

# Caroline Harrison

*Indianapolis, Marion County*

October 1, 1832 – October 25, 1892

Born in Ohio, Caroline Scott Harrison's father, a Presbyterian minister, ran Oxford Female Institute in Oxford, Ohio. In October 1853, she wed Benjamin Harrison, the twenty-third president of the United States, Harrison (1889-93), who was known as the Centennial President because he was inaugurated one hundred years after George Washington. They moved to Indianapolis where he started his law career. When her husband became involved in politics, Harrison became part of the social elite of Indianapolis. Their home, located at 1230 N Delaware Street in Indianapolis, was the center of their social life. There, they entertained such national figures as President Rutherford B. Hayes and General William Sherman.

Because of her bad health, Caroline Harrison was unable to spend time in Washington when her husband was a Senator. However, she moved to the White House when he was elected president in 1889. In her short time as first lady, Mrs. Harrison founded the largest patriotic association of women, Daughters of the American Revolution, and became its first president-general in 1890. She also convinced Johns Hopkins University Medical School to admit women by helping to raise funds for the program. Mrs. Harrison was an accomplished artist who loved to paint, especially china.

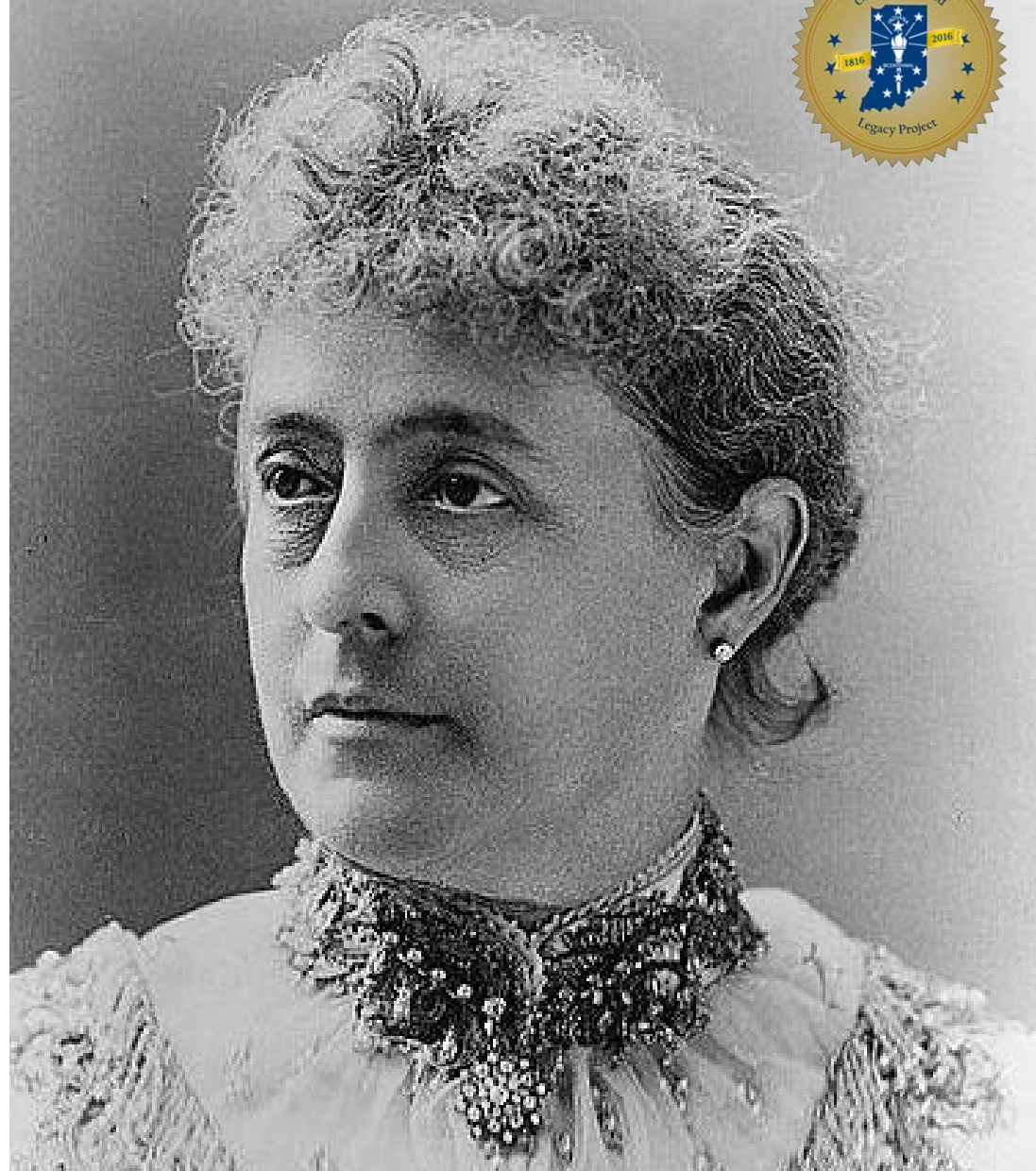
With failing health, she died of tuberculosis at the White House in October 1892. Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley wrote the following tribute entitled *Mrs. Harrison* after she died:

*"Yet with the faith she knew  
We see her still  
Even as here she stood  
All that was pure and good  
And sweet in womanhood  
God's will her will."*

For more information about Caroline Scott Harrison, go to:  
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/1600/first-ladies/carolineharrison>.

For more information about *Writing Her Story*, go to: <http://www.in.gov/icw/2440.htm>.

Photo: Biography.com. *Caroline Harrison Biography*. Retrieved from: <http://native-american-indian-wars.blogspot.com/2015/02/delaware-indians-kidnapping-of-frances.html>



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