

## Laura Bridgman Bibliography

Note: NLS order numbers following some titles are for patrons of the National Library Service network of Braille and Talking Book libraries.

### Adult books

The education of Laura Bridgman: First deaf and blind person to learn language.

Freeberg, Ernest. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001. 264pp. Also available in paperback.

NLS: RC051875, BR013354

A biography of Laura Bridgman, with a focus on her education and relationship with her teacher, Samuel Gridley Howe, director of Perkins School for the Blind. The author examines Laura's educational experience within the context of the nineteenth-century social reform movement and the theological debates of the day.

The imprisoned guest: Samuel Howe and Laura Bridgman, the original deaf-blind girl.

Gitter, Elisabeth. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001. 341pp.

NLS: RC051840, BR013353

An account of Laura Bridgman's life and her relationship with her teacher Dr. Howe. The author is particularly critical of Howe's motives, maintaining that his interest in her was as an experiment that would substantiate his beliefs about human nature and the deity, and advance his interests in education of the disabled.

Life and education of Laura Dewey Bridgman, the deaf, dumb and blind girl.

Lamson, Mary Swift. Manchester, N.H.: Ayer Company Publishers, 1975. 420pp.

NLS: This title not available

Written by one of Laura Bridgman's teachers, this is a fascinating day-to-day account of the girl's education. Written before Laura's death, it is a great source of insight into her character and personality.

### Juvenile books

Child of the silent night. Hunter, Edith F. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1963. 128pp.

NLS: RC025699, BR013357

A biography of Laura's childhood. The author does an excellent job of presenting Laura's perspectives and experience.

### Laura Bridgman bookmark

The Smithsonian sells a handsome 1"x 2¼" brass bookmark with a full-figure silhouette of Laura Bridgman. It is based upon an 1843 original by Auguste Edouart in the collection of the National Portrait Gallery. Cost is \$3.60 plus \$1 for shipping via USPS. Order from: Dept. of Exhibitions and Collections Management, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, 750 Ninth St., NW, Suite 8300, Washington, DC 20001

### Other material

Perkins School for the Blind Research Library and Archives.

Additional biographies, accounts, and historical material are available for viewing by appointment. For information, contact Research Library, Perkins School for the Blind, 175 No. Beacon, Watertown, MA 02472. 617-972-7250 hayeslibrary@perkins.org

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