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# THE INDIANA JUNIOR HISTORIAN

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**“ . . . a little less flattery  
and a little more justice.”**

*“The Young Widow,”  
engraved by T. B. Welch expressly for Godey’s  
Lady’s Book after a painting by Webster,  
appeared in the August 1855 issue.  
Additional articles and fashions in this issue of  
Godey’s focus on mourning.  
As this issue of the Indiana Junior Historian  
indicates, the plight of widows was a major  
focus of women’s rights advocates in Indiana.*



# Focus

Women's rights in nineteenth century Indiana is a complex and confusing part of our state history. Readily available evidence provides only a small part of Indiana's story. Often, evidence brings more questions than answers.

More work is needed to gather documents that tell many individual stories, which are the building blocks of the bigger story of Hoosier women's lives and rights. Historians must analyze and interpret the evidence and begin to write that bigger story.

We have chosen to limit our focus to two key issues: married women's property rights and woman suffrage. We ask you to analyze the evidence and relate it to your own lives.

On page 3 is an overview of a broader context in which these issues should be considered. Several of our illustrations are from *Godey's Lady's Book*. That popular magazine is a prime example of what women were reading in the nineteenth century.

Next, we review the status of women in Indiana from

*The title of this issue comes from a statement by Robert Dale Owen on his women's property resolution at the 1850 Constitutional Convention: "It would be much to our credit, if we would administer a little less flattery and a little more justice." Debates, 1: 467.*

statehood to 1850. The 1815 census of Indiana Territory and the map of Indiana at statehood establish a starting point in place and time. The land patent provides an opportunity to suggest significant local research.

Datelines on pages 5 and 9 list some legislative action to address the needs of women in Indiana.

An interesting episode in the story of women's rights in Indiana was the 1850 constitutional convention, which produced our second state constitution. This 1851 constitution, with many amendments, still governs our state. The excerpts from position statements regarding women's rights on page 6 provide useful evidence about the status of and attitudes toward women. The letter from Sarah T. Bolton describes how one female participant viewed the activity.

The brief summary of the years following 1850 notes some successes and failures of the struggle for women's rights in Indiana. The 1852 resolutions from the Indiana Woman's Suffrage Association indicate some of the goals of the group. Mary Thomas' 1859 speech, printed on page 9, is an important example of the arguments that women used in seeking the right to vote.

The games on page 10 offer a fun opportunity to test your skills and knowledge.

As usual, the "Apple" provides sources which can supply additional information

on the topic. Some general studies are given which can provide context for the study of women's rights in Indiana.

We suggest through activities how you can add to the resources about women in nineteenth century Indiana, and after. As usual, we encourage you to preserve your work in a local repository for use by other researchers.

## *Godey's Lady's Book*

By 1860,  
*Godey's Lady's Book*  
(1830-98)  
reached  
160,000  
people  
throughout  
the United



States and foreign countries. The publisher, Louis Godey, employed more than 150 women to hand color the fashion plates and bind the magazines.

This monthly magazine, according to items in various issues, was available in Indiana as early as 1845.

After Sarah J. Hale joined Godey as editor in the late 1830s, *Godey's* incorporated much on "the progress of female improvement," the goal of Hale's *Ladies Magazine*, which had failed.

*Godey's* was the most successful of the magazines for women, which had been common in the cities of the United States since the 1780s.

The child's dress appeared in the June 1855 *Godey's Lady's Book*.

Source: Woloch, *Women*, pp.100-11.

# The Ideal Woman?

In the nineteenth century, the ideal woman in popular thought was “. . . a devoted mother, an unusually virtuous person who had to remain aloof from the corruption of politics, a domestic individual who labored most happily and productively within her own home, and a weak-minded, physically inferior being who needed guidance from stronger and wiser people—men.”<sup>1</sup>

In truth, women's lives varied greatly just as they do today. Where women came from and when, helped to determine what they believed about their roles in society. In the new state of Indiana, where they settled, and when, helped to determine the roles women had to assume.

In the early 1800s, married women's lives did focus on homes and families. In frontier Indiana, their responsibilities included growing and preparing much of the family's food, and spinning wool and flax into fibers to knit or weave clothing. Families living in or near towns and cities could often purchase foods and fabric. Some women earned money for such purchases by taking in sewing and laundry, or by trading their home-made items.

Growth and development in Indiana was similar to that in the rest of the country. As soon as basic needs were met, pioneers built schools and churches. Business and

primitive industry grew. Poverty, homelessness, and crime occurred.

Many women reacted to such needs in society by extending their caregiving and nurturing activities to those who could not help themselves. Churches often provided the structure for women to aid widows and orphans, the sick, the poor, and the homeless. Women also became a major force in the movement to abolish slavery.



*Godey's fashions for March 1866*

As more women became involved in new roles outside the home, many people—including husbands, fathers, and other women—argued that these women were moving beyond their proper sphere. Many debates focused on the question: what rights, if any, do women have?

Today, that question may seem less relevant, but throughout the nineteenth century it was not. For example, women in the United States generally were not

permitted to vote in state and national elections. Married women in Indiana and the rest of the country generally could not protect their property from seizure to pay husbands' debts. Married women who earned money had to give their wages to their husbands. Widows were often left in poverty because they had few rights to their husbands' estates.

By the 1850s, the women's rights movement was very visible throughout the nation.<sup>2</sup>

Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, and many others, travelled across the United States and debated in favor of new legislation giving women more control of their lives.

National leaders came to Indiana, and Indiana women took part in national women's groups.<sup>3</sup> Women gradually moved into all facets of life and society, proving that women were not limited to the home sphere. With the help of men, who had the legal power to legislate change, some women labored to gain legal protections and opportunities for all women.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> Riley, *Inventing the American Woman*, Vol. 1, p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 115.

<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Matilda Joselyn Gage, eds., *History of Woman Suffrage* (New York: Fowler & Wells, 1881), Vol. 1, pp. 290-314.

# Women in Indiana before 1850

To become a state, Indiana Territory had to have at least 60,000 free inhabitants. According to the 1815 census of the Indiana Territory, there were 12,112 free white males over the age of twenty-one. There is no indication of how many women lived in the territory because they were lumped with the other 51,785 free inhabitants included in the census.

Who were the women of Indiana? What were their lives like? What responsibilities and rights did they have?

It is very difficult to make many general statements about women in Indiana. Little work has been done with available resources about how women lived. There was much legislation focusing on the hardships of married women and widows. There were divorce laws and divorces throughout this period. Records prove that many women purchased land. Sources indicate that women owned businesses and provided services.

There was a major difference between the rights of single women and married women with regard to ownership of property—both real, such as house and land, and personal, such as clothes and furniture. "Indiana's earliest property laws were based upon the English common law tradition that considered women almost as perpetual juveniles. Women forfeited all

personal interest in property upon marriage. They could not make wills or convey property. They had extremely limited rights of inheritance and no right to an independent income."<sup>1</sup>

A legal agreement regarding property before marriage could offer a married woman some protection. Most married women, however, were dependent upon their husbands for everything. Married women and widows generally had little control over their

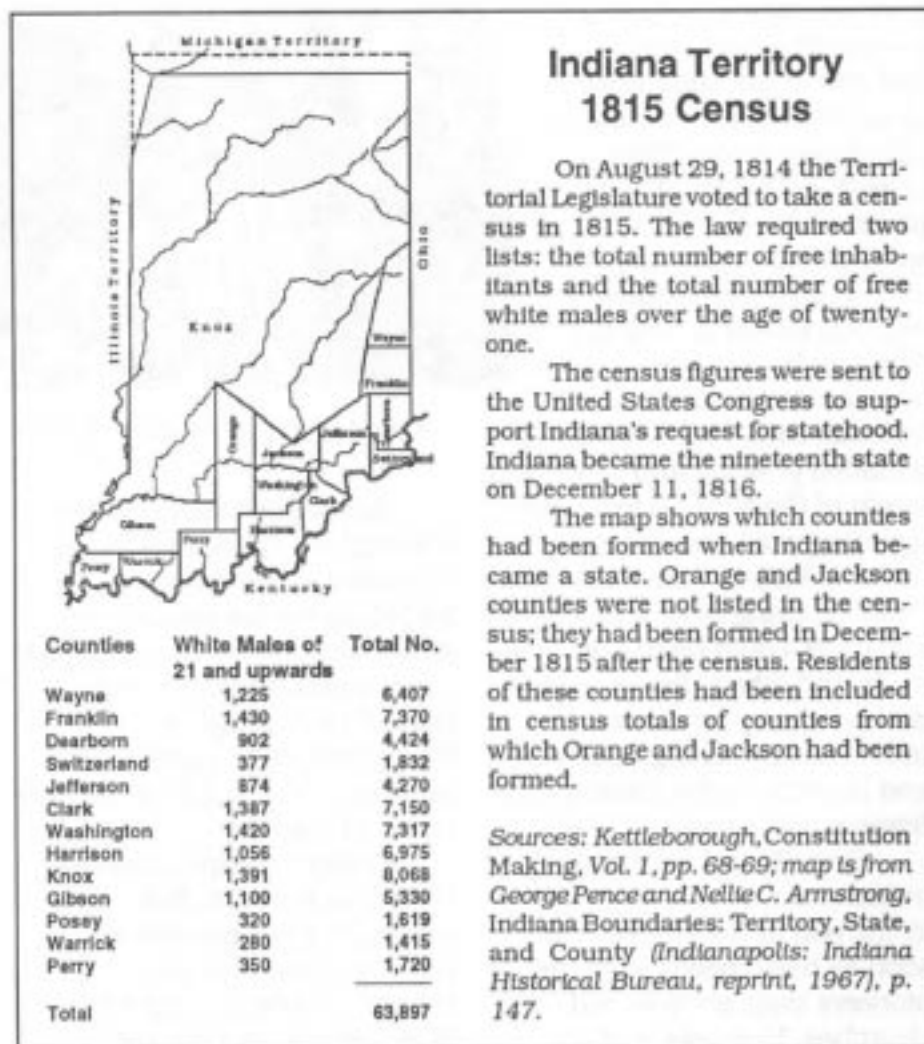
own destinies.

One thing all women had in common was the lack of the legal right to vote. It was after 1850 before men and women in Indiana began to pursue that right in the General Assembly.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> Walsh, *Centennial History*, p. 166. English common law depended upon court decisions and customs; laws were not written in a code like laws passed by the General Assembly.

Sources: *The laws of Indiana and various records in the Indiana State Archives provide extensive resources.*



# 1839 Land Patent of Elizabeth Eakins



Like many women, Elizabeth Eakins (or Akins), an African-American, purchased land from the federal government. She actually purchased the land in April 1837 according to Owen County records. The federal law of April 24, 1820 specified that the minimum price for land was \$1.25 per acre; full payment was due on the day of purchase.

Sources: Roger Peterson, *Owen County Archivist*; Richard Peters, ed., *Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America* (Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown, 1850), Vol. 3, p. 566.

# Some Acts of the Indiana General Assembly Regarding Women

December 11 - Indiana statehood	1816	
	1830	Godley's <i>Lady's Book</i> began publication in Philadelphia
February 17 - Widows' property rights if spouses die without a will	1838	
	1847	January 23 - Protection of married women's property
January 26 - Married women may make wills	1847	
	1847	January 27 - Widows allowed \$150 of their husbands' effects
February 16 - Widows may have personal property of husbands if not valued over \$200	1848	
	1848	Women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York
January 12 - Widows may have husbands' personal property plus money from the sale of real estate to bring the total value to \$150	1849	
	1850	Indiana Constitutional Convention

## Consider the Evidence

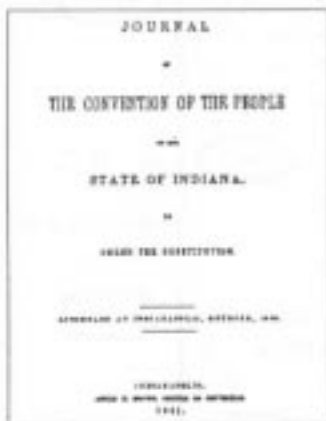
- Why were white males over 21 listed separately in the 1815 census? What groups were included in the total number of free inhabitants?
- Why were Indiana's earliest counties formed in the southern part of the state? Locate evidence in your library to support your answers. When was your county formed?
- Records of land sales from the federal government are generally available in entry books in each county or land office records at the Indiana State Archives.

Identify land purchases by women in the nineteenth century in your county.

Each student or group of students might take one name and locate as much information about that woman as possible. You should look for census records, cemetery and church records, marriage records, and other resources available in your local library, historical society, courthouse, etc. Information that you find will enable you to add to the history of women in your county.

# Indiana's 1850 Constitutional Convention

The 1850 constitutional convention, October 7, 1850-February 10, 1851 provided an opportunity for both advocates and opponents of women's rights to be heard. The records of that convention preserved in the published *Journal and Debates and Proceedings*, therefore, provide



an interesting sample of opinions on both sides of the question.

There were ten resolutions by convention members about women's rights. These were almost 24% of the resolutions submitted to the committee on rights and privileges of citizens. None of the resolutions was included in the new constitution. One resolution was passed but later defeated. Two of the resolutions were by Robert Dale Owen (Posey County), a long-time advocate of women's rights.

Upon passage of the resolution, the *Tri-weekly Indiana State Sentinel*, November 28, 1850 asserted: "We do not doubt, from indications

that have come to us already from various portions of the State, that this provision, eminently in accordance with the mild and humane spirit of the age, will meet cordial approval throughout the State. . . ." No comment was located about the defeat of the resolution.

The 1851 Constitution did not include a women's rights section. The extensive debates and publicity of the convention, however, demonstrated that there were women and men ready to fight for women's rights.

Sources: *The Debates are crucial resources; Kettleborough, Constitution Making, Vol. 1, provides useful summaries and commentary. Resolutions are printed ibid., pp. 234-42.*

## Some Positions on Women's Rights at the 1850 Constitutional Convention

### From Men Who Spoke in Favor

"... the legal existence of the woman is suspended during marriage. . . ." (464)\*

"... the legislation of this country has long enough denied to the wife, the widow, and the orphan, that which justly belongs to them." (1158)\*

"The law already protects land. We propose—and that is all we propose—equally to protect the property of women who have no land." (1167)\*

\* Page numbers refer to Debates.

"That a woman must be deprived of all her own, and made the merest dependent upon the husband's bounty . . . is a slander upon the sex." (1189)\*

### From Men Who Spoke in Opposition

"If we establish the principle that the pecuniary interest of women is separate and distinct from that of men, we should establish also their right of representation, and their right of suffrage. . . ." (469)\*

"The necessary degree of political knowledge cannot be

presumed to exist in women, who, by their domestic duties, are led away from the consideration of the affairs of the State and the affairs of the nation." (469)\*

"... you could not give to her the power which a man has, and which he exercises in the affairs of State and of trade, for if you could, she would then cease to be woman." (472-73)\*

"In order to repair . . . the condition of married women, is it necessary to begin by exploding a volcano under the foundation of the family union?" (470)\*



## From a Woman of the Day

Sarah T. Bolton (1814–1893), an Indiana poetess of renown, aided Robert Dale Owen in the 1850 women's rights campaign. Bolton wrote this letter September 16, 1882 to William Wesley Woollen.<sup>1</sup>



... Mr. Owen's efforts in the Constitutional Convention... were to get recognition... of women's rights of personal property, their rights of real estate were already secured. This measure excited a great deal of unprofitable discussion. It... was laid on the table, taken up & discussed pro & con and laid on the table again. Men did not scruple to stand up and say, "if women had the rights proposed by the measure under consideration, they would go out into the market to buy & sell—instead of darning the stockings, sewing on the buttons, cooking dinner & washing the children's faces." In short, the proposed law would throw a fire brand into a thousand happy homes.

In the meantime I was writing articles setting forth the grievances resulting from woman's status, as under the common law, and the necessity of reform and scattering these articles through the newspapers, over the state to make public opinion. At length the measure passed, but was reconsidered and voted down. Then we rallied the few women who were in favor of it and went to the Convention in a body to electioneer with the members. The measure was brought up and passed again reconsidered the next day & again voted down. This, to the best of my recollection, was repeated five or six times before it was finally lost.

Then I wrote a circular setting forth Mr. Owen's efforts and asking the women of the state to contribute one dollar each,

for the purpose of presenting to Mr. Owen a testimonial to show our appreciation of his endeavor on our behalf. . . . The women of Indiana . . . sent over one hundred dollars for the testimonial. With this money we procured one of the most elegant antique, silver pitchers I have ever seen in any land and had it engraved with a suitable inscription.<sup>2</sup>

Having obtained leave to use the Hall of the House of Representatives, on the occasion of the presentation we decorated it with green garlands & fragrant flowers till it seemed a bower of beauty; and on the evening of the 28th of May 1851—it was crowded, crammed with the elite of the city to see what had never occurred in Indianapolis before. . . . Mr. Owen's reply on receiving the pitcher was a grand, logical, exhaustive argument in favor of woman's rights.

I . . . am proud of my action in that long ago battle for the property rights of my sisters. . . .

### Notes

<sup>1</sup>Woollen printed the letter in his essay on Owen in *Biographical and Historical Sketches of Early Indiana* (Indianapolis: Hammond & Co., 1883), pp. 296–98. A full transcription and a photograph of the first page are in *BROADSIDES: Indiana, The Early Years, 1816–1850* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1987), pp. 262–65. The original letter is in the Indiana Historical Society Library.

<sup>2</sup>The pitcher is at the Owen-Maclure House in New Harmony. Image courtesy Indiana Division, Indiana State Library.

### Consider the Evidence

- Divide into teams and choose one of the position statements on page 6. Examine each statement carefully. What is the point of each statement? Are the statements logical or emotional? How do they help you understand what people believed at that time?
- Select any early or current issue debated in your area. From newspaper accounts, compile a list of statements in favor and in opposition. Compare them to your conclusions about statements from the 1850 convention.
- Locate more information about Sarah Bolton. Her poem "Paddle Your Own Canoe" was very popular with women's rights advocates. Find a copy, and read it. Explain why it was popular.
- Find out more about Robert Dale Owen and New Harmony. Were his beliefs shared by many others of his time?
- Some other Indiana women who fought for women's rights include Frances Wright, May Wright Sewall, Helen Gougar, and Grace Julian Clarke. Investigate women named in this issue—or women active in your area in the nineteenth century. What did each woman achieve?

# Property Rights, Yes! The Vote, No!

Although there was no women's rights provision in the 1851 Constitution, Robert Dale Owen led the way to some progress in the 1851-1852 session of the General Assembly. The General Assembly continued to expand the property rights of married women. In 1879, married women were granted control over their personal property.

Legislation in 1873 and 1877 had already recognized the capability of women to function outside the household sphere.

In the 1850s Indiana women began their campaign for the right to vote. In October 1851, the Indiana Woman's Suffrage Association was formed. Resolutions dated October 13, 1852 from the Association's second annual meeting in Richmond, Indiana are printed in the box on this page.

On January 19, 1859 members of the Association were allowed to address a joint session of the General Assembly—the first time women had been allowed that honor. Mary F. Thomas, M.D., and Mrs. Mary B. Birdsall, both of Richmond, presented a petition for female suffrage and equal political rights. On January 20, 1871 Amanda M. Way and Emma B. Swank, again addressed a joint session.

Although no resolution was considered in 1859, the General Assembly considered three resolutions between 1865

and 1880 to amend the constitution to allow female suffrage. Speeches by local and national suffragettes and widespread publicity in magazines and newspapers made the cause well-known by 1881.

The General Assembly in 1881 passed a resolution to allow woman suffrage. Since a constitutional amendment must pass two consecutive General Assemblies, the same resolution had to pass in the 1883 session. It did not. The General Assembly considered suffrage resolutions seven more times between 1885 and 1913. Women were not granted the right to vote until amendment of the United States Constitution in 1920.

Sources: Walsh, Centennial History, pp. 165-71; Kettleborough, Constitution Making, Vol. 2, p. 692-93. See also, Pat Creech Scholten, "A Public 'Jollification': The 1859 Women's Rights Petition before the Indiana Legislature," Indiana Magazine of History (1976), Vol. 72, pp. 347-59; Janice Marie La Flamme, "The Strategy of Feminine Protest: A Rhetorical Study of the Campaign for Woman's Rights in Indiana, 1881," M. A. thesis, Indiana University, July 1968.

## Resolutions of the Indiana Woman's Suffrage Association, 1852

—That the avenues of gain in all their varieties, be as freely opened to woman as they now are to man.

—That woman, everywhere, be requested and encouraged to fit herself in early life for some useful and lucrative employment.

—That the rising generation of males and females be educated together in the same schools and colleges and that they receive the same kind and same degree of education.

—That as the qualification for citizenship in this country is wholly a mental and moral one and not physical or pecuniary, and as the sexes in their mental and moral conditions are identical, therefore woman should equally enjoy the rights of citizenship with man.

—That woman should receive for equal labor equal reward with man.

## Consider the Evidence

- Compare the 1852 resolutions of the Indiana Woman's Suffrage Association, and the speech of Mary F. Thomas, with the goals of women today. What similarities and differences do you find?
- Examine the datelines on pages 5 and 9. Add the date when your county was formed. Select at least one date and determine

an event in your area at that time. Also determine a national event at that same time.

- Talk with family members, friends, and senior citizens in your area. Try to document what women have been doing in the twentieth century based on your research. How have conditions for women changed or remained the same?



## An Activist for Women's Rights

Mary F. Thomas, M.D., on January 19, 1859 was the first woman to address the Indiana General Assembly, "... convened for the purpose of hearing the women of Indiana in person, and receiving their



petitions in behalf of their rights and concerning their grievances."<sup>1</sup> Excerpts from Thomas' speech are printed below.

Thomas (1816-88) was born in Maryland of Quaker parents. In July 1833, she married Owen Thomas, M.D.; she received her M.D. degree in 1854 from Penn Medical University for Women in

Philadelphia. She and her husband practiced medicine in Fort Wayne from 1854 to 1856 and then moved to Richmond, Indiana. Among her many activities was publication of a women's magazine, *The Lily*. In 1876 she became the first female member of the Indiana State Medical Society.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> *Indiana Senate Journal* (1859), p. 186; the complete address is printed, pp. 186-90.

<sup>2</sup> *Indiana Medical History Quarterly*, Vol. 5, No. 3 (September 1979), pp. 3-4. The entire issue is devoted to a speech by Thomas on women's medical education.

*Image of Thomas adapted from Indiana Magazine of History* (1976), p. 350.



*... we fully believe that the time has come for the women of Indiana to assert their rights as human beings . . . we ask our brothers in the Senate and House of Representatives to solemnly consider the responsibility that rests on you in this matter. . . . society accords to you the right to make laws to govern women, and although we can not . . . instruct you with regard to duty, it is our duty to our God, to ourselves and to posterity, to petition you to use the legal power vested in you to remove the political disabilities which . . . retard our progress . . . society has progressed; public opinion, now sanctions in women, the performance of duties which it would not tolerate a few years ago. . . .*

*Thousands of women in public positions are practically living down the old stereotyped insult to women . . . tens of thousands of women teachers are educating the children under their charge in the new and progressive feeling, that woman is capable of governing herself, and help to govern others. . . . they who once denounced us as fanatics, have, through absolute necessity and trial, learned to feel and to acknowledge that woman has not all the rights she needs. . . .*

*. . . This political oppression is crushing woman, and we feel to repeat that the time has come when the women of Indiana should calmly and dispassionately assert their right to the elective franchise, and the privileges growing out of it, as the basis of all the other rights.*

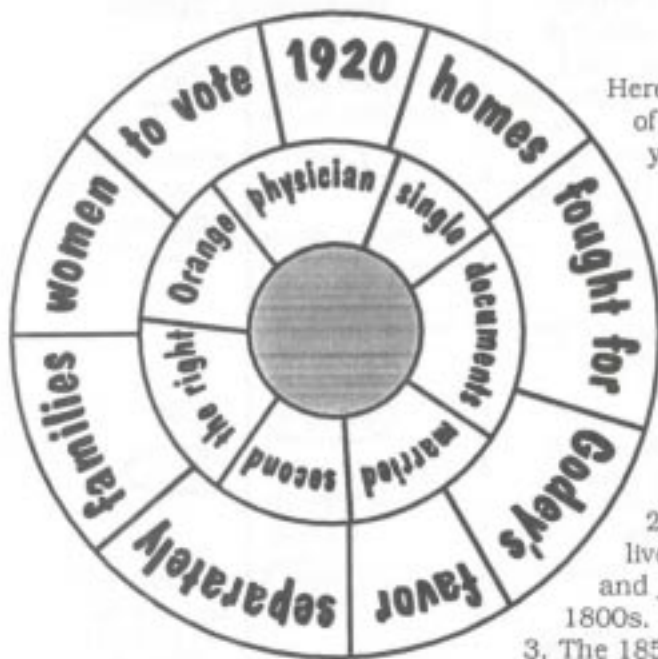
## Some Acts of the Indiana General Assembly Regarding Women

Second Indiana constitution adopted	1851	
	1852	May 14 - Widows' inheritance rights
March 4 - Widows may select articles from husbands' personal property, not to exceed \$300	1853	
	1861-1865	Civil War
February 19 - Widows may select \$500 worth of property	1869	
	1870	February 3 - Black males given right to vote by ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment
March 10 - Women eligible for any elected office or appointment controlled by General Assembly or governor	1873	
	1877	March 3 - Board of Managers of Indiana Reformatory Institute for Women and Girls shall be composed of 3 women
March 25 - Married women control their own personal property	1879	
	1881	April 7 - Married women may sue alone
April 11 - Woman suffrage resolution passed by General Assembly	1881	
	1881	April 16 - Women's contract and property rights expanded

# Test Your Skills!

## Bull's-Eye on Women in Indiana

Here's a test of your word marksmanship. The answer to each of the questions in the puzzle is in the bull's-eye target. When you answer each of the questions correctly, you can cross off the word in the target area. When all of the questions have been answered, write a comment about women in Indiana from the unused words.



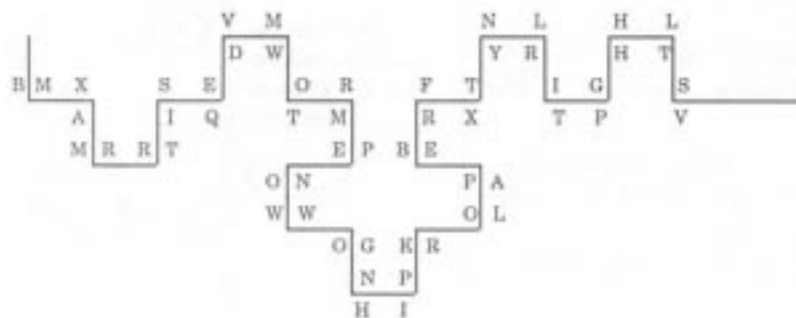
- Historians often use \_\_\_\_\_ to tell the individual stories which help us understand the bigger story.
- Married women's lives focused on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the early 1800s.
- The 1851 state constitution was Indiana's \_\_\_\_\_ constitution, and it governs us today.
- Robert Dale Owen was in \_\_\_\_\_ of women's rights.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lady's Book was available in Indiana by 1845.
- \_\_\_\_\_ women and \_\_\_\_\_ women had different legal rights.
- Mary F. Thomas was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- All women in the United States gained the right to vote in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jackson and \_\_\_\_\_ counties were not formed when the 1815 census was taken.
- Women were not listed \_\_\_\_\_ in the census of 1815.

*Adapted from Games, October 1991, p. 22.*

## Corner It!

A cornered code cannot slip past the sharp eyes of a person holding the right key. Each letter **inside** a corner forms part of a message. All other letters and marks are false trails. After you solve this code, make up other coded messages about women's rights in Indiana.

*Adapted from Burton Albert, Jr., Secret Codes for Kids (Chicago: Albert Whitman & Co., 1976), p. 11.*



*The Capitol of Indiana, Indianapolis.*

*This State House is where the 1850 Constitutional Convention met and where Mary F. Thomas spoke in 1859. It was torn down in 1878. The present State House was built on the same site.*

*Engraving from The New Pictorial Family Magazine (1847), Vol. 4, p. 513.*

# An Apple for Everyone



## Selected Sources

### Student Reading

• Ash, Maureen. *The Story of the Women's Movement*. Chicago: Childrens Press, 1989.

Ash provides an easy-to-read story of the early women's movement. The information is very basic, and the index is limited. It is good for beginning students.

• Gurko, Miriam. *The Ladies of Seneca Falls: The Birth of the Woman's Rights Movement*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1974.

General background and information on early leaders of the women's movement is presented in a very readable style. This is a good source for advanced students and adults.

• Warren, Ruth. *A Pictorial History of Women in America*. New York: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1975.

Warren shows, through pictures and text, the difficulties women have had in America in their struggle to receive an adequate education, to gain the right to vote, and even to wear comfortable clothing. The text is brief and informative for interested students.

### Advanced Reading

• Bennett, Pamela J., and Shirley S. McCord, comp. *Progress after Statehood: A Book of Readings*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1974.

A section on "Women" prints several primary sources, including items on bloomers (1853), equal pay (1858), and suffrage conventions (1869, 1870).

• *Debates*. See *Report*.

• Evans, Sara M. *Born for Liberty:*

*A History of Women in America*. New York: The Free Press, 1989.

A highly readable general survey of women in the history of the United States.

• *Journal of the Convention of the People of the State of Indiana to Amend the Constitution*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, reprint, 1936.

Reports the official activity of the 1850 Constitutional Convention.

• Kettleborough, Charles. *Constitution Making in Indiana*, Vol. 1, 1780-1851, Vol. 2, 1851-1916. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, reprints, 1971 and 1975.

Provides the text for constitutional documents, including resolutions, and some analysis and commentary. An invaluable source. There are four volumes, which cover through 1960.

• Leopold, Richard W. *Robert Dale Owen: A Biography*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1940.

A standard work, written using contemporary letters and periodicals.

• Myres, Sandra L. *Westering Women and the Frontier Experience, 1800-1915*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1982.

Myres uses primary documents to detail the lives of women on the frontier.

• *Report of the Debates and Proceedings of the Convention for the Revision of the Constitution of the State of Indiana, 1850*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, reprint, 1935.

Includes complete speeches and is a valuable resource regarding

public opinion of the time regarding issues discussed.

• Riley, Glenda. *Inventing the American Woman: A Perspective on Women's History*, Vol. 1, 1607-1877, Vol. 2, 1865 to the Present. Arlington Heights, IL: Harlan Davidson, Inc., 1986.

An excellent general survey.

• Walsh, Justin E. *The Centennial History of the Indiana General Assembly, 1816-1978*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1987.

Extremely valuable and readable account of issues and events involving the Indiana General Assembly.

• Woloch, Nancy. *Women and the American Experience*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984.

Excellent coverage of Frances Wright and the Owens' New Harmony experiment. Includes excellent background information about and analysis of women's roles from the seventeenth century to the 1980s.

### Of Special Interest

• Freetown Village, an acting troupe portraying African-American life in the 1870s, is touring a new production, *Whose Rights Are Right*, during 1993. This play deals with black women's rights. Call 317-631-1870 for more information.

• The annual catalog of the National Women's History Project provides a wide selection of books and materials. Contact the Project, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492-8515; 707-838-6000.



**The Indiana Historical Bureau** was created in 1915 to celebrate the centennial of statehood. It is the duty of the Historical Bureau to edit and publish documentary and other material relating to the history of the state of Indiana, to promote the study of Indiana history, and to work with others engaged in such pursuits. The Historical Bureau provides books, educational resources, and programs for students and teachers. Several are listed below. The Bureau also directs the Historical Marker Program and the care of the Governors' Portraits Collection.

• **BROADSIDES** produces supplemental educational materials based on primary sources for teaching Indiana history. Student packets encourage active participation and skills development with possible integration in various grades and subjects. An extensive teacher guide provides ready information and teaching resources.

• **Indiana Close Up** is a high school local government program affiliated with the national Close Up Foundation. This participatory annual event encourages study and discussion through the Jefferson Meeting on the Indiana Constitution.

• **Indiana History Day** encourages students grades 4 - 12 to research and prepare papers, exhibits, performances and media presentations on an annual historical theme. An emphasis on original research and interpretation allows students to experience the excitement of discovering or developing skills and interests that enrich their education and their lives. It is part of the National History Day network.

• **REACH**—Resources Educating in the Arts, Culture, and History—is a dynamic program that utilizes art and objects to stimulate dialogue and provide hands-on experiences, exploring not only the arts but also the culture and history of Indiana. Its arts-in-education basis encourages on-going planning for involving community resources in the school.

**The Indiana Junior Historical Society** is a network of history clubs for students in grades 4 - 12. Locally sponsored clubs initiate and participate in activities which encourage the study of Indiana history, often outside the classroom. The Indiana Junior Historical Society program is administered by the Indiana Historical Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202; 317-232-1882.

*The Indiana Junior Historian* is published eight times each school year by the Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana. It is distributed to members and sponsors of the affiliated clubs of the Indiana Junior Historical Society of which the Indiana Historical Bureau is a co-sponsor.

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Single copies are available for 85¢ each plus shipping and handling. Classroom sets (a minimum of 20 copies of an issue) of back issues beginning with the September 1991 issue are available for 30¢ per copy plus shipping and handling. Prices valid through December 31, 1993.

#### Contributing Editors

Carole M. Allen, Janine Beckley,  
Paula Bongen, Alan Conant, Dani B. Pfaff,  
Virginia L. Terpening