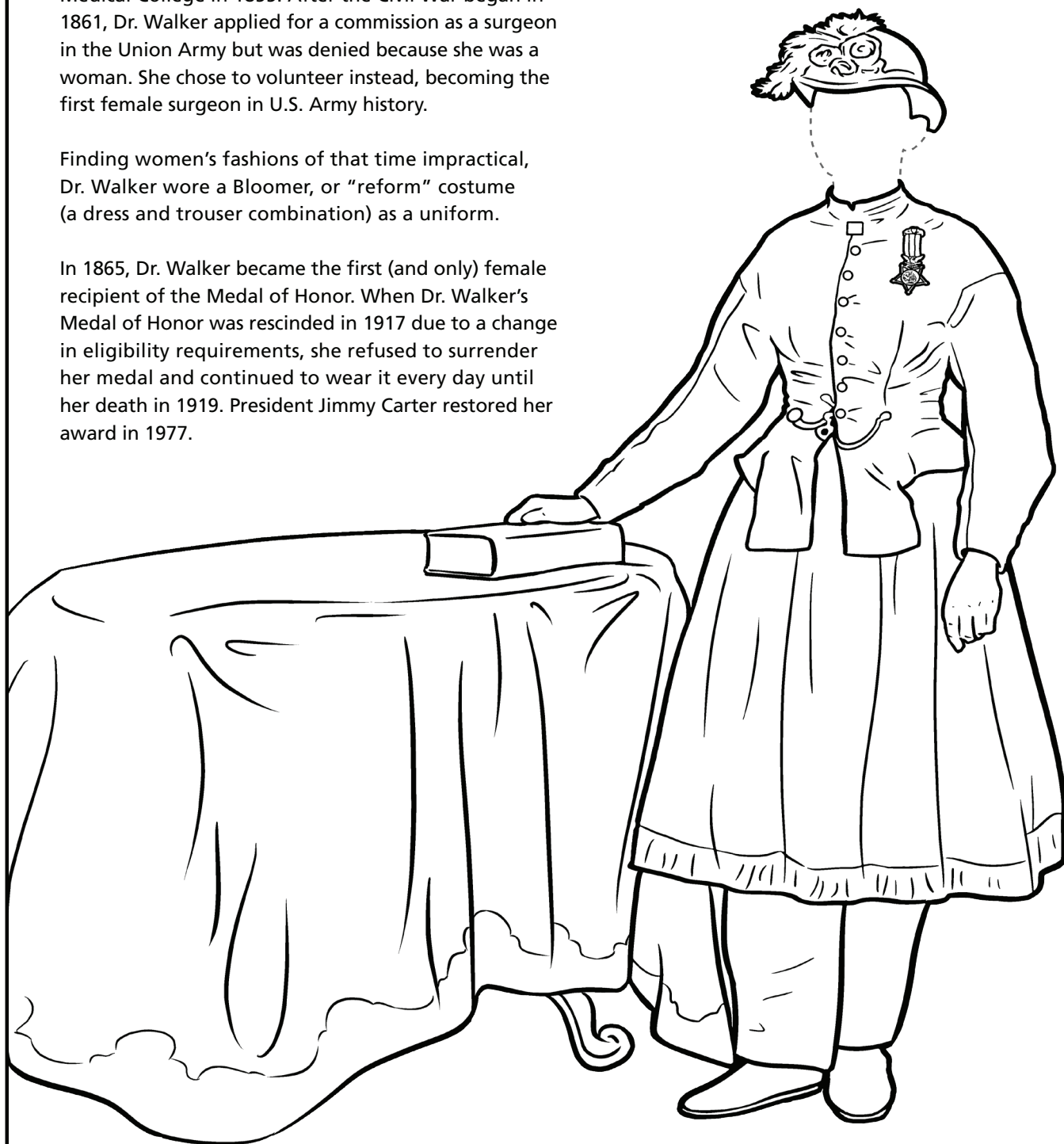


## Dr. Mary Walker

Dr. Mary Walker was the second woman in the U.S. to receive a medical degree, graduating from Syracuse Medical College in 1855. After the Civil War began in 1861, Dr. Walker applied for a commission as a surgeon in the Union Army but was denied because she was a woman. She chose to volunteer instead, becoming the first female surgeon in U.S. Army history.

Finding women's fashions of that time impractical, Dr. Walker wore a Bloomer, or "reform" costume (a dress and trouser combination) as a uniform.

In 1865, Dr. Walker became the first (and only) female recipient of the Medal of Honor. When Dr. Walker's Medal of Honor was rescinded in 1917 due to a change in eligibility requirements, she refused to surrender her medal and continued to wear it every day until her death in 1919. President Jimmy Carter restored her award in 1977.



Color the Bloomer costume. Draw your face or paste your picture to see what you'd look like in this type of outfit.