

TO THE FAMILY OF ELDER SAMUEL W. RICHARDS:

I take great pleasure at this time in reflecting on the past and presenting a few of my early recollection of the home life and happiness that crowned Samuel W. Richards and his wife, Mary Ann Richards.

I recall back in the early '70's when Willie was little more than a baby toddling around the house with one of those small chairs as common to homes in early days --- and if I remember correctly, the chairs had a hole in the bottom. Their home at the time was on a 45-acre farm located near 1600 South 21st East. I can see the home now, and the orchards — the row of shade trees on the south side of the house; the Bartlett pear tree on the southwest corner of the orchard; the red Asti ken apple tree ; the currant and lilac bushes, and also the trees of plum. Maybe I can't remember the particular flavor of that fruit, but many and many a visit we boys had to the orchard, and I recall with a pleasure memory the good times we enjoyed. And how well I remember the dear old lady, Auntie Cash, who made her home with the Richards family—how she mothered the family, and particularly Carrie Richards.

Unfortunately for us and the Richards family, our associations must cease for a while; they moved away from that home and farm. A great loneliness and sorrow came to our family when the Richard's moved to a place situated on about 15th East and 13th South, and after a short time, moved to Dixie, Washington County, Utah. For some years we missed the Richards Family, but one happy day they returned and our associations were renewed. Never did I visit a home that was such a real home as was the Richards. It was not a place any means, but a humble home filled with harmony, contentment, and the joy of living, and within those walls resided peace and happiness supreme. This is not my own opinion solely. I have heard this opinion expressed from dozens of other boys and girls, friends of mine at the time that visited their home.

After Richard's moved from this particular place, as I remember they located in Salt Lake. The address I don't recall at this time, but they then moved to another home later on 9th East and 27th South. The building was better than any other home they had lived in up to that time, but the same homelike atmosphere permeated this home. Their next home was on Fourth Avenue and F Street. (The home is now occupied by Carrie and Edith.)

Since growing to manhood, I have visited most of the States in the Union and most of the capitals; I have come in contact with governor and other State officials. I have attended conventions of social workers and psychologists, and have discussed many problems with them as to the welfare of the human race. But close my eyes and try to picture the most wonderful psychologist and man I ever met, the image of Samuel W. Richards comes before my eyes and I can only think of him as being one of God's real gentlemen.

I have heard him laugh and play with the children in his home; I have listened to him in Sunday School class; heard his sermons in public meetings; felt his sympathies bestowed to people bereaved at funerals, and in my judgment, I have never known a man who came so nearly being a child of God as Samuel W. Richards.

My father relates the instance of how graciously Queen Victoria received Brother Richards and he had the privilege of preaching the Gospel to h e r —a privilege few if any men have had.

Now expressing my own thoughts --- Brother Richards should have been adopted by the State or by the Church and his temporal wants provided for. He should have been at liberty to spend his time and effort

with the young people as a character builder, for he was a teacher and a philosopher. No boy or girl ever visited in the Richards home or associated with Brother Richards and his family but what they were greatly benefited and had a higher resolve to attain better and greater heights.

(Signed) BEN HARRIES