

tion of the institution. He always kept it before the public eyes, both in the city and at the capital. He procured teachers who had the making of men that would be considered eminent in any profession. He prepared and published a course of instruction for the deaf and dumb which has been adopted in all the institutions in this country. He organized and furthered during his life, a system of convention of teachers of the deaf and dumb which have continued to the present time. He constantly contributed himself and urged his associates to contribute articles for various periodicals, chiefly the American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb supported by all the institutions in the country, and in every way inspired enthusiasm in his associates as well as his pupils; and yet, withal, he was a man of quiet manners and dignified presence, combining seemingly opposite qualities in such a way as to bring to the institution and to cause everything that was needed for their advancement. Obtaining the confidence of a board of directors, composed of gentlemen of much more than usual intelligence, he secured their co-operation and influenced in all measures where his special knowledge and ability gave him pre-eminence, and was guided by them in all matters where their united wisdom and varied experience were put in exercise for the benefit of the institution. The result was that the institution gained a full measure of that public favor that was essential to its prosperity. The period of instruction was lengthened at various times until it finally reached eight years, and additions were made to the number of State pupils, till by the Act of 1862, every indigent deaf mute in the State, between the ages of twelve and twenty-five was entitled to education at the public expense. The number of pupils were also steadily increased from eighty-five at the time of Dr. Peet's accession, to the unprecedented number of 439 at the close of his administration. The influence which brought it about were the wide disseminations of notices of the institution circulated in its annual reports, which reached almost every person of leading influence in the several counties, and especially county and town officers, by the union with the New York institution, in 1836, of the Central Asylum, established in 1821, at Canajoharie, N. Y., by sending agents through the State to seek out the uneducated deaf and dumb, and by a tour in which Dr. Peet visited every city and many towns of importance in the State.



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