Physician **Sara Josephine Baker** (1873-1945) was born in Poughkeepsie, NY, and graduated from medical college in 1898. In her role as assistant NYS commissioner of health, she assisted in the tracking down "Typhoid Mary" Mallon. She was a president and founding member of the American Child Health Association.

Anthropologist **Ruth Fulton Benedict** (1887-1948) was born in New York City and went to Vassar College, graduating in 1909. At Columbia she wrote extensively on her research into the Native American religion and folklore. She was the president of the American Anthropological Association in 1947 and acknowledged as the outstanding anthropologist in America.

Architect **Louise Blanchard Bethune** (1856-1913) was born in Waterloo, NY and graduated from high school in Buffalo. The first woman professional architect in America, she opened an office in 1881 with her husband and partner, working on a wide variety of building types. In 1888 she became the first woman elected to the American Institute of Architects.

In 1920 Waterford native **Ethelda Bleibtrey** took home three Olympic gold medals in swimming events. She was the first American woman to win the gold. After earning her nursing degree when in her 50s, Bleibtrey used swimming as a method of rehabilitation for disabled people.

Photographer **Margaret Bourke-White** (1906-1971), born in New York City, graduated from Cornell University in 1927. Her photography hobby turned into a profession when she returned to New York City after college. In 1942 she became the first accredited woman war correspondent to the US Army.

**Rev. Olympia Brown** was the first formally ordained woman minister. She graduated from St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY, in 1863, as a Universalist preacher. She later served as President of the Federal Suffrage Association from 1903-1920.

**Shirley Chisholm**, born in 1924 in Brooklyn, graduated from Brooklyn College in 1946. In 1964 she ran as an independent to the state legislature and won a seat. In 1969 she became the first African-American woman to enter Congress, retiring from Congress in 1982.

**Eileen Collins**, born in 1956 in Elmira, served as a pilot instructor and assistant professor of mathematics during her career in the United States Air Force. She is a veteran of three space flights with NASA and became the first woman Shuttle commander in 1999.
Julia Etta Crane, born in Potsdam, NY in 1855, was a dedicated educator, singer, conductor and shrewd businesswoman. She founded the Crane Normal Institute of Music in 1886 in Potsdam, creating the first formal curriculum for music teacher education for teachers in public schools in the United States.

Katharine Bement Davis, born in Buffalo (1860-1935), was appointed as the New York City Correction Commissioner in 1914. She is recognized for her progressive approaches in the treatment of prisoners, believing that education was the key to reform.

Crystal Eastman (1881-1928), raised in Elmira, New York, was co-founder of the American Civil Liberties Union. She wrote the first national labor safety law guidelines and was also a major leader in suffrage and the equal rights movement.

Matilda Joslyn Gage, born in Cicero, NY, is the "forgotten" foremother of the women's rights movement. She was a contemporary of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, with whom she co-authored the first three volumes of the definitive History of Women Suffrage. She helped found the New York State Women's Suffrage Association in 1869.

Elizabeth Gillette was elected to the NYS Assembly in 1920 from Schenectady County, continuing to practice medicine during her single term in office. She continued to practice medicine for 60 years, retiring at 84.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, born in 1933 in Brooklyn, attended Cornell University. She graduated first in her class in 1959 at Columbia. She was nominated to the US Supreme Court in 1993 by President Clinton, only the second woman to sit on the high court.

Mystery writer Anna Katherine Green (1846-1935) was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Buffalo, where her lawyer father imparted to her knowledge of criminal law that surfaced in her novels. She is generally credited with establishing the detective novel as a genre; her first novel, The Leavenworth Tale (1878), sold over 150,000 copies.

Rhoda Fox Graves, born in St. Lawrence County in 1877, was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1924, serving until 1932. She was the first woman to serve in the New York Sate Senate, winning her seat in 1934. She served for 14 years, retiring in 1948.

Marietta Holley was born in 1836 near Pierrepont Manor in Jefferson County, NY. A North Country woman writer often called a female Mark Twain, she used wit and gentle satire to pose questions concerning women's lack of rights in a then male-dominated world through her fictional heroine, Samantha Allen.

Grace Murray Hopper (1906-1992), born in New York City, taught mathematics at Vassar until World War II, when she took a leave of absence to join the WAVES. Her war work was developing computers for the Navy; she coined the term "bug" to refer to computer glitches. Following the war, she continued developing computer program languages, including COBOL.
Belva Lockwood (1830-1917) was born on a farm in Niagara County, New York. She graduated from Genesee College in 1857. Moving to Washington D.C. she found a law school that would admit her and was admitted to the D.C. bar. Her admission to practice before the Supreme Court was secured after five years of lobbying a bill through Congress. In 1879 Belva Lockwood became the first woman to practice law before the US Supreme Court.

On the evening of April 26, 1777, Sybil Ludington, age 16, rode her horse "Star" for over 40 miles on rough night roads to warn that the British were burning Danbury and call out the volunteer militiamen commanded by her father. Riding sidesaddle, she covered twice the distance of Paul Revere. Her gallant night ride is immortalized in a bronze horse with rider statue in Carmel, NY.

Maria Goeppert Mayer (1906-1972) was the first American woman and second woman to win the Nobel Prize in Physics, in 1963 for developing the shell model of the nucleus of the atom, the basic model for the description of nuclear properties.

Florence Augusta Merriam, born in upstate Lewis County, NY, in 1863, dedicated her life to observing and protecting bird life and recording the wonders of the natural world. She became one of the foremost women writers of her era and traveled for 50 years studying birds.

In 1869, Esther Morris (born near Spencer, NY, in 1814) moved with her family to Wyoming. Morris urged lawmakers to pass a bill permitting women the right to vote. Wyoming became the first territory in the United States to approve women's suffrage in its new constitution. Morris' impact was also revealed when the legislature granted women property rights and equal pay for male and female teachers.

Linda Richards (1841-1911), born in rural St. Lawrence County, was the first student to enroll in the new nurse-training program offered at the New England Hospital for Women and Children in Boston, becoming America's first trained nurse. During her career, she established several nurse training programs and schools around the country.

A native New Yorker, when Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962) came to the White House as First Lady in 1933, she understood social conditions in the country better than any of her predecessors. She transformed the role of national First Lady, holding press conferences, traveling everywhere, giving lectures and radio broadcasts, and expressing her opinions candidly in a daily syndicated newspaper column, "My Day." Her service to humanity was capped by her work for the United Nations.

Margaret Olivia Slocum Sage, a native of Syracuse (1828-1918), was active in many social causes, including women's suffrage, vocational education, temperance, and the humane treatment of animals. Among her other philanthropic endeavors, she set up the Russell Sage Foundation, built a new campus for the Emma Willard School, founded Russell Sage College and supported other educational and cultural institutions in New York.
Historian **Lucy Maynard Salmon** (1853-1927), who was born in Fulton, became the first history teacher at Vassar College. She pioneered the use of the project method of individual special topic research and approached historical research from the point of view of everyday life.

Cortland NY’s **Dr. Lydia Strowbridge** (1830-1904) was a suffragist and a medical doctor, specializing in diseases of women and children. During the years when it was considered rare for a woman to want to be a doctor, she challenged the social conventions of the day, opening doors for other women.

**Annie Taylor** holds the distinction of being the first person to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel and survive! On emerging from her barrel after plunging over Niagara Falls on October 24, 1901 Annie Taylor said, "No one ought ever do that again."

Born in Auriesville, **Kateri Tekakwitha**, a Native American, was baptized a Catholic in the village then known as Caughnawaga at age 20 in 1676. Her unending piety and voluntary virginity led to her beatification in 1980, making Kateri (Catherine) Tekakwitha the first Native American to be eligible for sainthood.

**Madam C. J. Walker - Sarah Breedlove** (1867-1919): The daughter of former slaves, Walker worked initially as a washerwoman until she devised a hair care and grooming system to meet the needs of African-American women in 1905. She developed an enormous marketing network that employed thousands of African-American women and was the largest African-American owned business in the nation.

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**31 New York State Women of Distinction for March 2003**

A Women's History Month Awareness Project of AAUW-NYS

**Blanche Stuart Scott** (1889-1970)
Pioneer Woman Automobile Driver and Aviator

The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Virginia Apgar (1909-74) was admitted to Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in the 1930's. She became the first woman to head the anesthesiology department. In 1959 she became senior executive with National Foundation-March of Dimes.

Born in Staten Island in 1941, folk singer Joan Baez became deeply involved in the civil rights struggle during the early 1960's and later opposed US participation in the Vietnam War. In 1965 she founded an institute to study non-violence.

Labor leader and social reformer Leonora Kearney Barry grew up in St. Lawrence County, NY. In 1886, she was one of 16 women delegates to the national Knights of Labor Convention. She worked tirelessly to improve the wages and working condition of women and children around the country and she traveled widely to organize and investigate for the Knights of Labor. (Submitted by the St. Lawrence County Branch.)

Frances Xavier Cabrini began teaching and working in orphanages, taking formal religious vows in 1877. In 1889, Mother Cabrini relocated to New York City at the direction of the Pope to minister to the growing numbers of impoverished immigrants. Canonized in 1946, St. Cabrini, became the first American saint.

Elizabeth Jane Cochran (1864-1922), who wrote under the pen name Nellie Bly, worked for Joseph Pulitzer's the New York World newspaper. She achieved widespread fame in 1889 when she raced around the world in fewer than 80 days, beating the record set by Jules Verne's fictional character in his popular novel.

Ithaca lawyer Constance Cook was the first woman vice president of Cornell University. She won a discrimination suit against the Episcopal Church that won her client the right to become America's first female Episcopal priest. As a member of the state legislator, Connie Cook cast the deciding vote that enabled the women of New York State to have safe, legal abortions. (Submitted by the Ithaca Branch.)

Nurse Ella Phillips Crandall (1871-1938) was born in Wellsville, NY. She became the executive secretary of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing in 1912, where she worked to develop public health nursing into a recognized profession. She later worked with the American Red Cross during World War II.

Paulina Kellogg Wright Davis (1813-76) was born and raised in western New York. She headed the committee that organized the first National Women's Rights Convention in
Worcester, MA, in 1850. She helped found the New England Woman Suffrage Association and established Una, one of the first women's rights periodicals in the United States.

**Marian De Forest** (1864-1935) was the founder of Zonta (in 1919 in Buffalo, NY), an international organization of women business and professional leaders dedicated to improving the legal, political, and economic status of women.

Born in Schuylerville, **Ellen Curtis Demorest** (1824-98) helped revolutionize the fashion industry in the 1860s with the invention and mass-production of her paper dress-making patterns, selling 3 million patterns in 1876.

Social worker **Grace Hoadley Dodge** (1856-1914) spent her adult life working to improve the lives of others. She was one of the first two women to serve on the New York City Board of Education and she formed the Girls' Public School Athletics League in 1905.

A native of New York City **Mary Mapes Dodge** (1831-1905) was an author and editor of children's literature. Among her most famous works is Hans Brinker; or the Silver Skates.

Reformer **Elizabeth Glendower Evans** (1856-1937) was born in New Rochelle. She was an active labor organizer and a member of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. In the 1920's she was a national director of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Businesswoman **Kate Gleason** (1865-1933) was born in Rochester, NY, and began helping in her father's tool-making business when she was 11. She eventually became the chief sales representative of the firm, one of the first traveling saleswomen.

The New York Herald-Tribune reporter **Marguerite Higgins** (1920-66) covered World War II and the wars in Korea and Vietnam. She advanced the cause of equal access for female war correspondents and became the first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for international reporting in 1951.

In 1758, a raiding party of Shawnee warriors and French soldiers captured **Mary Jemison**, age 15, with her family. Mary was purchased by a group of Senecas and given the name Dehgewanus, meaning "Two Fallen Voices." She married twice and had nine children. She chose to maintain her Indian ways rather than return to the white culture. A bronze statue and the one-room log cabin she built herself are located at the Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY.

Businesswoman and chemist **Estee Lauder** was born in New York City in 1908. She created beauty products in her kitchen and sold them to a local salon, gradually expanding her local business into a worldwide company.

**Democrat Mary Lilly**, from New York County, was one of two women elected to the Assembly in 1919. Lilly was a graduate of the New York University School of Law, the first women to win a scholarship in a competitive exam, and the first woman admitted to practice law in NY.
NYS Senator **Olga A. Mendez** is the first Puerto Rican woman elected to a State Legislature in the United States mainland, first elected to the 28th Senate District in 1978.

**Anna Mary Robertson "Grandma" Moses** (1860-1961) was born on a farm in Greenwich, NY. An untrained artist, her 2,000 paintings in the "American Primitive" style were favorably received from her first one-woman show in NYC in 1940. During her life, her works were shown in the US and Europe in 150 solo and 100 group shows.

**Rhoda Palmer** (1816-1919), born outside Geneva, NY, was a lifelong advocate of women's suffrage. She signed the Declaration of Sentiments in 1848 and lived to vote in the 1918 New York elections at age 102. (Submitted by the Bath Branch)

Economist **Sylvia Field Porter** (1913-91) was born in Patchogue, LI, graduating from Hunter College (1932). She worked on Wall Street and as a Wall Street journalist. She published a pioneering weekly newspaper on the government bond markets and became a regular financial columnist with the New York Post, syndicated to over 400 newspapers.

Historian **Emily James Smith Putnam** (1865-1944) was born in Canandaigua NY and educated at Bryn Mawr College and at Cambridge. In 1894 she became the first dean of Barnard College. From 1901-04 she served as president of the League for Political Education and later wrote historical studies of women in society.

Republican **Ida Sammis**, a well-known suffrage leader and supporter of prohibition, ran for the Assembly seat representing Suffolk County in 1918, becoming one of two women elected to the Assembly in 1919.

**Margaret Sanger** (1879-1966) was born in Corning, NY. She practiced obstetrical nursing in New York's Lower East Side, opened the first birth control clinic, and became the founding president of International Planned Parenthood Federation (1953). (Submitted by the Bath Branch.)

Daredevil **Blanche Stuart Scott**, born in 1889 in Rochester, NY, learned to drive at 13, which annoyed the Rochester City Council. In 1910, Scott became first woman to drive an automobile cross-country, traveling from NY to San Francisco, a trip of over 6,000 miles. She soloed at the Curtiss Flying School at Hammondsport on 6 Sept 1910, becoming one of the first three female pilots. Although never licensed, she spent the next six years (1910-16) performing on the aerial exhibition circuit with a number of aerial teams. After a 32-year hiatus from flying (1916-48) she became the first woman to pilot a jet aircraft in a USAF T-33 copiloted by Charles Yeager. (Submitted by the Bath Branch)

**Elizabeth Cady Stanton** (1815 - 1902): This progenitor of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was born in Johnstown, New York, on November 12, 1815. She received a "superior" education at home, at the Johnstown Academy, and at Emma Willards Troy Female Seminary. While studying law in the office of her lawyer father, Daniel Cady (US Congressman and later New York Supreme Court Judge), she was alerted to the discriminatory laws against women and determined to win equal rights. In 1840 she married Henry B. Stanton, a lawyer and
abolitionist, and characteristically omitted the word "obey" from the ceremony. A tireless and
good-humored reformer, Stanton was a leading figure in the American women's rights movement
of the 19th century. She was a co-founder (with Lucretia Mott) of the famous 1848 Women's
Rights Convention held at Seneca Falls (where she lived at the time), New York, and drafted the
convention's Declaration of Sentiments. She founded the National Woman Suffrage Association
in 1869. Stanton is often remembered in connection with her friend and fellow reformer Susan B.
Anthony. The demands of motherhood (7 children) prevented frequent travels. Yet, she did all
the research and wrote all their speeches. Newspapers called her, "America's Grand Old woman."
A plaque commemorating her can be seen in Sir William Johnson Park in Johnstown. (Submitted
by the Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown Branch.)

**Lucy Beaman Hobbs Taylor** (1833-1910) was born in Franklin Co., NY. Privately studying
medicine after being refused college admission, she later turned to dentistry. In 1866 she
graduated from the Ohio College of Dental Surgery, becoming the first American woman to
receive a dental degree.

Born a slave in Ulster Co., NY, **Sojourner Truth** (1797?-1883), became an evangelist and
abolitionist, in spite of being illiterate. Following the Civil War, she continued to travel and
lecture on women's rights.

Historian **Barbara Wertheim Tuchman** (1912-1989) was born in NYC, graduating from
Radcliffe College in 1933. She won two Pulitzer Prizes; her 1978 *A Distant Mirror: The
Calamitous 14th Century* was a best seller. In 1979 she became the first woman president of the
American Academy and Institute of Arts and Science.

**Narcissa Prentiss Whitman** (1808-47) was born in Prattsburgh, NY. She taught school and later
traveled to the Oregon Territory to be a missionary to the Indians as one of the first white women
to cross the Rockies. (Submitted by the Bath Branch)

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**31 New York State Women of Distinction
for March 2004**

**A Women's History Month Awareness Project of AAUW-NYS**

In 1997 **Madeleine Korbel Albright**, (b.1937) became the first female Secretary of State and the
highest-ranking woman in the United States government. She took a bipartisan approach to U.S.
foreign policy, attempting to create a consensus on the need for US leadership and engagement
in the world.

A long time resident of western NY, **Susan Brownell Anthony** (1820-1906), was a pioneer
crusader for 60 years, one of the primary figures in the American battle for women's rights,
women's suffrage, Afro-American/slave suffrage, and abolition. Her last public words: "Failure is impossible."

**Antoinette Brown Blackwell** (1825-1921), born in Henrietta, NY, finished a literary course at Oberlin College in 1847, then entered theological studies over the objections of many. She was denied a degree, but served as a pastor for two years, becoming the first woman minister in the US.

In 1849 physician **Elizabeth Blackwell** (1821-1910) received the first medical degree granted to a woman in the United States from Geneva College in NY. In 1853 she opened a dispensary in a tenement district of New York City that became the New York Infirmary for Women and Children in 1868. Elizabeth's sister, Emily, ran the Infirmary after she retired to England.

Homer native **Amelia Bloomer** (1818-94) was a proponent of women's dress reform. She edited her own journal, *The Lily*, from 1849-55, promoting suffrage, temperance, marriage law reform, and higher education for women.

**Dr. Phebe Oliver Briggs** (1841-1924) whose family home was Rogersville (S. Dansville), was one of the first women doctors. She was a pioneer physician in the west, ministering to the Otoe Indians. She was elected to Steuben County Hall of Fame.

Botanist **Elizabeth Knight Britton** (1858-1934) specialized in the study of mosses, publishing 346 scientific papers between 1881 and 1930. She inspired and helped to organize the creation of the New York Botanical Garden.

**Jane Cunningham Croly** (1829-1901) was a pioneering journalist who, under the pen name "Jennie June," contributed articles to newspapers such as *The New York Tribune* and *The New York Sunday Times*. She was one of the first women to write a syndicated column and the first to teach a college journalism course.

**Geraldine Ferraro**, born in 1935, was first a teacher and then a lawyer, working in the Queens, New York District Attorney's office. Elected to Congress in 1978, she was a strong advocate for women's rights legislation. In 1984 she was selected as the Vice Presidential running mate of Democratic candidate Walter Mondale.

Paleontologist **Winifred Goldring** (1888-1971) was the first woman to be named state paleontologist for New York (1939). In 1949, she became the first woman elected as president of the Paleontological Society.

**Alice Hamilton** (1869-1970), born in New York City, became one of the best-educated physicians of her day. A resident at Chicago's Hull House, she was instrumental in stopping a typhoid epidemic in that city. Later specializing in industrial toxicology, she became the first woman professor at Harvard in 1919.

National Inventors Hall of Fame members **Elizabeth Lee Hazen** and **Rachel Brown** worked together as New York Department of Health researchers to develop the anti-fungal antibiotic
drug, *Nystatin*. Patented in 1957, the drug was used to cure many disfiguring, disabling fungal infections as well as to balance the effect of many antibacterial drugs.

Until 1992, Carolyn G. Heilbrun, (1926-2003) was a Professor of Literature at Columbia University. She wrote a series of mysteries under her Amanda Cross pseudonym; she kept her mystery books secret until she became tenured at the university.

**Julia Ward Howe** (1819-1910), a native of New York City, is best known for her stirring Civil War anthem, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*. She also wrote poetry, plays, travel literature, biographies, and feminist literature. She was the first woman elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Two sisters, Eliza and Katherine Kellas began their academic careers Potsdam Normal School. Eliza graduated in 1889, staying to teach for two years. She served as principal of the Emma Willard School in Troy from 1911-15 when she was appointed the first president of Russell Sage College. Katherine graduated in 1892, continuing her career there as preceptress (dean) from 1901-17. In 1917 she became the first dean of Russell Sage. Potsdam College honored the two sisters by naming Kellas Hall for them in 1961.

**Caroline Matilda Stansbury Kirkland** (1801-64), who developed the realistic style of writing, was the first to write of the importance of women in pioneer life. She and her family moved from Geneva, NY in 1836 to rural Michigan. Her letters home formed the nucleus of her first novel, *A New Home - Who'll Follow*? (1839).

Economist, Juanita Morris Kreps (b. 1921) was appointed as the Secretary of Commerce (1977-79) by President Jimmy Carter, the first woman to serve in that capacity. She was also the first woman director of the New York Stock Exchange, a full professor of economics at Duke University, dean of the women's college and later a vice-president of the university.

Artist Edmondia Lewis (1845-?) was born in Greenbush, NY, to a black father and an Indian mother. She attended Oberlin College and later trained as a sculptor, becoming one of the most popular and successful American artists of her day.

Clare Booth Luce (1903-87) began her long career as an actress, later was a journalist, a playwright and novelist. Elected to Congress in 1943, she delivered the keynote address at the Republican National Convention in 1944. Her appointment as ambassador to Italy made her the most powerful woman in the State Department.

Margaret Warner Morely (1858-1923) was a biologist, educator and children's books writer who grew up in Brooklyn and attended the Oswego Normal School (where she later taught) and Hunter College in NYC. She worked to promote the Kindergarten concept and her writings were used in many schools as nature study began to be included in the curriculum.

Eliza Maria Mosher (1846-1928) was born in Cayuga County and entered the New England Hospital for Women and Children in 1869 to begin her medical training. In 1888 she organized a
medical training course at the Union Missionary Training Institute in Brooklyn. She was a founder of the American Posture League.

Born in New York City, Ruth Nichols (1901-60), pioneered 35 "firsts" in aviation, including becoming the first woman to earn an international hydroplane license, and the first woman to fly an twin-engine executive jet, in addition to other altitude, speed and distance records.

Anthropologist Elsie Worthington Clews Parsons (1875-1941) was born and educated in New York City. Her early publications focused on marriage, sex roles, and family, including the 1906 Family Life that discussed trial marriage among other topics. Later work was conducted in the America Southwest where she became the leading authority on the Pueblo tribe.

Starting her career in 1954, Muriel Siebert, known as "The First Woman of Finance," was the first woman to own a seat on the New York Stock Exchange and the first to head one of its member firms: Muriel Siebert & Co. She served as the first woman Superintendent of Banking for NYS from 1977-82

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton (1774-1821) helped to found the first charitable foundation in New York City in 1797. Later she opened a school for Catholic girls in Baltimore and later helped to found the first American-based Catholic sisterhood. In 1856 Seaton Hall College was named for her; Mother Seton became the first American-born saint in 1975.

Elected in 1920, Marguerite Smith, a Republican from New York County, at age 25 was the youngest woman ever elected to the Assembly. During her term she worked to provide fair rent legislation that was important to her district with a large immigrant population.

Born in 1843, Sara (Lyons/Edwin) Rosetta Wakeman served with the 153rd NYS Volunteer Co. G&H as a regular soldier in the American Civil War. She was one of hundreds of women who served in the war, most passing as men. She died in 1863 in New Orleans.

Mae West (1892-1980), born in Brooklyn, NY, was the most notorious woman entertainer of her day. In 1935 she was the highest paid woman in the United States and the second highest-paid person. She entertained in both the theater and in movies. Her autobiography, Goodness Had Nothing to Do with It, appeared in 1959.

A native of Churchville, Frances Willard (1834-98), was educated at home and abroad. In 1871 she was named the president of the Evanston College for Ladies. In 1874 she became president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, fighting for prohibition and suffrage.