

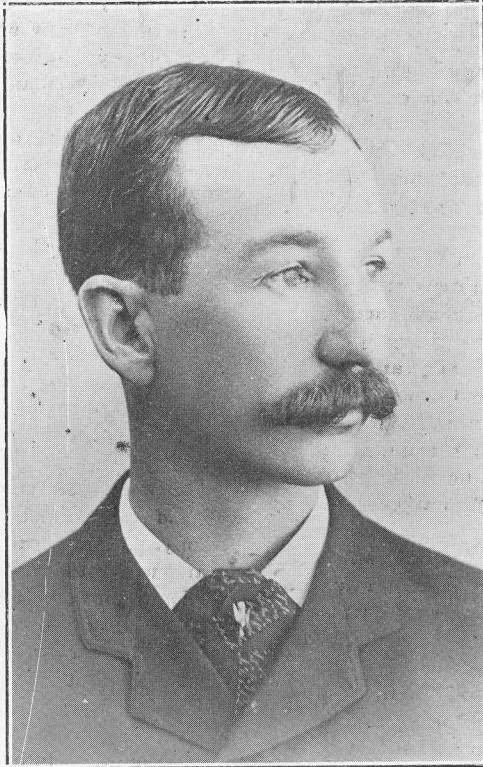
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Henry C. White

Born 1857. Died: Dec. 31, 1921

Prof. Henry C. White, first principal of the Utah School for the Deaf, died at the County Hospital in Chicago on the last day of 1921. Mr. White was a native of Roxbury, Mass. He first attended the Horace Mann Day School for the Deaf in Boston. In 1886 at the age of nine he attended the Hartford School for the Deaf as a pupil of Dr. Job

Williams who later was the principal of the Hartford School for many years. Graduating from Hartford, Mr. White entered Gallaudet College from which institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1880.

In 1884, upon the recommendation of Dr. Edward M. Gallaudet, president of Gallaudet College, Mr. White was appointed

principal of the Utah School for the Deaf by Dr. John R. Park, president of the University of Utah. The school, established by the Legislature as a department of the State University through the efforts of Mr. John Beck and Mr. William Wood, both parents of Deaf children, was opened in a room in the University building, August 26, 1884, with one pupil, Elizabeth Wood of Salt Lake City. At the end of the first month there were four pupils. The first year's enrollment was fourteen. During the first two years, the school was conducted as a day school. This was found to be unsatisfactory. In 1886 Mr. White opened a home for the pupils on his own responsibility. He depended for its support upon remuneration from parents able to pay, subscriptions, donations and other outside aid. In 1888 the State assumed the maintenance of the pupils and provided for their free education.

Mr. Frank W. Metcalf, from the Kansas School for the Deaf, was appointed principal in 1889 and Mr. White became head teacher, which position he held until February 1890.

It was during Mr. White's last year with the Utah School for the Deaf that Supt. Driggs received the appointment of supervisor of boys. He soon became acquainted with Mr. White, whom he found to be well educated, bright, alert and active. Mr. White felt very bitter against his successor and soon this bitterness caused trouble between these two men. An investigation was held before the Board of Regents after which Mr. White's services with the school were discontinued.

Much praise is due Mr. White for his efforts to keep the school going during those early years when it required money and courage. Few would have assumed the responsibility, but knowing as he did, the real value of an education to deaf children, Mr. White and his good wife, who was also deaf and a graduate of the Ohio school, kept the light burning until its rays fell upon the mountain peaks where it was seen by those in high places—then succor came. Glory to the pioneer who makes the trail!