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Biography of Hyrum Don Carlos Clark by Owen Morrell Clark

When father was working his hardest, he was happy and when he was happy, he would be singing a Church hymn. Sometimes the same hymn would go on all day long.

As I look back on my father, with some of his sayings, I admire him for his great knowledge of the scriptures and good literature, usually Shakespeare. For instance, when I didn't act my age, he often put his hand softly on my shoulder and would quote from I Corinthians 13:11, "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child, but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

Quite often, when we helped father dehorn cattle, the cattle would bellow as their horns were clipped. Father would say, "Yes, we must be cruel to be kind." So many times I heard him quote: "this above all, to thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou cans't not then be false to any man."

I remember going with father and mother and the family in a white canvas-top buckboard wagon, toward Weber Canyon for a holiday picnic and a sudden storm came up and we stopped in an underpass of the railroad and waited a long time for the storm to pass. It was too late to venture on and we had to go home disappointed.

I also remember other picnics in Weber Canyon near Strawberry Bridge. He used to relate to us children, it was near here where he proposed to mother. The story was something like this: "If you were a fish in that river, and I was a fisherman and cast out my hook and line, would you take hold?"

The Community picnic: This was one of the great events of my early childhood. It was a hike to Little Lake up Farmington Canyon. We were glad to see father in a buckboard wagon and a team of horses and mother at his side. An enjoyable time was had by all. I remember father was an expert at lassoing. He could loop the rope around the head or feet of the cattle as they went charging by.

I remember the time we had a horrible east wind and during the night the phone rang. It was Heber Sessions, the station agent on the other end of the line. He said: "Hyrum, you'd better come down to the railroad. The top of your barn is on the tracks and the L.A. limited will soon be coming through." Although it was true, it was hard to believe.

Several months after our marriage and while working on the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge, my foreman told me to take a vacation. I lacked several months for a full year of employment and felt I wasn't entitled to it. But he insisted I take the vacation anyway. It became a blessing to us as Grace was able to visit with Father and went to the meadows and helped him milk cows that night. A few days later, while we were in Star Valley, father met with his fatal accident. We took some pictures of father in his work on the farm, which we prize.

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