

we have no definite information concerning him. In 1790 and 1791 we find him in Paris, France, where he was a frequent visitor at the De L' Epée School for the Deaf and Dumb, which was then carried on by the Abbé Sicard, De L' Epée having died in 1789.

The Abbé De L'Epée had been a philanthropist after his own heart—a man who had devoted his life and his fortune to the unfortunate Deaf-and-Dumb—a man who refused payment for his services, allowing the wealthy to educate their own children by other teachers, and devoted himself to the poor, without emolument. Although the inventor of the system of instruction which bears his name, characterized by the use of a conventional language of signs, De L'Epée was not wedded to anything save the good of his pupils. He taught them to speak, and to read speech from the mouths of others, as well as to communicate by finger-spelling and signs :—But the Abbé Sicard had given up teaching them utterance, conducting their education solely by silent methods of instruction, a plan which grieved the kind heart of Francis Green, who had tender recollections of the success attained in this direction with his own son.

Returning to London, after his visit to Paris in 1790 and 1791, he became again imbued with the idea of establishing a charitable institution in London for the free instruction of the deaf. He at once set about the undertaking, and then found that a few gentlemen had already begun to take steps upon a similar enterprise. Without inquiring as to how far they were indebted to him for their first ideas upon the subject, through his publication of "Vox Oculis Subjecta" in 1783, he at once abandoned his own plans, and united with them to bring about the practical execution of their ideas. These efforts were successful, and in 1792, there was established in Bermondsey, near London, under the patronage of the Marquis of Buckingham, the first charitable institution for the education of