

Short Sketch of the Life of Paralee Amanda Church Miles  
by Sarah A. Wallace

Paralee A. C. Miles was born July 8, 1857 at Salt Lake City, Utah. She moved with her parents to St. George in 1861 and spent her girl hood days there during the hardships and privations of Pioneer life. Being the only girl of a family of five, she was well trained in house keeping and many a day she was left alone to do all the work as her mother was a midwife and spent much of her time in the homes of the sick. Paralee graduated from the Grade schools at St. George and was a bright and intelligent woman. At that time there were no High Schools there.

On May 24, 1874 she was married to William Gustavis Miles. They took a trip to Salt Lake in a covered wagon to be married in the Endowment House as the Temple in St. George was not completed. I remember mother telling about the trip. They took a load of dried peaches to sell to help pay the expenses. Another couple went with them, George and Cornelia Brooks. It took three weeks to make the trip.

Mother was noted for her hospitality and kindness. It seemed that her thoughts were always for others. Many women who knew her have told me she was one of the most loved women of her time and I remember her as such. She had the name of never speaking evil of any one. She was good company being humorous and witty, she delighted in telling jokes, but they were generally on herself. She visited the sick and took cheer and helpfulness wherever she went. Her friends were numbered as many among both rich and the poor.

She was a fine looking woman with black hair and blue eyes. Her height was medium. In her elder years she was thin. Many a time I combed her long black hair. Whenever she was tired she like me to get the comb and comb her hair and many a time I fussed with her hair combing and arranging it to suit myself.

In her early married life she had the misfortune of losing the sight of her left eye. A cataract grew over the pupil. She went to Salt Lake to see a specialist, but could not regain the sight. However she appeared to get along nicely with the sight of the one eye and the defect was not noticeable.

All her life she was a prayerful and humble servant of the Lord. She was an active Church worker. For 13 years she was Pres. of the West Ward Primary, and for 20 years a member of the St. George Stake Relief Society Board. She was an excellent public speaker and was noted for her gift in public prayer. At time of death she was the Chaplain in the American Legion Aux.