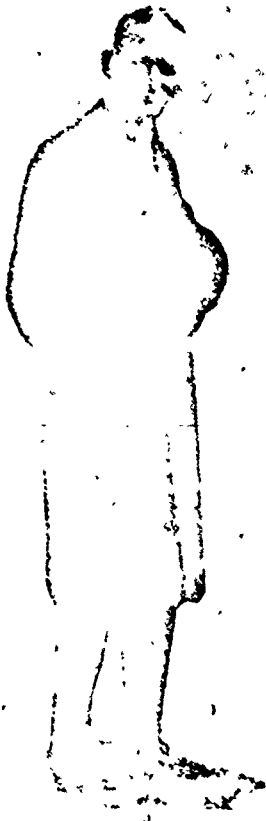


## IN MEMORY—REV. E. C. DEYO



July 2, 1851

Aug. 8, 1926

REV. E. C. DEYO

Elton Cyrus Deyo was born July 2, 1851, near Wyoming, Western N. Y. He was the fourth of a family of seven children. He received his early education in the public schools and Middlebury Academy. After leaving school he bought a farm near Burlington, N. Y., where he lived and farmed, making good success, until 1887. Although born and reared in a Christian home, yet he did not early accept Christ, because of a conviction that God was calling him to preach the gospel. However he could not always resist that call and about the year 1887 he answered the Spirit's call to follow Christ.

Immediately following his conversion he dispensed of his farm and entered the University of Rochester in 1888, graduating three years later. In 1891 he graduated from Colgate Theological Seminary.

Soon after entering the University of Rochester, Dr. Strong and Dr. Merrill came to him and said, "We have talked it over and we have decided that it is not best for you to enter the ministry, you had better go back to the farm." His reply was characteristic of the man: "It took more than the power of man to get me to take up the ministry, and it will take more than the power of man to

get me to lay it down." They said, "Well, we don't believe you can do the (college) work." He did do it—doing four years' college work in three years. This spirit was characteristic of the man all through his life.

While in school he heard a lady speak on the Home Missionary work, and repeat the word of an old Indian warrior: "If the white man know about Jesus Way so long, why he not come sooner to tell Indian." This turned his mind and heart toward Indian Missions. Hence at the close of his seminary course, he sought appointment to the work, and after careful study of the Indians decided that God was calling him to the Comanches.

In October, 1893, he and his young wife, Anna M. Deyo, came to the place now known as Deyo Mission, where a chapel was being built many miles from the nearest railroad and fifteen miles from the home of the nearest white man—Fort Sill and the Sub-Agency. Here they began the work of telling the good news to the "wild Indians."

On the way to their field of labor they left the train at Marlow, Oklahoma, the nearest railway station. They secured a livery man to drive them to the place of the mission. This driver was very sure he would have passengers back to Marlow, for he was very sure that when they saw what they were going into they would immediately leave it. But Brother and Sister Deyo were not of those who put their hands to the plow and look back.

Twice they were offered other Mission stations regarded as less difficult and more promising than the "warlike Comanche" but twice they refused to lay their work down.

The amusing and yet pathetic incident comes to mind: About a week after their arrival at the Mission, at the request of Mrs. Deyo, he rode on horse back without saddle, to the post 15 miles away to get the first news from home. He reached the post, purchased a few groceries,

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## APPRECIATION FROM INDIANS

Mr. Timbo—I have known Brother Deyo from the first. I was the first Comanche to be baptized. I never found it so easy to follow him. He always did much for the Indians. He worked hard and led us to know God's word. He made the word and made the Jesus Road plain so that it was easy to follow. He once told the people that some were saying that he was getting old and that he ought to quit and go back to New York to his people. But Deyo said, "No, God called me to you Comanches and I love the Indians and I will stay here till God takes me." And that is just what he did.

Henry Wallace—I have known Brother Deyo for 33 years.

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