of the Centerville Relief Society. She studied obstetrics and officiated at sixty births. It is said that she deprived her own children to give to the needy. To her children she would say, 'Maybe we don't need it.' The last two years of her life were spent in our home in Georgetown. We took the Semi Weekly Deseret News which carried a sermon of one of the General Authorities. She encouraged me to read the sermons. She deceased April 5, 1919 at the age of ninety-six.

"My mother was exceedingly independent and willing to make the most of circumstances without complaining. She underestimated her talents and capacity. She did have a vision of what training, education, and following the instructions of the Church leaders could accomplish in producing a well rounded and useful individual.

"Her high ideals and methods of obtaining them were misunderstood by all except a few friends. In poverty, she would occasionally buy celery, oranges, sweet potatoes, and items considered luxuries. To her children she would explain, 'Someday you will be away from home and I want you to know what these items are and how they are used.' My brothers and sisters wanted to go to a small circus in Montpelier which everyone else in town was attending. Her advice was, 'Wait until you can go to a good circus.' I had been to Ringling Brothers Circus in Salt Lake City and could reinforce her point of view. In contrast, she encouraged me to ride a horse to Montpelier (12 miles) to hear William Jennings Bryan lecture. I remember that he said that

the daughter of a rich ma had a poor chance for a good marriage.

"A funeral for an unpopular person was held at an inconvenient date for Mother to attend. To me she said 'I must go. There will not be many present.'
The 'must' help the unfortunate and unpopular had a lasting effect on me.

"Another remark she made to me had a similar effect: We made a trip to Utah in a carriage, stopping in Syracuse to visit her sister, Margaret Ellen Baird, in Centerville where her brother Melvin and sisters Mary Wooley and Thurza Tingey lived and in Morgan where some Randalls lived. Aunt Wealthy and children were in Georgetown to satisfy the legal conditions for father to prove up on a homestead entry of land

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