

**How HVA Press was able to identify Henry Kirke White as the author of**

***Life in Sing Sing***

These are the key facts the author provides about himself in the book:

Incarcerated in Sing Sing on February 11,1897

Sentenced to 10 years and served "exactly" six and half years

Previous work experience as a clerk

Launched Sing Sing's prison newspaper S*tar of Hope*

**Sing Sing Records**

Sing Sing's admission records show only two prisoners were admitted on February 11, 1897 with a 10 year sentence. According to the discharge information, only one of those prisoners was released 6 and a half years later, August 10, 1903. That is Henry Kirke White.

**New** **York State Census 1880**

In 1880 he gave his profession as "clerk." On page 87 of *Life In Sing Sing*, when speaking of launching the newspaper *Star of Hope*, he states, "I knew something about the news gathering and writing part of journalism and sufficient of the workings of an office…." His job as clerk may also be the source of the forgery that he was convicted of and sent to Sing Sing.

**New York State Census 1900**

Conducted while White was in Sing Sing, White changed his profession to "journalist." This ties in with the fact that at the time he was the editor of *Star of Hope*, which launched the year before.

**One Last Hint**

On page nine he reconstructs his first encounter with the local authorities, who call him by the name "Black." This could another clue to his real name, "White."