

Our Hall of Fame

By DR. ELIZABETH PEET

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Some fifty years ago the New York University, in New York City, established a Hall of Fame, the first thing of its kind in the history of education. In it were placed the portrait-busts of both men and women who had been leaders of modern thought in various lines. A committee judged on the merits of the respective candidates for the honors--if candidates they can be called--and there were strict requirements as to their qualifications, one of which was the test of time. Although belonging to the modern age, no living persons could be represented in that Hall. They must have died at least 25 years before, and their fame must have lived after their death.

Here in Gallaudet we have our own Hall of Fame. To us it is interesting, as every one represented in it has been, at one time or another, identified with the education and advancement of the deaf. It is unique in many ways. Among the 28 names represented are the founder of the first school for the deaf in France, the founder of the first permanent school for the deaf in America, the founder of the first church for the deaf, the first deaf man to be ordained as a minister, and the founder of the first college for the deaf in the world.

The Abbe Charles De L'Epee

To take these names in chronological order, we must begin with the Abbe Charles De L'Epee, who lived from 1712 to 1789. He is generally considered the father of the French System of teaching the deaf, in which system signs were especially prominent. He was born at Versailles, and was educated for the ministry. Always anxious to help his people, he went about visiting and doing good. One day he entered a house where there were two young girls, twin sisters, sitting embroidering. The Abbe spoke to them but they made no reply, and he was greatly puzzled over their silence until their mother entered the room and explained that they were deaf and dumb. He became so interested in these two girls that it led him to investigate the matter of teaching the deaf.

It must be remembered that up to that time there had been no systematic attempt to educate the deaf as a class. The Abbe was thought to be wasting his time, but he persevered, and in 1750 he started a small school on the outskirts of Paris, with the two sisters as his first pupils. He supported the school entirely himself, and was like a father to his pupils. His success, and consequent fame, spread abroad, but he was always modest and retiring and would accept neither honors nor money. It is related that when the

Empress of Russia sent her Ambassador to interview de l'Epee and offered to bestow great honors upon him, he quietly refused, saying that if the Empress wished to help him, he would be grateful if she would send one or two men who could study with him and return to their own country to teach their deaf fellow citizens. The kind old Abbe died in 1789, and two years later his school was adopted by the National Government of France; it is still in Paris, a monument to the man who founded it, and one of the leading institutions of education in the world.

The Rev. Thomas H. Gallaudet

The next name in our Hall of Fame is that of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet. Most of you need no introduction to this man. You all know how he is revered in this country as the founder of the education of the deaf in the United States; how he lived in Hartford, Connecticut, and while still a young man became interested in the little deaf daughter one of his neighbors, Dr. Cogswell; how Dr. Cogswell and number of other prominent citizens of Hartford send young Gallaudet to Europe to study the methods of teaching the deaf there, with a view to returning and founding a school for the deaf in this country. But perhaps not all of you know that Gallaudet was unable to get the information he sought in England and Scotland, where the oral method was in use, and so, perforce, went to the Continent.

In England, Mr. Braidwood, the man at the head of the school, which was not a government institution, but a private affair, refused to give any information to Gallaudet unless the latter would agree to enter school as an apprentice-teacher. This would have entailed so much time and money that Gallaudet thought it would not be fair to the friends who had sent him over.

In London, Gallaudet had met the Abbe Sicard, trained by and successor to the Abbe de l'Epee as head of the school for the deaf in Paris. The Abbe Sicard, learning of the object of Gallaudet's visit to Europe, invited him to visit his school in Paris. So Gallaudet crossed over to France, where the sign language and the manual alphabet were then in vogue. He had gone abroad with an "open mind" as to methods, and thus it was quite by chance, perhaps some will say by Divine guidance, that he became interested in the combined method and brought it to America.

In Paris, he was received by the Abbe Sicard with every courtesy and given all the opportunity needed to study the French methods of teaching the deaf. There he met the young Laurent Clerc, a graduate of that school, who was at that time a teacher there. Such a warm attachment grew up between the two young men that Clerc decided to come to America with Gallaudet and help him in his proposed school. On the long voyage home, they spent the time in mutual improvement, Gallaudet learning signs from Clerc, and Clerc learning English from Gallaudet. Arrived in Hartford, Gallaudet made a report to the committee that had sent him abroad, and it was decided to start the first school for

the deaf, in Hartford, and to put Gallaudet in charge of it. This was in 1817. He immediately asked Clerc to become his first teacher, and the two worked together for years. They spent that first autumn and winter travelling and lecturing in New England to arouse interest in the new school, and Clerc's attainments were of great importance, especially in showing that the deaf could be educated. Laurent Clerc was instructor in Hartford for 41 years, and during that time received many honors. On one occasion he made a visit to Washington, and appeared before Congress to help arouse interest in the education of the deaf, when he was invited to sit by the side of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Henry Clay. He was introduced by the French Ambassador to President Monroe. Trinity College gave him the degree of Master of Arts, the first time that degree had ever been given to a deaf-mute in America. He died in 1869, at the age of 84.

The first pupil in the Hartford School was little Alice Cogswell whose statue with that of Gallaudet by Daniel Chester French, stands in front of our Chapel. Another pupil was a young lady, Sophia Fowler, who had never been to school before, who learned so rapidly, and who had such a beautiful disposition that Gallaudet fell in love with her and asked to marry her. Many years afterwards, when her husband died and her young son Edward came to Washington, she came with him to become the first matron of the school here, and it is from her that our college girls' dormitory takes its name Sophia Fowler Hall.

Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet did not remain at the head of the school in Hartford for many years. The petty details connected with the executive duties of an institution irked him. Never robust, his health began to fail: a change of work was advised. As he had already studied theology, he resigned from the school for the deaf, to enter the active ministry. Later he became chaplain in an insane asylum and helped the unfortunate patients there as much as he had previously helped the deaf. It is said that owing to the gentleness of his disposition he had a wonderful influence over violent patients. We could spend much time telling about this good and great man, but this paper is not to be about him exclusively, so after advising you all to read his "Life" by his son, Edward, we must pass on to the other occupants of our "Hall of Fame."

Harvey Prindle Peet

To continue in chronological order, the next name is that of Harvey Prindle Peet. One of Gallaudet's wise policies was to surround himself with able young men whom he trained to become teachers of the deaf. He was accustomed to go over to New Haven each year, and interview the young men of the graduating class of Yale College, and select those whom he considered the most promising for his work. Among the first ten men of the Class of 1822, at Yale, was Harvey P. Peet. Gallaudet invited him to come to Hartford and become one of his teachers. He was also appointed steward, and in the double capacity, had a thorough training for what was to become his life work. A few years later, in 1831,

he was called to take charge of the New York Institution for the Deaf, which had been founded some time before. Under Dr. Peet's principalship, it became the leading school in the country, and even in the world. The number of pupils increased from a mere handful when Dr. Peet took charge, to 439 when he retired in 1867. Dr. Peet was a remarkable disciplinarian. There were often pupils of 30 years of age in the school, wild and resentful of authority, whom he trained into good citizens, and who became his friends and admirers. He was a voluminous writer, producing a number of textbooks for the deaf and contributing to various journals, many articles of value concerning the education of the deaf. The regents of the University of the State of New York, honored him with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Isaac Lewis Peet

Harvey Prindle Peet was succeeded as principal of the New York Institution by his son, Isaac Lewis Peet, also a graduate of Yale, of the class of 1854. Under him the school grew up in numbers, having over 500 pupils, and increased in learning. It was Isaac Lewis Peet who conceived the idea of the so-called "High Class" and was its first teacher. We must remember that in those days there was no college for the deaf, but Lewis Peet was an advocate of the higher education of the deaf, and the graduates of his old "High Class" were equal, if not superior, to the graduates of the modern college in intellectual attainments and in general culture. Lewis Peet was a remarkable teacher, as well as a man of unusually sweet character, and the influence he wielded over his pupils was widespread. Both he and his father had much to do with broadening the laws of New York State concerning the education of the deaf. They were never tired of proving what the deaf could do, and it is largely due to their influence that New York has taken the lead in that education. There are now 12 schools for the deaf (7 residential and 5 day schools) in New York State alone—no other state has such a number. Lewis Peet was also a voluminous writer, and was honored by Columbia University with the degree of Doctors of Laws. The two Peets, father and son, served the New York Institution for a continuous period covering 67 years. As an evidence of the love and respect in which they held these two men, the deaf in New York have raised a fund devoted to a permanently useful purpose that will carry out the broad educational views of both Harvey Peet and Lewis Peet.

Thomas Gallaudet

Dr. Thomas Gallaudet, eldest son of Dr. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, is next in order of time. He followed the example of his illustrious father in at least three respects. After graduating from college, he became a teacher of the deaf—in the New York Institution

under Dr. Harvey Peet; he became a minister; and he married a deaf woman. Upon being ordained in the Episcopal Church, he gave up teaching and founded the first regular mission for the deaf. For many years he was rector of St. Ann's Church in New York City, where he not only preached to the hearing, but also ministered to the deaf. It is due to the great success of his work that other missions to the deaf have been established in this country. Thomas Gallaudet aided in starting various schools for the deaf throughout the country and was the founder of the Gallaudet Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf Mutes at Wappinger Falls, N.Y., the first home of this kind ever to be established.

Henry Winter Syle

Henry Winter Syle, whose bust will be pointed out next, was born in 1846 in China where his parents were missionaries. His father was English, but his mother was American, and the little boy was sent to America to be educated. He lost his hearing at the age of 6 years, from scarlet fever. He attended David Bartlett's private school for the deaf at Fishkill, N.Y., and later accompanied the Bartlett family when they moved to Hartford. There he often played with the pupils in the Hartford School, though not actually one of the pupils himself, as his education remained in the care of Mrs. Bartlett. Later he entered Trinity College. After leaving there at the end of one and half years, on account of serious trouble with his eyes, he went to Virginia to visit his parents. It was during that time that he came to Washington to the inauguration of Dr. E.M. Gallaudet as President of this College, and becoming interested in the place, he applied for and obtained a position as Dr. Gallaudet's clerk. At one time he considered entering the College as a student, but friends persuaded him to go to England instead. There he took a special course study at St. John's College, Cambridge University, and won a scholarship—probably the only deaf man who has done that. Later he taught for some years in the New York Institution and at the same time studied assaying at Columbia University. Yale College gave him the degree of Bachelor of Arts after an examination covering the entire four years' course, and lasting through a period of three weeks. Three years later Yale also gave him the degree of Master of Arts. It was about this time that he moved to Philadelphia to take a position in the Mint there. During this period he studied for the ministry and became the first deaf man to be regularly ordained as a clergyman. All Souls' Church in Philadelphia, which he founded, was the first church in America to have an edifice exclusively for the deaf. Mr. Syle was an extremely brilliant man, and it is said that his English was practically faultless.

Amos Kendall

All the rest of our friends are connected directly with the history of this College. The earliest one is Amos Kendall. He was one of the distinguished citizens of

Washington, being Postmaster General in the Cabinet of President Andrew Jackson and also in that of President Van Buren. He was not only a very wealthy man, but also a public-spirited philanthropist interested in science and education. At his invitation, for instance, the earliest experiments with telegraphy, made by Samuel B.F. Morse, were carried on Kendall Green, the wire being strung on the trees in the woods of our campus.

An article in the Sunday Magazine section of the Washington Evening Star, which devoted considerable space to the life and benefactions of Amos Kendall, said that his greatest achievement was the founding of the Columbia Institution for the Deaf. This began as a tiny school of four or five deaf children who had been exploited and left stranded in Washington by a man trying to raise funds for them and establish a school. Amos Kendall has himself appointed guardian of these children and brought them home and made them comfortable in one of the buildings of his beautiful country estate. He look around for a teacher for them, and wrote to New York, offering the position to Isaac Lewis Peet. Dr. Harvey Peet was still principal of the New York Institution at that time, but was soon to retire and would not consent to his son's leaving there. Then, too, the New York Institution was a large and flourishing school and it would have required a prophet to foresee that the embryo school in the District of Columbia would ever grow to its present importance. Young Edward Gallaudet proved to be that prophet, however, for when Dr. Peet recommended him for the position, and Mr. Kendall invited him to come here, he instantly foresaw the possibilities of the newly established institution in Washington. Mr. Kendall had already given a building and two acres of land free. Eventually the entire estate of some hundred acres was purchased for the Institution and named Kendall Green after his first benefactor.

Edward Miner Gallaudet

Now we come to the man who made possible a college education for the deaf—Edward Miner Gallaudet. Born in Hartford, Conn., February 5, 1837, he was the youngest son of Thomas Hopkins and Sophia Fowler Gallaudet. As one writer¹ puts it, "He inherited from his father a keen intellect, rare gift of persuasion, and a philanthropic spirit; and from his mother, vigorous constitution, persona comeliness, practical sagacity, and a radiant vitality." He was graduated from Trinity College, Hartford, at the age of 19 years. Even before his college graduation he took up his life work as a teacher of the deaf, in the Hartford School. Eighteen months afterwards he was invited to take charge of the small school in Washington, for which an act of incorporation had been obtained from Congress. At once he saw the beginnings of an institution for the higher education of the deaf. Seven years later his vision was realized. The College was established in 1864, by act of Congress. Signed by President Abraham Lincoln "empowering the Columbia

¹ Amos G. Draper, *Annals*

Institution to grant degrees,” Edward Miner Gallaudet was made its first President. Since then liberal and frequent appropriations made, principally through Dr. Gallaudet’s personal influence. He had a vivid personality, combined with great tact. The Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations in the House of Representatives once said that Dr. Gallaudet made a stronger impression upon that committee than any other man who appeared before it.

Dr. Gallaudet was the leading advocate in America of the combined system.” In 1867, he urged the teaching of speech, but maintained that no single method was suitable for the deaf. In 1886, at the invitation of the British Government, he appeared before the Royal Commission on the Education of the Deaf, and his testimony in favor of the combined system exerted wide influence. In 1912 the French Government gave the Cross of the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor “in recognition of long and successful labors in the cause of the education of the deaf.”

As an author he produced two books—“Popular Manual of International Law” and “The Life of Thomas H. Gallaudet.” He also wrote many articles and addresses. In 1895 Yale University gave him the degree of Doctor of Laws. He also received the same degree from Trinity College, and the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy from George Washington University. Dr. Gallaudet was a prominent citizen of Washington—a member and officer of many leading societies here.

In 1910, after 54 years of active service, he retired as Emeritus President of this College. In 1911, he went back to Hartford to live. There he died, September 26, 1917.

We have three portraits of Dr. Gallaudet in this hall—one a beautiful bust of him as a young man in 1864, by T.F. Mills; another showing him in middle age by a deaf sculptor, Elmer Hannan; and the painting of him in his prime. This portrait, by his son-in-law, William B. Closson, was the aft of generous and grateful alumni, as was the bronze bas-relief of Abraham Lincoln with beneath it the words of his immortal Gettysburg Address.

While the world is accustomed to think of Lincoln as the “Great Emancipator,” “the Martyred President” who held our nation together in time of stress and turmoil, it is well for us to pause and remember that Gallaudet College has even closer claim upon him, for it was Lincoln who signed the bill establishing this College. Never too busy or too troubled to listen to the pleas of those needing assistance, he was open to conviction as to the usefulness of an institution for the higher education of the deaf, and at a time when others scoffed, he acted, and Gallaudet College became a reality.

Edward Allen Fay

No history of this College can be complete without an account of Edward Allen Fay, and yet he was such a great educator of the deaf that it is difficult to say anything adequate about him within the limits of such a paper as this.

Born in Morristown, N.J., on November 22, 1843, he spent most of his early life in Michigan where his father, Rev. Barnabas Fay, founded the first school for the deaf in that state in 1851. Living in the Institution and playing with the pupils, he became fluent in sign-language, and was considered one of the best sign-makers in the country. He was in great demand as an interpreter at all meetings where there were mixed audiences of deaf and hearing persons.

He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1862, and then became Instructor in the New York Institution for the Deaf, where he remained three years. At this time he was offered a position at the National Deaf Mute College, as Gallaudet was then known, and seeing the possibilities in the young institution, he accepted, and became the loyal friend and co-worker of Dr. Edward Gallaudet, remaining here fifty-seven years. In addition to being Professor of Languages he was made Vice-President in 1885, and frequently acted as President in Dr. Gallaudet's absence. The two men were the closest of friends, and Dr. Gallaudet relied on Dr. Fay for advice in all matters pertaining to the College. In this connection it is interesting to note how many other persons, from colleagues to students, also relied on his advice—but they had to ask for it! Dr. Fay never offered his opinion unsought—perhaps for that very reason it was all the more valued. Certainly his clear thinking and calm judgment as well as his quiet and sympathetic understanding helped many a distraught friend and student to choose his course wisely.

Dr. Fay was perhaps the most scholarly man ever on our faculty. The University of Michigan awarded him the degree of Masters of Arts in 1865, and after a course in Romance languages, John Hopkins gave him the degree of Degree of Philosophy in 1881. In 1912 the University of Michigan honored him with the degree of Doctor of Science and in 1916 Gallaudet honored itself by bestowing the degree of Doctor of Letters upon him.

When Dr. Gallaudet retired, the Board of Directors offered the presidency of Gallaudet College to Dr. Fay, but he calmly yet firmly refused the honor. In previous years he had repeatedly declined offers to become Professor of Latin in a great university.

In addition to teaching Latin, German and French, in all of which he was very fluent, he also made a profound study of Italian. He was one of the founders of the Dante Society and by his Concordance of the Divina Commedia published in 1888, he became a recognized authority in that language.

He was Editor of the American Annals of the Deaf for fifty years, and brought that journal to its present high standard. Through his work of conducting this publication, as well as through his writings, he was considered, at the time of his death, the foremost authority in the world on the education of the deaf. His two books: "Histories of the American Schools for the Deaf", published in 1893, and "Marriages of the Deaf in America," published in 1898, are still the last words on those subjects. As one writer² puts

² Dr. Charles R. Ely, *Annals*

it: "It is remarkable that an investigation completed [more than] a quarter of century ago should have led the author to conclusions which are so completely in accord with those of recent authorities in heredity and eugenics in view of the many advances made in recent years in the discovery of natural laws governing inheritance!"

The portrait here shows you Dr. Fay as he was, handsome, calm, dignified, yet kindly. His personal life was one of the most beautiful I have ever known. To quote again from the writer to whom allusion has been made above: "In all the years I knew him I never heard an unkind word spoken of Dr. Fay, and this is more than I can say of any other man."

Samuel Porter

Samuel Porter, according to Dr. E. M. Gallaudet, was a remarkable man. Graduating from Yale in 1829, he became a tutor for a private family. He then studied theology and was licensed to preach, but partial deafness came upon and obliged him to give up the ministry. In 1832 he became a teacher in the American School for the Deaf where he remained five years. Then he went to the New York School for ten years, after which he returned to Hartford for thirteen years. For a time he gave up teaching to devote himself to literary work. He was editor of the *Annals* for six years and a frequent contributor to it and other journals. The well-known essay on "Vowel sounds and Pronunciation" in Webster's International Dictionary is by his pen.

In 1866, the second year after the organization of the College, Professor Porter was invited to take the chair of Mental Science and English Philology. He was very successful in this work. He had a remarkable memory, and his reading was wide. Students went to him as to an encyclopaedia. His influence was elevating and inspiring, and he was kind and friendly. He was professor in Gallaudet College for 17 years and was then made emeritus professor and was invited to continue to live on Kendall Green. He took a great interest in everything connected with the College, and even after his retirement acted as librarian and substitute teacher, and he never gave up his Sunday-school class. He lived to be 90 years of age. As an illustration of the sweetness of his character and his high sense of duty, it is related of him that every fall, on the opening of College, he never failed to say to Dr. Gallaudet, "I hope you will remember that I am ready for any occasional service required of me." In writing about Professor Porter, Dr. Gallaudet pays him this tribute: "I have felt the inspiration of his high scholarship, his gentle disposition, his loving spirit, his unflinching courtesy."

James A. Garfield

Next on our list is James a. Garfield, who as a Member of Congress and later as President of the United States, had fifteen years' connection with this College. As chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, his powerful influence always supported liberal grants to the College, and he showed a friendly interest in its welfare, frequently making speeches from the floor of the House in its favor. His first visit to the Insitution was in the winter of 1865-66, when the College had been in operation only one year. At that time there were only 12 students—one senior, four freshmen and seven members of a lower class. It was a mere experiment and needed all the support possible from its friends in Congress. On this first visit, just mentioned, Mr. Garfield inspected the classrooms and showed an intelligent interest by asking personal questions of the students, requesting one to solve a certain algebraic problem, and asking another for the meaning of the word “dollar,” “pariah,” etc. As you know, the law requires the President of the United States to be Patron, ex-officio, of the College, so you can imagine with what feelings of pleasure Dr. Gallaudet saw inaugurated as President of this country one who had shown such a real feeling of friendliness for this institution. Perhaps it is not generally known, however, that President Garfield's last public appearance was on the platform of this very Chapel on Presentation Day, 1881. Not long after that event, the College, together with the whole world, was shocked and saddened by his tragic death. That marble portrait-bust, which you see on the wall there, testifies to the regard in which he was held by the deaf in America.

On the brass plate below it is inscribed:

James Abram Garfield
Advocate in Congress of the Higher Education of the Deaf,
1865-1880

Ex-Officio Patron of this Institution
1881

This Memorial Is a Tribute of Gratitude from Alumni and Friends of Institutions for the
Deaf in America

Rev. John W. Chickering

The next portrait that we have before us is that of Rev. John W. Chickering. Professor of Natural Science in Gallaudet College for 29 years. He was born in Massachusetts in 1831 and was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1852, with the Latin

Salutatory. He taught school for several years, and then studied theology in the Bangor Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1860. He held pastorates in Springfield, Vt., and in Exeter, N.H., and in 1870 was called to Gallaudet, where he remained in active service for nearly 30 years, finally retiring as Emeritus Professor and Lecturer on Pedagogy to the Normal Class. He died on November 8, 1913, aged 83 years.

He had great enthusiasm for his work and fondness for young people. He made the beginnings of our College Museum, contributing 1,500 species of shells collected by him in his boyhood and many of the trees on beautiful Kendall Green were planted by him. It was no uncommon sight to see Professor Chickering returning from a cross-country walk carrying over his shoulder a young tree, which he would carefully nurture until it grew strong. After his retirement one of his former students in College, May Martin, wrote an appreciation of Professor Chickering, which was published in *The Silent Worker*, and which closed with these words: "His hearty enjoyment of life is contagious; he seems to have the Greek joyousness and activity of mind added to his deep reverence for spiritual things."

John Burton Hotchkiss

John Burton Hotchkiss was a member of the first graduating class of Gallaudet College. His earlier education was obtained at the American School for the Deaf, from where he was graduated with high honors in 1865. Upon completion of his course at Gallaudet in 1869, he became a tutor here, and remained in active service as instructor and professor for over half a century, until the day of his death, November 3, 1922. His brilliant work in English, both student and teacher, was recognized by the College with the degree of Master of Arts in 1874, and the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in 1904.

Dr. Hotchkiss had a few equals in the language of signs. He could tell a story or make an explanation so graphically that the meaning was unmistakable. He was the first teacher of our present course in public speaking, and his dramatic interpretations inspired his class not only with a love for beautiful signs, but also with an appreciation of the best in literature.

Dr. Hotchkiss was a delightful companion. Widely read and a keen observer of nature and of men, his whimsical turn of mind gave to his conversation an unusual charm. He was the friend of all his students, their "guide and mentor" not only in the classroom, but also on hikes and expeditions of all sorts. His interest in athletics and his influence for clean sportsmanship were remembered by his students when they voted to give his name to the Athletic Field.

For many years he was Alumni Editor of the students' magazine, *The Buff and Blue*, and it would be hard to say which derived the more pleasure from his columns, Dr.

Hotchkiss himself, who delighted in telling of the successes of his former students, or his readers who were ever eager to receive his kindly letters of inquiry.

Amos G. Draper

Amos G. Draper was, as someone has said “the ablest member of his class, and was one of the very ablest that ever graduated from Gallaudet College.” He was a brilliant writer, having a clear and simple style, and could have made his mark in the world of letters, had he chosen that as his career.

Born in Vermont in 1845, he became totally deaf at the age of nine years from a cold, caused by exposure while saving the life of a boy friend out skating. In 1860 he was sent to the school at Hartford, where he was graduated in 1862. His family moved to Illinois, where young Draper worked on a newspaper until 1868, when he was persuaded to enter Gallaudet College. As the members of the first graduating class of the College were then seniors, Mr. Draper had the unusual opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with every student in the College from that first graduating class until the time of his retirement 44 years later. While a student he acted as President Gallaudet’s secretary, and upon his graduation he went to Europe with Dr. Gallaudet. This friendship, begun in youth, continued with devotion on both sides, until the two were parted by death. On his return from Europe, Dr. Draper was made Professor of Mathematics and Latin. He was an extensive reader and a clear and logical lecturer. His addresses in Chapel, both faculty lectures and Sunday afternoon sermons, were always well attended, as Professor Draper invariably had something interesting to tell and his delivery was forceful and concise. He was a strict disciplinarian, and exact in demanding perfect recitations, and in giving due credit therefor. Many a student thought him unnecessary severe while in College, lived to thank him in later years for his careful training. The wide correspondence that he carried out was a proof of his unfailing interest in the welfare of his former students, and of their appreciation and respect for him.

Dr. Draper received many honors. Graduating from College in 1872 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, he received in 1887, the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1904 the degree of Doctor of Letters. He was treasurer of the Garfield Fund at a time when it was thought impossible to raise the money, as so much had been given to the Garfield Memorial Hospital in this city, but at the end of three months he announced that almost the entire sum needed was on hand, and at the end of six months he closed the subscriptions. More than sufficient money had been raised to pay for the marble bust and pedestal, to which allusion has already been made, and the surplus was used to establish a Students’ Loan fund, of which Dr. Draper was treasurer for many years. He was treasurer also of the Gallaudet Statue Fund, money for which was received from every State and Territory in the Union 25 cents even coming from far-away Alaska! He was likewise treasurer of the Samuel Porter Memorial Fund, which is used to supply encyclopedias and

dictionaries to both the boys' and girls' reading rooms. And last, but by no means least, entailing as it did an untold amount of work and accuracy, Dr. Draper was Secretary of the Faculty for 40 years. He retired as Emeritus-Professor in 1916, and died November 8, 1917 just a few weeks after the death of his beloved friend, Dr. Gallaudet.

Allen Bradshaw Fay

Allan Bradshaw Fay was the oldest son of our Prof. E. A. Fay. Grandson of Barnabas' M. Fay, first Principal of the Michigan School for the Deaf, he was the third generation of teachers of the deaf in a distinguished family. He was born on August 1, 1872. All of his boyhood, and indeed most of his life was passed on Kendall Green. He attended Friends' School, in this city, and then Central High School. Entering Harvard University, he was graduated from there in 1894, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts with high honors. He was made assistant in Spanish, and received the degree of Masters of Arts from Harvard in one year. He spent the next two years on a ranch in California, and in 1897 was called to be instructor at Gallaudet where he rose to a full professorship of Latin. While at Harvard he was roommate of our President-Emeritus Hall and the latter had written a beautiful appreciation of him, published in the *The Annals* for September, 1915, Volume LX, page 336.

Allan Fay was a careful, thorough teacher, patient and gentle. Many a discouraged student has found fresh enthusiasm through Mr. Fay's painstaking explanations. As a boy he was full of life and mischief and many are the tales recounted of his pranks. I think he must have carried the remembrance of those boyish activities with him through later years, for he was always sympathetic with his students, quick to see a joke, and in case of faculty discipline invariably voted for the most lenient punishment. No task was too long or too arduous for his perseverance, which was probably one of the secrets of his successful work. During the last few years of his life, in addition to his duties in the College, he assisted his father in editing *The Annals*. Allan Fay was a man of high character, and most lovable disposition. His early death on July 5, 1915, was an irreparable loss to the College, and a never ceasing grief to his father by whom this tablet was erected as a "Token of appreciation and affection."

Charles Russell Ely

Charles Russell Ely was born on February 20, 1870 at Columbus, Ohio, where his father was a teacher in the school for the deaf. The family moved to Frederick, Maryland, when the father became head of the Maryland School for the Deaf. Thus the son grew up

entirely in an environment of the deaf, and developed a life-long understanding and love for them. The deaf had, in return, a deep affection for him.

After graduation from Yale, he became a Fellow in the first class of the Normal Department at Gallaudet in 1891. Then he became a member of the Faculty here, as instructor, professor and vice-president, and remained at Gallaudet until his untimely death in 1939. During an interval of one year, in 1912, he was Principal of the Maryland School, but preferring the classroom and the laboratory to administrative duties, he soon returned to teach Science.

In 1900 he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Columbian College, now the George Washington University. He became prominent in scientific organizations, and was a conscientious civic worker, serving on the Selective Draft Board in World War I and with the Red Cross and the Community Chest.

To quote from Professor Irving S. Fushfeld: "The great volume of tribute evoked by the news of Dr. Ely's death, attests to his many remarkable qualities—his brilliant mind, his skill as a teacher, his broad sympathy, his completely democratic nature, his quiet, modest dignity—all fashioned into an unselfish zeal of service for his fellow men. To have exerted these qualities in an active career of almost half a century was indeed to have lived a full and noble life."³

Arthur D. Bryant

Arthur D. Bryant was born of deaf parents, on Kendall Green, where his father was an expert cabinet-maker, and where the boy spent his entire life. After going through the Kendall School, he entered Gallaudet College and was graduated in 1880. He became an instructor in art, but retired in 1917 to devote his whole time to missionary work among the deaf. The college made Instructor Emeritus and in 1939 gave him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Melville Ballard

Melville Ballard, long a teacher in the Kendall School, was born in Maine in 1839 and died in 1912. He became lame from a fall downstairs. When about 16 months old. He was outstanding in the education of the deaf as he was the first student enrolled in Gallaudet college; the first graduate of the College, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1866, and the degree of Master of Science in 1870; the first deaf man to receive a college degree in course in the country; one of the first teachers in the Columbia Institution, where he was actively engaged in teaching the deaf for 52 years.

³ *Annals*, Vol. 84, page 219

He was educated in the old American Asylum for the Deaf, remaining there eight years as a pupil, then three years as instructor before coming as a teacher to the Kendall School. He had a remarkable command of written language as well as an dramatic sign-maker. He was father of the language of signs to the Normal Class after its establishment in 1891.

Ballard attracted the attention of William James, who cited his case in an article "Thoughts before Language—A Deaf-Mute's Recollection."

Isaac Allison

Isaac Allison, born in Port Perry, Ontario, Canada, was with the Columbia Institution 46 years, first as leader of the shop and instructor of mutual training in the Kendall School, and then as professor of Mathematics, Physics and Electricity until his death in 1940. He attended the Bliss Electrical School and in obtained the degree of Electric Engineer from the George Washington University. His graduation has contained the complete plans specification for a central power center for the Columbia Institution and was constructed under his direction and remains today much as designed it. Prof. Allison was a lip-read man with a fine command of English as shown in his lectures and writings. He was a lover of nature with a vast store knowledge concerning flowers and trees, and stones, which he liked to _____ to his students outside of for-_____ classroom work, seated on the campus surrounded by a group of young people all intent upon his interesting tales.

Edith Nelson

Edith Nelson, the only woman to be represented in our Hall of Fame, was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on September 26, 1890. She became totally deaf from unknown causes at the age of four years. She was educated in the schools for the deaf in Minnesota, Wisconsin and California, and was admitted to the Freshman Class of Gallaudet College, she was graduated in 1914. A post-graduate course there gave her the degree of M.A. She taught two years in St. Johns, New Brunswick, Canada, then one year in Florida, after which she was called to the Kendall School. She was appointed Librarian of the College in 1919, and in addition to her duties there she taught Mathematics and Latin, Library Science and Business Office Practice, including typewriting. She was admitted to the typewriting class in two summer sessions of Columbia University. The instructor had never had a totally deaf student in her class and as she taught dictation by the rhythmic touch method, she did not think it possible for Miss Nelson to keep up with the work. Miss Nelson, however, was a remarkable fine lipreader as well as very persistent. She assured the instructor that she would not be a drag on the class and promised to drop out of the course if at any time the teacher so desired. She not only finished the first summer's

work, but was also permitted to take an advanced course the following summer. Her love for books and her wide knowledge of literature enabled her to be of great helpfulness to the students in the College. She was always ready to assist them in planning programs and directing their reading. After a long illness she returned to her sister's home in California, where she died on April 20, 1942.

John Carlin

John Carlin, who lost his hearing in early infancy, was born in 18--. He was not a graduate of Gallaudet College, but was the first person to receive a honorary degree from here. To quote from Dr. E.M. Gallaudet: "In recognition of his high attainments as a writer and of his earnest devotion to letters, Mr. Carlin was invited to deliver an address at the public inauguration of the National Deaf-Mute college (as this institution was then known) in June 1864, and was on the occasion made a Master of Arts." Though he remained totally deaf throughout his life, he was not only a gifted writer of prose and poetry, but also became a well-known miniature painter in New York. He achieved fame through his own perservance and industry. He died in 1891.⁴

Thomas S. Marr, Jr.

Thomas S. Marr, Jr., born in Tennessee in 1866, was graduated from Gallaudet with the degree of Bachelor of Science in the class of 1889. After his graduation he studied architecture and became so successful that he was commissioned to draw up the plans for the Tennessee State School for the Deaf in Knoxville and several of the state buildings at Nashville. Gallaudet gave him the honorary degree of Master of Science in 1924. Upon his death he left a considerable sum in trust to his sisters. Upon their death \$25,000 will go to his partner and the remainder will revert to Gallaudet College. He made an outright gift of \$5,000 to the College, the income from which, amounting nearly \$200, is awarded to students of high standing. He also founded the first Thomas S. Marr Scholarship, administered by the Kappa Gamma Fraternity.

Cadwallader Washburn

Cadwallader Washburn is one of the leading dry-point etchers of today. Born in Minneapolis, son of United States Senator W.D. Washburn, he was graduated from Gallauadet in the class of 1890, and received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science in 1924. It is interesting to note that his father, Senator Washburn, a vigorous opponent of

⁴ See "John Carlin. A Biographical Sketch by Harold Domich," published in 1939. This has an excellent list of references at the end.

the young college for the deaf, lived to see his deaf son graduate from the same institution of learning. Young Washburn studied architecture in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was the private pupil of the painters, William M. Chase in New York, and of Joaquin Sorolla in Madrid. He was Japan and Manchuria, 1904-1905, during the Russo-Japanese War, acting as war correspondent for the Chicago Daily News and again in Mexico during the Madero revolution. He was a collector of bird eggs and nests for the Museum of Comparative Oology. He is represented by paintings and etchings in the leading art galleries and museums of the world, including the British Museum, the Luxembourg, the Ryksmuseum in Amsterdam, the Library of Congress and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington.

George M. Teegarden

George M. Teegarden, born in Jefferson, Green County, Pennsylvania, March 11, 1852, became deaf at the age of eleven years, from spotted fever, now called spinal meningitis. When he was six years old, he moved to Iowa, and after he lost his hearing he entered the Iowa School for the Deaf. He received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in course, from Gallaudet in 1876. Upon his graduation he became a teacher in the newly organized Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, where he remained until his retirement, 48 years later. Gallaudet College gave him the honorary degree of Masters of Arts in 1922.

His daughter, Alice M. Teegarden, of the Normal Class of 1907, has established for the students of the College, an annual prize consisting of a citation and a medal, for creative work in poetry, in honor of her father, one of the foremost deaf poets in America.

Roy Carpenter

The bas-relief of President William A. McKinley is worth noting for a different reason from that of the other memorials. President McKinley had no active connection with the College except that he was Patron ex-officio, but this bas-relief as carved from marble one of the students, Roy Carpenter from Michigan, of the Class of 1902. It was such an excellent likeness and young Carpenter was considered to have such promising talent that through the influence of President Gallaudet, the artist was sent to Paris for a year to continue his studies, already begun in the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington. Unfortunately he did not use his time abroad to any great advantage, and he finally died in 1950, without having achieved the artistic success that his friends had hoped for.

A Correction

In the final paragraph on Allan Bradshaw Fay in the last issue of the Bulletin, page 8, was stated that the memorial tablet was erected by his father. The Fay family has called attention to the fact that the tablet was erected by Mr. Fay's many friends. It was suggested by Miss Helen Northrop, at that time a member of the faculty at the College, and now on the staff of the Washington State School for the Deaf. The editors regret that this error was permitted to get past them.

Percival Hall

Most of these memorials were placed after the death of those we wished to honor. Even the portrait of Dr. Gallaudet was presented on the eve of his retirement. In the case of President Hall, however, the general alumni conceived the happy thought of having his portrait painted by the well-known artist Merryman, while our friend was still in his prime and at the height of his successful work.

Percival Hall was well fitted by birth, education and experience to be the successor of Edward Gallaudet. His ancestors, who came from England in 1630, settled first in Massachusetts and later moved to Connecticut. It is said that one of them was given a grant of land in the new settlement of Hartford, and built a house on Asylum Hill, perhaps on the very site where the American School for the Deaf was located nearly two hundred years later.

In 1863, Prof. Asaph Hall moved to Washington to accept an appointment in the United States Naval Observatory, and it was in this city that his son Percival was born on September 16, 1872. The mother had been a teacher, and she prepared all four of her sons for High School. After four years in school young Percival, then only 15, was sent to Columbian College, now the George Washington University, and the next year entered Harvard, where he was graduated with high honors in 1892. His course had been chiefly in mathematics, for he expected to take up engineering, but during his last year in college he had as his room-mate Allan B. Fay, of whom mention has already been made, and through him he became interested in the deaf. In 1892-93, he received a fellowship in the newly established Normal class in Gallaudet College, and thus had the benefit of training under such men as Dr. Gallaudet and Dr. Fay. Upon completion of his Normal course he taught for two years in the New York Institution for the Deaf, and then returned to Kendall Green as instructor in mathematics. He also acted as Dr. Gallaudet's secretary. This gave Mr. Hall, as he himself says, "a splendid opportunity to know Dr. Gallaudet and to learn more fully of his extraordinary ability, his high character and his strength of purpose."

At the same time that he was teaching, Mr. Hall was also studying at Columbian College, from which he received the degree of Master of Arts. He was given the direction of the Normal Department at Gallaudet, and received deserved promotion in other ways until finally, upon the retirement of Dr. Gallaudet in 1910, he was made President of this College, and a year later was appointed President of the Board of Directors.

In a paper of this length it is not possible to speak in detail of all President Hall's achievements. We who have worked with him and know him best, realized how much he has done to improve the College in its courses of study and in its physical equipment. His devotion to work has been unfailing. In addition he has been secretary, vice-president and president of the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf and chairman of the

Executive Committee of the Conference of Superintendents and Principals. He has written widely on topics relating to the deaf, and his advice and opinion are still sought by the profession generally.

Dr. Hall is recognized as one of the leading public-spirited citizens of Washington. During World War I he was chairman of the Local Draft Board No. 11 of the District of Columbia. Later he was chairman of the building committee of All Souls' Church and chairman of its Board of Trustees. He has been both treasurer and president of the Harvard Club of Washington, and president of Schoolmen's Club of Washington, and is a member of the exclusive Cosmos Club. The George Washington University has honored him with the degree of Doctor of Letters.

But it is as a man that we admire Percival Hall. Modest and retiring almost to a fault, sympathetic towards the weak, with endless patience and gentleness, yet high of ideal, steadfast of purpose, thoughtful of demeanor, and withal endowed with a keen sense of humor, he happily combines the fine qualities of the "gentleman and scholar."

As has been said, few of these memorials have been placed here during the lifetime of those we wish to honor. We still have no portrait of President Elstad, who succeeded Dr. Hall on the latter's retirement in 1945, but the time will come when Dr. Elstad's energy and vision will be recognized. He has increased the number of the College students and has modernized the curriculum and dreaming of new buildings. Surely his dreams will materialize, and perhaps his portrait will be placed in the newer Halls of Gallaudet.

With all these examples of unfailing devotion to an ideal—an ideal that has proved both practical and successful—certainly we ought to be inspired to do our utmost. Influenced by the lives of these benefactors of the deaf, our students, both past and present, are giving in their own lives, impressive testimony to the usefulness of this College, and their careers are being followed with interest and affection by those who are, at the same time, their instructors and friends at Gallaudet.

Dr. Peet's serial would of course not be complete without some mention of the latest addition to our Hall of Fame, Dr. Peet herself. The editors take pleasure in printing this sketch of Dr. Peet written by the person best qualified to write it, Dr. Hall.

By Dr. Percival Hall

For a number of years past Dr. Elizabeth Peet has delighted and instructed the students of Gallaudet College, including members of the Normal Class, by her illuminating lecture entitled, "Our Hall of Fame." In this lecture, rather briefly but accurately and with much feeling, she described the work for the deaf accomplished by the men and women whose busts or portraits decorate the walls of Chapel Hall at Gallaudet College. Fortunately, Dr.

Peet has been persuaded to publish in the Gallaudet Alumni Bulletin a series of articles that have put her lecture in a form for all to read and enjoy.

Now that Dr. Peet has retired from active work at the College, it is most fitting that a fine portrait of Dr. Peet herself should have been placed in Chapel Hall as an addition to our Hall of Fame. It is my great privilege to add to Dr. Peet's lecture some words which may convey an idea of the great work which she herself has accomplished for the deaf.

Elizabeth Peet's grandfather, Dr. Harvey Prindle Peet, and her father, Dr. Isaac Lewis Peet, were well known and successful educators of the deaf. They spent their lives in the management of the well-known New York Institution for the Deaf. Her mother, Mary Toles Peet, was a brilliant deaf woman. From the time of her birth, therefore, Elizabeth Peet was in close contact with the deaf themselves and with the educational work done in their behalf. She naturally became acquainted with the great possibilities of the deaf. It was natural for her to decide early to devote her life to the work in which her family has been so distinguished.

After her graduation from Miss Jandon's School in New York City she did not at first take up college work, but throughout all her life she has been a keen student and finally obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1918 from George Washington University. Later on her successful educational work brought her the honorary degrees of Master of Arts from Gallaudet College in 1923 and of Doctor of Pedagogy from the George Washington University in 1937. In 1950 she received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Gallaudet College.

Dr. Peet, after a short experience as teacher in the Rhode Island School, came to Gallaudet College in 1900 and remained there until her retirement. Not long after she joined the faculty of the College a change was made by which the duties of the matron was confined to household affairs and Elizabeth Peet as Dean of women took over matters of the discipline and health of college women. In this type of work, as well as in her teaching, she was highly successful. She won the confidence of "her girls" always and their affection for her has been great and enduring.

Besides her proficiency in Spanish and French, which she taught with great success, Miss Peet had great skill and knowledge in the language of signs. She has taught many of the members of the Normal Class at the college in this important field. She has been an officer of the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf and contributed valuable articles for its meetings. For a number of years she held the post of Assistant Editor of the American Annals of the Deaf.

In spite of her active and rather strenuous duties at Gallaudet, Dr. Peet found time to join in influential organizations in Washington. She was prominent in the Columbian Women at George Washington University, in the Zonta Club, and in the work of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. She also continued her interest in the deaf of New York City by her work for various organizations.

It is impossible to evaluate the life work for the deaf and for the hearing, too , of such a person as Elizabeth Peet. Her high ideals, her attractive personality, her leadership will never be forgotten, especially by the women of Gallaudet College, all of whom together with her many other friends are glad to see her portrait in "Our Hall of Fame."