

# **Lewis Lorraine Louthan**

**November 20, 1898**

Lorraine Louthan, 12 years old, of Spearfish, S.D. was the first pupil to die at campus of South Dakota School for the Deaf.

Lorraine suffered with inflammatory rheumatism which settled into all of his joints. Through the week, it looked as if the membranes of the brain would be affected and his mother was notified. On Thursday night, November 17<sup>th</sup>, the brain and joints were relieved and the ailment went to the heart., His mother arrived on Sunday morning and was with him continuously from that time on to the last. From that time on the boy gradually sank until he he died at 8:15 pm Sunday evening. The cause of the death was secondary inflammation of the heart.

Miss Gentry, the matron of the school and Miss McDonald, one of the instructors were highly praised by President James Simpson for their extensive time on taking care of this boy.

The funeral service held at the deaf mute school. The body was then taken to the Illinois Central depot, taken to the home of the lad's parents at Spearfish, where the burial is being taken place.

The little fellow was greatly missed by everybody at South Dakota School for the Deaf as he was a favorite with all.

He was son of Dr. John Meredith and Rosalia Louthan.