

Laura C. Redden Searing

1839 - 1923

“Deaf Literary Journalist”

Laura Redden Searing began her long, successful career as a poet, journalist, and author. She graduated from Missouri School for the Deaf in 1858. Her writing fame started prior to the Civil War period using a pen name, “Howard Glyndon”. She was a war correspondent for the St. Louis Republican newspaper where she braved battlefields and interviewed President Abraham Lincoln and First Lady Mary Todd. She was also friends with President Ulysses Grant and James Garfield.

She traveled throughout Europe as a foreign correspondent for several American newspapers. For much of her life, she wrote and published hundreds of articles and poems. She had a close-knit relationship with the deaf community; however she also interacted with hearing people by using pen and paper for communication.

In 1872, a railroad town in Minnesota was named “Glyndon” in honor of Laura after her pen name. In 1886, Laura with her daughter Elsa, fled an abusive marriage. She settled in San Mateo, California where she lived until her death in 1923.