kindex®
< Scan QR to view this original record online, or visit https://ezratclark.kindex.org/s/198893

Title: **Book-08**
Provenance: **Courtesy of the Farmington Museum**

Category: **Volume**
Person:
Date:

for her "professional" services of delivering a child, reporting at least twice a day for the first two weeks after the birth to bathe mother and child and check on their well being, and in some cases living in the home to do the cooking and housework, Mary E. received the exorbitant (or just a fee) of five dollars. (That is, when the head of the house was financially able to pay at all.) Her daughter, May, recalled an interval in a wealthy home in Salt Lake City, in which palatial residence she lived with her mother while a chronic invalid was being nursed.

She remembered most vividly all the heartache and the disgrace and loneliness of being left without a father, whom she loved and idealized from afar. She loathed the very sound of the work "divorce". She was not able to go visit with her father because of jealousy in the other home--not her mother, though.

A key to her distress may be indicated by a pathetic little incident related by Aunt Laura Clark Cook. She had accompanied May on an errand to the town merchandise store, where Joseph E. Robinson sat in his wheel-chair as its proprietor. It was close to Christmas. As if on a sudden impulse, painfully he extricated himself from his seat, hobbled over to a shelf of dolls, and placed one of the prettiest in the trembling arms of his estranged young daughter. Not once did May hear a word of censure from her mother, and in similar loyalty May could not stand any taint of criticism against either of her parents. When her own daughter once complained of Joseph E., "He must have been a harsh, unforgiving man", May protested with tears in her eyes and voice; "No, no, you must not say that. He was a terribly sick man for many years and a victim of circumstances beyond his control. He was kind, good, and noble, as was my mother. It is not right to blame either of them. They have both suffered enough."

Bryant A. Robinson, genealogical-minded son of Albert C., has recorded an intimate conversation with his father not long before his stroke and death, of which he writes; "I'm afraid my father did not have any close contact with his father as a boy. (Quite an understatement.) At that time his uncles were closer to him, and tried to fill a father's place. Father several times unawares caught his mother crying secretly. He never heard her say one unkind thing about Joseph E or in any way try to turn her children against him. He felt that her greatest desire was to be united with him.

Frequently Mary E. would gather her children with her in a private room, and they would take turns in family prayers. She taught them tithing and other principles of the Gospel, and strongly impressed them with its truthfulness. They fasted on Fast Day until after the testimony meeting, which was then al- ways in the afternoon. She went to Church regularly, and worked in Relief Society and Primary. She was in several plays that my Father can remember, on while living in Georgetown. When my father was on his mission to Belgium between 1897 and 1900 Mary E. was the one who always sent him money. She furnished the funds for my mother's passage to America, and when my parents were married in the Salt Lake Temple Mary E. was a witness and helped Mother through as her daughter. She delivered many infants. My Uncle John B. helped her to our house in Farmington on

January 8, 1904 when Carlos was born. (Carlos was the eldest son and second child.) Mary E. must have-been present at the birth of Virginia also. She died a few days later.