

"To aid schools for the Deaf in their efforts to teach speech and speech-reading;

"By providing schools for the training of articulation teachers; by the employment of an agent or agents who shall, by the collection and publication of statistics and papers relating to the subject, and by conference with teachers and others disseminate information concerning methods of teaching speech and speech-reading; and by using all such other means as may be deemed expedient.

TO THE END that no deaf child in America shall be allowed to grow up "deaf and dumb" or "mute," without earnest and persistent efforts having been made to teach him to speak and read the lips."

The directors named to manage the affairs of the Association for the first year were: Alexander Graham Bell, President; Gardiner Greene Hubbard, First Vice-President; Caroline A. Yale, Second Vice-President; Z. F. Westervelt, Secretary; Ellen L. Barton; A. L. E. Crouter; Philip G. Gillett; David Greenberger; and Mary H. True.

In this way the American Association to Promote the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf came into existence.

In addition to its Endowment Fund it afterward received the Volta Fund, including the Volta Bureau and other real estate; and the Melville Bell fund formed from the residuary estate of the late Alexander Melville Bell, so that its total property amounted to about \$250,000 with a provision that only a portion of the income from its invested funds should be expended by the Association and that the remainder should be invested and added to the capital.

INFLUENCE OF THE SPEECH ASSOCIATION

Before the appearance of oral schools the older schools of the country were employing the French Sign-language which originated in the school of the Abbe de l'Epee in Paris and which was further developed there by Sicard. It had been introduced into America by Gallaudet and Clerc in 1817 when the Hartford Asylum was opened; and from that school it spread into the other schools of the country.