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HISTORIES
OF
American Schools for the Deaf,
1817-1893.

PREPARED FOR THE VOLTA BUREAU BY THE PRINCIPALS AND
SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE SCHOOLS, AND PUBLISHED IN
COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUR HUNDREDTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY
OF AMERICA.

EDITED BY
EDWARD ALLEN FAY, PH. D.,
PROFESSOR IN THE NATIONAL DEAF-MUTE COLLEGE, AND EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN
ANNALS OF THE DEAF.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOLUME II.
PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES.
ESTABLISHED 1854-1893.

WASHINGTON, D. C. :
THE VOLTA BUREAU.
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HISTORY OF THE UTAH SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

THE first effort to establish a school for deaf mutes in Utah was made in 1883, by Mr. John Beck, whose three eldest sons were deaf mutes. Mr. Beck sent a circular letter throughout the Territory making inquiry regarding deaf mute children. Through replies received he secured a list of about fifty such children of school age. At about the same time William Wood decided to educate his deaf mute daughter Elizabeth, and took her to the school at Colorado Springs. The length of the journey and the expense incurred caused him to decide to try and have a school established in Utah for the deaf and dumb. Hearing of Mr. Beck's efforts, he went to see him regarding the matter. They decided to petition the Legislature for the establishment of a school. The Governor was interested in the effort, and called the attention of the legislature to the condition of the deaf in the Territory. The petition for relief of the deaf mutes of Utah Territory was presented by Mr. Wood. It met with favorable consideration, and \$2,000 per annum was appropriated for the purpose of teaching a class of deaf mutes in the University of Deseret. An effort was made by the University authorities, through President Dr. John R. Park, to find a competent teacher of deaf mutes in the Territory. Not successful in this, he made inquiry in the East, and secured the services of Henry C. White, of Boston, a graduate of the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Washington, D. C. The school was opened in a room in the University building, August 26, 1884, with one pupil, Elizabeth Wood, of Salt Lake. At the end of the first month there were four pupils in

attendance. The total enrollment for the year was fourteen. The second year the enrollment increased to eighteen.

During these two first years the school was conducted as a day school. Pupils whose homes were outside the city boarded in various parts of the town. This was not found to be satisfactory, and efforts were made to establish a common home for all the pupils. The Legislature



LIZZIE WOOD.

[From a photograph taken in 1886.]

of 1886 was petitioned for an appropriation to build and equip an institution. This was not given, but the annual appropriation to maintain the class in the University was increased to \$3,000. This appropriation, was never available, as the entire appropriation bill was vetoed by the Governor for political reasons.

This action, however, did not interrupt the sessions of the school, the Regents of the University assuming the

authority of conducting it until such time as the Legislature would come to their relief.

In 1886 Prof. White opened a home for the pupils on his own responsibility. He depended for its support upon remuneration from parents able to pay for their children's board, donations from individuals and county aid. Salt Lake County supported five pupils, paying an annual appropriation of \$180 per capita. In 1887 the home was moved to the Hooper Place, where it remained for three years. In 1888 a law was passed to establish



FIRST HOME OF THE UTAH SCHOOL, 1886.

and maintain, in connection with and as a branch of, the University of Deseret a department to be known as the Institution of the Deaf Mutes. This law provided for the free education of the indigent deaf mutes and the establishment of a mechanical department. The sum of \$20,000 was appropriated to erect buildings on the University grounds. The annual appropriation was raised to \$5,000 per annum. In the spring of 1889 work was begun on a building for the Institution, to cost when completed \$50,000.

In 1889 Frank W. Metcalf, teacher of the high class in the Kansas Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, wa

elected principal of the Institution, and Prof. White assigned the position of head teacher. In February, 1890, the services of Prof. White were discontinued. In the fall of 1889 trade instruction was introduced, classes in carpentry, printing and shoemaking being formed. The first copy of a paper—the DESERET EAGLE—was issued October 10, 1889. An appropriation of \$35,000 was made in 1890 to complete the building commenced with the appropriation of 1888.

An ineffectual effort was made at this season of the Legislature (1890) to separate the Institution from the University and move it to Fort Cameron, an old abandoned military post in Beaver County, in the southern part of the Territory. The annual appropriation was raised to \$10,000. The Hooper building was given up in June, 1890, and a temporary home rented on Second South Street, which was occupied until December 24, when the new building was ready for occupancy. Articulation teaching was introduced in 1891. In 1892 another unsuccessful attempt was made to separate the Institution from the University and relocate it in a more desirable locality. Lack of available funds prevented the passage of a bill for this purpose.

The Legislature then memorialized Congress as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

Your memorialists pray: That by proper enactment the United States shall grant to the Territory of Utah, the ground and building in Salt Lake City known as the "Industrial Home," for the accommodation of its school of deaf mutes for the period of not to exceed three years, and thereafter to perpetually hold the same for use and benefit of the common school system of Salt Lake City, Utah, or to convey the same subject to the first use for three years, to the board of Education of Salt Lake City, aforesaid, as a part of the common school system of said city.

And your memorialists represent: That the deaf mute

school is now located on the grounds of the University of Utah; that the grounds and buildings of the latter are now inadequate, and that on account of the incompatibility of the two institutions, and urgent need of all the grounds and buildings to the University, it is necessary to at once remove the deaf mute school: that the Territory has no site or building to which the school can be removed, and it will take two or three years to provide a site and buildings; that these institutions, as well as the common schools are wholly maintained by direct taxation; that the benefits of the "Industrial Home" have heretofore been quite limited, and hereafter it will be of little use for the purposes for which it was constructed, and its usefulness would be greatly enlarged by devoting it to the purposes asked. And your memorialists will ever pray.

This met the approval of the National House of Representatives, but failed to pass the Senate.

We still remain a part of the Territorial University, the highest educational institution in the Territory. In this respect our school is unique, being the only school for the deaf so connected in the United States, if not in the world. This connection has been advantageous in that it has made the school from the start, a part of the public school system of the Territory, a birthright which will be of lasting benefit. As a branch of the University of Utah, the institution is governed by the University Board of Regents, nine in number, of whom Robert Harkness, Esq., is chancellor. The affairs of the Institution are directly under the supervision of a committee of the Board, known as the Deaf Mute Committee, composed of W. N. Shilling, Waldemar Van Cott, and Frank Pierce. The system of instruction used is that known as the Combined System. A special teacher of speech and speech reading is employed. A class of pupils is taught wholly by the oral method.

The trades taught are printing, carpentry, shoe-making, cooking, sewing and housework. That the industrial training is accomplishing its object is attested by two diplomas, a silver medal and a special premium of books from the Territorial Fair. The building occupied by the

school is a brick and stone structure, three stories in height, exclusive of the attic. Its dimensions are 127 feet by 70 feet 8 inches. The cost of the building was \$55,000. Back of the main building is a two-story boiler house and shop building, the shops occupying the upper floor. The Institution occupies a ten-acre block within six blocks of the center of Salt Lake City. The buildings of the University of Utah are on the same block. The governing board of the Institution, its officers and employees on January 1st, 1893, were:

BOARD OF REGENTS :

ROBERT HARKNESS,	WALDERMAN VAN COTT,
JAMES SHARP,	FRANK PIERCE,
LEWIS S. HILLS,	JOHN J. DALY,
JOHN W. DONNELLAN,	W. N. SHILLING,
FRANK J. CANNON.	

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY :

ROBERT HARKNESS,	- - - -	Chancellor.
FRANK PIERCE,	- - - -	Secretary.
JOSEPH T. KINGSBURY,	- - - -	Acting President.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :

ROBERT HARKNESS, Chairman.

JAMES SHARP,	LEWIS S. HILLS,
JOHN W. DONNELLAN,	FRANK J. CANNON.

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF :

W. N. SHILLING, Chairman.

WALDEMAR VAN COTT,	FRANK PIERCE.
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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL :**Principal :**

FRANK W. METCALF, B. D.

Teachers :

FRANK M. DRIGGS,	LUELLA STIFFLER.
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Teacher of Oral Class :

GRACE S. ZORBAUGH.

Physician,	CHARLES F. WILCOX, M. D.
Matron,	MRS. FLORENCE C. METCALF.
Supervisor of Boys,	FRED W. REYNOLDS.
Foreman of Printing,	F. M. DRIGGS.
Foreman of Carpenter Shop,	R. L. PATTERSON.
Teacher of Sewing,	MRS. F. C. METCALF.
Teacher of Cooking,	MRS. MARY McAVOY.

STATISTICS.

Principals and Teachers:

HENRY C. WHITE, A. B.,	- - -	1884—1889.
FRANK W. METCALF, B. D.,	- - -	1889— ———

Teachers :

FLORENCE CRANDALL,	- - - -	1888—1889.
HENRY C. WHITE, A. B.,	- - - -	1889—1890.
MRS. F. C. METCALF,	- - - -	1889—1890.
MARY KILPATRICK,	- - - -	1890—1891.
LUELLA STIFFLER,	- - - -	1890— ———
FRANK M. DRIGGS,	- - - -	1891— ———
GRACE S. ZORBAUGH, Articulation,	- - -	1891— ———

The enrollment of the school has been as follows:

1884-'85	- -	14.	1889-'90	- -	41.
1885-'86	- -	18.	1890-'91	- -	37.
1886-'87	- -	18.	1891-'92	- -	45.
1887-'88	- -	18.	1892-'93	- -	43.
1888-'89	- -	37.			