

## **Laura C. Sheridan [1853-1933]**

Advocate and educator

### Quote:

**“Has the National Deaf-Mute College, whose professed object is ‘to give to competent deaf-mutes and others, who by reason of deafness cannot be educated elsewhere, a thorough education in the studies usually pursued in American colleges,’ opened its doors to woman? It appears not....The world has lost immensely by being so long in awakening to the importance of an equal education for women.” Laura C. Sheridan, 1875**



MISS LAURA C. SHERIDAN

[Photo from: The Silent Worker (1915)]

Born: April 1853

Died: 1933 (age 80)

Family of origin:

Father: Andrew Sheridan, a Methodist minister from Ohio

Mother: Mary Ann Merrill, a teacher from Ohio

Grew up in Indiana

Family name Shivanart

2<sup>nd</sup> of six kids

Became ‘partially deaf’ at age 12 from measles

Brother lived in Chicago as newspaper man

Contributions/Relationship to the Deaf Community:

Advocated for the inclusion of Deaf Women at the National Deaf Mute College (Gallaudet University)

Deaf School teacher

Christian worker for Deaf people (Chicago Mission for the Deaf),

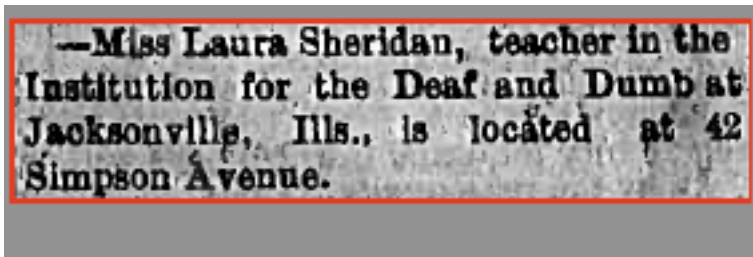
Planning and participation in Deaf Education conferences

Schooling:

Public schools in Indiana

Six months as a senior at the Indiana School for the Deaf

Attended the Chautauqua (NY) Institute, and after the 4-year program received a diploma



[image above from The Chautauqua Daily of August 11, 1882]

Awarded an honorary MA degree from Gallaudet College (now University) (1914)

Professional Experiences:

1873-1880: Taught at Indiana School for the Deaf (appointed by Supt McIntire)

Teacher at the Illinois School for the Deaf (Jacksonville)

Involved with Chicago M.E. Mission for the Deaf

Personal information:

Single and frequently lived with her older sister

List of original documents/links:

Sheridan, Laura C. (1875). The Higher Education of Deaf Mute Women. *American Annals of the Deaf*, 20 (4), 248-252.

Sheridan, Laura C. (1887). Thoughts from my school-room. Proceedings of the Eleventh Convention of the American Instructors of the Deaf. Berkeley, Ca. July 15-22, 1886. [accessed via

<http://archive.org/details/proceedingsof11t00amerrich>]

Sheridan, Laura C. (1914). Schoolroom problems. *American Annals of the Deaf*, 59 (3), pgs. 205-214. [Accessed via

<http://books.google.com/books?id=9qhKAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false>]

Sheridan, Laura C. (1915). Comments on 'Character Building.' Proceedings of the Twentieth Meeting of the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf. Staunton, VA, (June-July 1914), 82. & 16 Washington DC: Government Printing Office.  
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Long, E. Florence. (1915). Stray Straws. *Silent Worker*, 28 (3) 52.

Berg, Albert (ed.) of Alumni Notes (1933, May 19) *The Silent Hoosier*, 45, (17), 5.