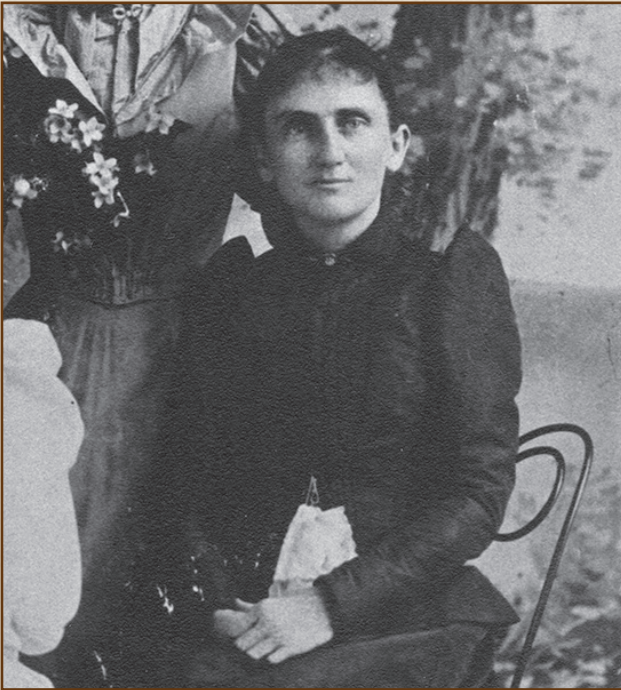


## MRS. HELEN MILHOLLAND



*Mrs. Helen Milholland*

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*“I think of you often and shall never forget what you were to my life, how much real help and inspiration you gave me.”*

— George Washington Carver

Helen Milholland was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1850 and later moved to Iowa. In 1871 she married Dr. John Milholland and they were married fifty years. They lived in Winterset, Iowa, from 1882 to 1919 and had five children.

George Washington Carver moved to Winterset Iowa around 1888. He worked and opened a small laundry. He also attended church and sang especially well. Mrs. Helen Milholland was a member there and heard his singing. She sent her husband, Dr. John Milholland, to invite him to Sunday dinner.

Helen Milholland was a very religious woman. She took an interest in helping young Carver and advised him to attend college. He told her how he was rejected at another college, because of his race. She continued to encourage him and he enrolled in Simpson College.

After George Washington Carver graduated from college and became the director of the agricultural program at Tuskegee Institute, he continued to write letters to Mrs. Milholland. She also wrote to him often. He said, “...how I wish that I could see you all; I so often think of you...” She wrote, “I think of you as a real friend and what are we here for but to help along the way.”



## MRS. HELEN MILHOLLAND



The Milholland Family, Winterset, IA

Helen Milholland was **instrumental** in furthering the career of George Carver, educator, scientist and director of the agriculture department at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. After he became a well-known person in the U.S., she wrote a book about his life.

Later in life, Dr. and Mrs. Milholland moved to California to retire.

### GLOSSARY

**Instrumental** - Very important.

### TIME LINE • GAINING AN EDUCATION: 1876 – 1896

