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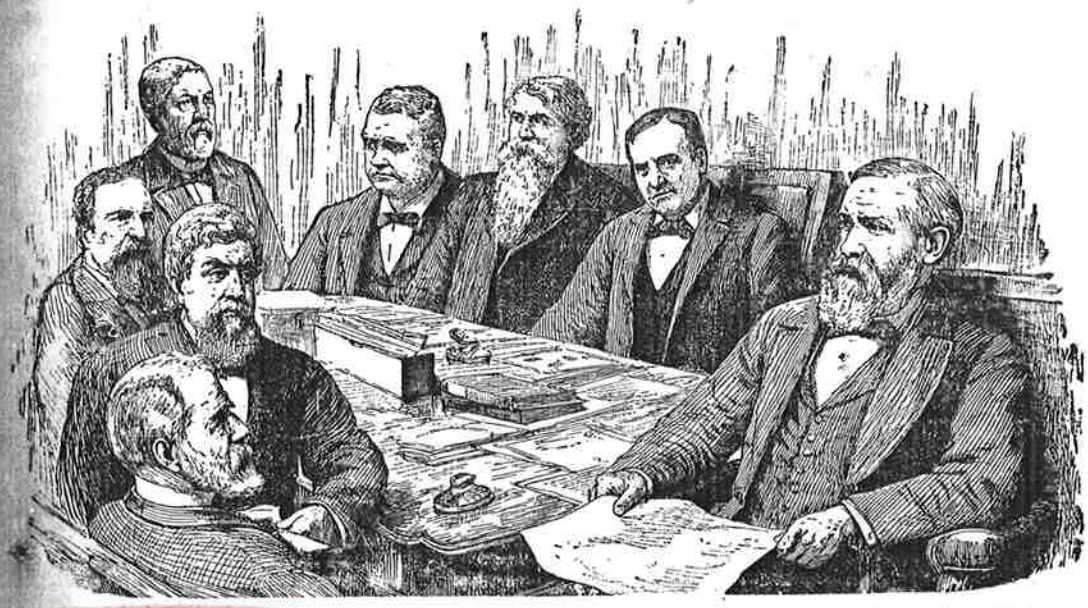
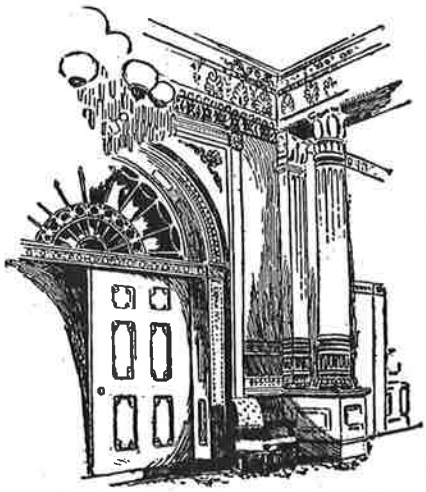


HARRISON, Benjamin, twenty-third president of the United States, was born at North Bend, O., Aug. 20, 1833. His father, John Scott Harrison, was third son of Gen. William Henry Harrison, ninth president of the United States, who was the third and youngest son of Benjamin Harrison, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, from Virginia. John Scott Harrison was twice married, his second wife being Elizabeth, daughter of Archibald Irwin of Mercesburg, Pa. Benjamin was the second son of this marriage. His parents were resolutely determined upon the education of their children, and early in childhood Benjamin was placed under private instruction at home. In 1847 he and his elder brother were sent to a school on what was known as College Hill, a few miles from Cincinnati. After remaining there two years he entered the junior class at Miami University in Oxford, O., where he was graduated in 1852. He was married Oct. 20, 1853, to Caroline Scott, daughter of Dr. John W. Scott who was then president of Oxford Female Seminary, from which Mrs. Harrison was graduated in 1852. After studying law under Storer & Gwynne in Cincinnati, O., he was admitted to the bar in 1854, and began the practice of his profession at Indianapolis, Ind., which has since been his home. John H. Rea, clerk of the United States district court gave him desk-room, and soon afterward he was appointed crier of the federal court at a salary of $2.50 per day. This was the first money he ever earned. Jonathan W. Gordon, one of the leaders of the Indianapolis bar, called young Harrison to his assistance in the prosecution of a criminal, tried for burglary, and intrusted to him the plea for the state. He had taken ample notes of the evidence, but the case was closed at night and the court-house being dimly lighted by tallow candles, he was unable to read them when he arose to address the court and jury. Laying them aside he depended entirely upon his memory and he found it perfect. Best of all he discovered he could think and speak on his feet, flashlike and coherently. He made an eloquent plea, produced a marked impression and won the case. Since then he has always been an impromptu speaker. Forming a partnership with William Wallace in the practice of law, he prepared deeds, gave advice, made collections, tried cases before justices of the peace, appeared in the probate courts, and sometimes in the circuit court. In 1860 Mr. Wallace became clerk of the county of Marion, and the firm was changed to Harrison & Fishback, which was terminated by the entry of the senior partner into the army in 1862. In 1860 Mr. Harrison was chosen reporter of the supreme court of Illinois on the republican ticket by a majority of 9,688. This was his first active appearance in the political field. When the civil war began he assisted in raising the 70th Indiana regiment of volunteers, and became in it second lieutenant—although Gov. Morton tendered him its command—he himself appointing a deputy reporter for the supreme court. In the ensuing autumn the democratic state convention, considering his position as a civil officer vacated by this military appointment, nominated and elected a successor, although Harrison's term of office had not expired. Their view was sustained by the state supreme court, but in 1864, while Col. Harrison was in the army, the people of Indiana gave their judgment by re-electing him to the position of supreme court reporter, by an overwhelming majority. When he returned to Indianapolis after the war, he became a member of the law firm of Porter, Harrison & Fishback and after subsequent changes, of that of Harrison, Miller & Elam. His biographer holds that before his election to the presidency he had worked his way to the head of the Indiana bar. His military record can be succinctly stated. When Gen. D. C. Buell was ordered, in 1862, to march the army of the Ohio to Chattanooga, he followed directions given him to go by the line of the Memphis & Charleston railroad from Corinth, Miss., to Decatur, Ala., repairing it as he went. It resulted that Bragg, the Confederate general, was able to put him upon the defensive and, indeed, to begin a race northward on parallel lines, in the course of which Buell was severely taxed to save, first Nashville, Tenn.,

and then Louisville, Ky. The news spread throughout Ohio and Indiana that the Confederates were in force, with the advantage of an interior line for their operations. It was in this season of apprehension that the 70th Indiana went to the field, with Harrison as its colonel, their objective point being Bowling Green, Ky. It was brigaded with the 79th Ohio, and the 102d, 105th and 129th Illinois regiments, under Brig.-Gen. Ward, of Kentucky, and this organization was kept unchanged until the close of the war. Col. Harrison had the right of the brigade, and his command was occupied at first in guarding railroads and hunting guerillas, his energies being largely spent in drilling his men. He was extremely systematic and painstaking, his theory being that every day in camp should be a preparation for that other day always to be kept in a soldier's mind—the day of battle. By this method he made his regiment what it afterwards became. When Gen. Rosecrans set out for Chattanooga, Gen. Ward was sent on duty to Nashville, and on Jan. 2, 1864, his command was called to the front, Col. Harrison being placed in command of brigade. Later this brigade became the 1st brigade of the 3d division of the 20th army corps, under "Fighting Joe Hooker," Gen. Ward resuming its command and Col. Harrison again taking command of the 70th Indiana. The campaign under Gen. Sherman, upon which his regiment with its associate forces entered was directed, as is now known, against the Confederate army of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, and not against any particular place. In the Federal advance one of the severest actions was fought at Resaca, Ga., May 14, 15, 1864. Here Col. Harrison was among the first, if not the first, to cross the parapet in storming the Southern redoubt. From that place southward, every day brought a collision of some sort with the enemy—at every halt a breastwork was built. At New Hope Church, Ala., and at Golgotha Church, Kennesaw Mountain and Peach Tree Creek, Ga., the regiment and its leader saw sharp fighting, that at Resaca being in Col. Harrison's opinion, the heaviest he was ever subjected to before or at any time afterwards. When the Peach Tree Creek fight was over, Gen. Hooker, wrote as follows to Washington, D. C.: "My attention was first attracted to this young officer by the superior excellence of his brigade, in discipline and instruction, the result of his labor, skill and devotion. With more foresight than I have witnessed in any officer of his experience he seemed to act upon the principle that success depended upon the thorough preparation in discipline and *esprit* of his command for conflict, more than on any influence that could be exerted on the field itself, and when collision came his command vindicated his wisdom as much as his valor. In all of the achievements of the 20th corps in that campaign, Col. Harrison bore a conspicuous part." When Atlanta, Ga., was taken by Sherman (Sept. 2, 1864), Col. Harrison received his first furlough to visit home, being assigned to special duty in a systematic canvass of the state to recruit for the forces in the field. Returning to Chattanooga and then to Nashville, Tenn., he was placed in command of a provisional brigade held in reserve at that battle (Dec. 15, 16, 1864), and was but little engaged. When the fight was over he was sent in pursuit of the beaten Confederate, Hood. Recalled from the pursuit, Harrison was next ordered to report to Gen. Sherman at Savannah, Ga. While passing through New York he succumbed to at attack of scarlet fever, but in a few weeks was able to proceed on his way. Joining Sherman at Goldsboro, N. C., he resumed command of his old brigade, and at the close of the war went to Washington, D. C., to take part in the grand army review, at which he was duly mustered out, June 8, 1865; not, however, until he had received a commission as brevet brigadier-general, signed by Abraham Lincoln, and countersigned by E. M. Stanton, as secretary of war, dated March 22, 1865, stating that it was given for "ability and manifest energy and gallantry in command of the brigade." Returning to Indianapolis he resumed his office as reporter of the supreme court, but in 1867 declined a renomination, and recommenced his law practice. In 1868 and 1872 he took part in the presidential campaign in support of Gen. Grant, traveling over Indiana and speaking to large audiences. In 1876 he at first declined a nomination for governor on the republican ticket, consenting to run only after the regular nominee had withdrawn. He received almost two thousand more votes than his associates on the ticket, but was nevertheless beaten. In 1880, as chairman of the Indiana delegation in the republican national convention, he cast nearly the entire vote of the state for James A. Garfield for president. President Garfield offered him a place in his cabinet, but he declined it, preferring the U. S. senatorship from Indiana to which he had just been chosen, and which he held from 1881 to 1887. In the senate he advocated the tariff views of his party, opposed President Cleveland's vetoes of pension bills, urged the reconstruction and upbuilding of the navy, and labored and voted for civil service reform. He was delegate-at-large to the republican national convention in 1884, June 19, 1888, at Chicago, Ill., and on the eighth and final ballot he had received 544 votes to 118 for John Sherman, 100 for Russell A. Alger, 59 for W. Q. Gresham, 5 for J. G. Blaine and 4 for William McKinley, as the candidate of that party for president. The nomination was made unanimous, and in November he was elected, receiving 233 votes in the electoral college to 168 for Grover Cleveland. He was duly inaugurated March 4, 1889. When President Harrison began his administration, he was confronted by the controversy between England and the United States in reference to the killing of seal in the Bering sea. Our government claimed that under the purchase from Russia it had not only the exclusive right to take the seal upon the islands of Alaska, but to exclude our own citizens and people of other nationalities from killing them on the open waters within a hundred miles of the islands. This claim was based on the necessity of such exclusion for the protection of seal life. When the sealing season of 1889 opened, directions were given the government ships to defend the claim. At the same time a correspondence was being carried on through the state department with a view of settling the controversy by diplomacy, the result being an agreement for arbitration of this vexed question between the two nations. Early in the administration steps were taken to bring together in Washington representatives from all the South American and Central American countries in a Pan-American congress which was held in Washington in the winter of 1889-90, representatives from all those countries being present. It is believed that its deliberations resulted in a better understanding and a more liberal feeling among the nations represented, many plans for reciprocity in trade with these nations were originated by this conference, some of which were formulated and made practical in the tariff

act passed by the fifty-first congress, known as the McKinley law. During the first two years of the administration six new states formed constitutions and were admitted into the Union. They were North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. A number of commissioners were appointed under the direction of the secretary of the interior to form treaties with various Indian tribes for the purchase of lands with a view to open the same to settlement. It resulted in the extinguishment of Indian titles to vast tracts of land and the establishment of the new territory of Oklahoma with all the forms and advantages of civil government. An Indian outbreak during the winter of 1890-91, in the Northwest was managed by the federal authorities in such a manner as to be soon quelled with less expense and cruelty than usually characterize such wars. In the early spring of 1891 troubles between the city government and the people of New Orleans on one side and the Italian residents of that city on the other, resulted in a mob which caused the death of a number of Italians in prison, under charges of murder. This incident was promptly made the occasion for the demand upon the United States by the Italian government, for redress and indemnity. This demand was peremptory in tone and in manner almost offensive. It was met courteously but firmly with the statement that while this government earnestly disapproved and denounced the action of the mob, it could not recognize a national responsibility for its results, unless it could be shown that its action was the result of connivance on the part of the public authorities of New Orleans; and that the United States did not guarantee or become insurers of the lives of alien residents any more than of its own citizens; that the courts were open, and alien residents must resort to them the same as American citizens unless the public authorities were shown to have connived at the violating of the law. The incident ended for the time being in the withdrawal of the Italian minister from the United States and an indefinite leave of absence to the American minister at Rome. President Harrison's administration exhibited from the beginning a desire to strengthen the United States navy, by pushing forward the construction of armored vessels, with guns of great power which resulted in placing on the water the "white squadron." The new ships include the Chicago, Baltimore, Charleston, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Yorktown, Newark, Bennington, Concord, Machias, the cruiser New York and the battleships Maine and Texas. Recently reciprocal treaties have been made not only with the countries of South, and Central America but with the leading governments of Europe resulting in a much freer admission than heretofore of American products for consumption in the great nations—Germany, Austria, France and Spain. The laws and regulations relating to civil service were widened and extended and faithfully enforced, not only according to their letter, but in accordance with their spirit, as is shown by the order which allowed only skilled mechanics to work on the new war vessels. All the departments of the government were conducted with energy and upon business principles, so that it came to be very generally spoken of as a business administration. In the spring of 1891, President Harrison made an extended trip through the South, the Southwest, and to the Pacific coast. The one hundred and forty-nine different speeches he delivered at towns where he stopped were remarkable for their fertility of thought, felicity of expression and adaptability to the place and the occasion. They called forth the most favorable comment from the press and the people of the entire country.

HARRISON, Caroline Scott, was born at Oxford, O., Oct. 1, 1832, of Scotch ancestry. Among the convenanters who fought for Scotland's civil and religious freedom in the wars which followed the accession of the Stuarts to the English throne were the earliest known progenitors of the family. The first of Mrs. Harrison's paternal ancestors in America was John Scott, the laird of Arras, who, after the disastrous battle of Bosworth bridge in 1679, left Scotland for the north of Ireland with the Earl of Belhaven on account of dissatisfaction with the union of the crowns. After the death of the earl John Scott came to America and settled in the valley of the Neshaminy, Bucks county, Pa., where the village of Hartsville now stands, twenty miles north of Philadelphia. He purchased a tract of land from the proprietary government on part of which the first Presbyterian church in America was soon afterward erected. On his land also Rev. William Tennent founded in 1726 the historic "Log College," out of which primitive institution Princeton College was in time evolved. Mrs. Harrison's great-grandfather, John Scott, son of the founder of the family in this country, moved to Northampton county, Pa., and purchased land opposite Belvidere, N. J., which is still known as the "Scott farm." During the revolutionary war he was a quartermaster in the Pennsylvania line. His brother, Matthew, after serving as a captain in the army, moved to Kentucky, and among his descendants was Lucy Webb, wife of President Hayes. Rev. George McElroy Scott, Mrs. Harrison's grandfather, was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1793, studied theology with Rev. Stanhope Smith, president of Princeton College, and in 1799 was called to Mill Creek church, Beaver county, Pa., being the first Presbyterian minister to locate in the western part of that state. It was there that her father, Dr. John W. Scott, was born in 1800. Mrs. Harrison enjoyed superior educational advantages, and was graduated from Oxford, O., female seminary in 1852, the year that President Harrison took his degree at Oxford University in the same town. She taught music in Carrollton, Ky., one year, and on Oct. 20, 1853, was married to Benjamin Harrison. When the civil war opened and her husband decided to enter the army she patriotically said to him: "Go and help to save your country, and let us trust in the shielding care of a higher power for your protection and safe return." She afterwards read with pride of the heroic deeds of her husband at Resaca and Peach Tree creek. Mrs. Harrison is a woman of strong individuality and great kindness of



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Benj Harrison