Collection Summary

Title: Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers  
Inclusive Dates: 1814-1946  
Bulk Dates: 1840-1902  
Creator: Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902  
ID No.: MSS41210  
Extent: 1,000 items  
Extent: 10 containers plus 1 oversize  
Extent: 4.3 linear feet  
Extent: 5 microfilm reels  
Language: Collection material in English  
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78041210  
Summary: Reformer, feminist, and suffragist. Correspondence, speeches, articles, drafts of books, scrapbooks, and printed matter documenting Elizabeth Cady Stanton's career as an advocate for women's rights. Includes material on her efforts on behalf of women's legal status and women's suffrage, the abolition of slavery, rights for African Americans following the Civil War, temperance, and other nineteenth-century social reform movements.  
Online Content: The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton are available on the Library of Congress website at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000066. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the online edition as available.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906--Correspondence.
Blatch, Harriot Stanton, 1856-1940.
Cady, Daniel, 1773-1859--Correspondence.
Channing, W. H. (William Henry), 1810-1884--Correspondence.
Child, Lydia Maria, 1802-1880--Correspondence.
Cobbe, Frances Power, 1822-1904--Correspondence.
Davis, Paulina W. (Paulina Wright), 1813-1876--Correspondence.
Douglass, Frederick, 1818-1895--Correspondence.
Garrison, William Lloyd, 1805-1879--Correspondence.
Higginson, Thomas Wentworth, 1823-1911--Correspondence.
Howe, Julia Ward, 1819-1910--Correspondence.
Mott, Lucretia, 1793-1880--Correspondence.
Pankhurst, Emmeline, 1858-1928--Correspondence.
Phillips, Wendell, 1811-1884--Correspondence.
Pike, Elizabeth E.--Correspondence.
Powell, Edward Payson, 1833-1915--Correspondence.
Roosevelt, Edith Kermit Carow, 1861-1948--Correspondence.
Sargent, John Osborne, 1811-1891--Correspondence.
Smith, Elizabeth Oakes Prince, 1806-1893--Correspondence.
Smith, Gerrit, 1797-1874--Correspondence.
Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902.
Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902. Eighty years and more : reminiscences, 1815-1897. 1898.
Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902. Woman's Bible. 1895, 1898.
Stanton, Henry B. (Henry Brewster), 1805-1887--Correspondence.
Stone, Lucy, 1818-1893--Correspondence.
Swinton, John, 1829-1901--Correspondence.
Tilton, Theodore, 1835-1907--Correspondence.
Weed, Thurlow, 1797-1882--Correspondence.
Whittier, John Greenleaf, 1807-1892--Correspondence.

Subjects
African Americans--Civil rights--History--19th century.
Antislavery movements.
Feminism.
Social problems--United States--History--19th century.
Temperance--United States--Societies, etc.--History--19th century.
Women's rights.
Women--Legal status, laws, etc.--History--19th century.
Women--Suffrage.

Titles
Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers at the Library of Congress

Occupations
Feminists.
Reformers.
Suffragists.

Acquisition Information
The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, reformer and leader in the woman's rights movement, were acquired by the Library of Congress chiefly as a gift from Susan B. Anthony in 1903 and from Stanton's daughter, Harriot Stanton Blatch, in 1927 and 1928. The Library acquired smaller accessions of material by gift and purchase from 1939 to 2020.

Processing History
The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton were arranged and described in 1979 by Audrey Walker. The register was revised in 1997 by Karen Linn Femia. An addition was processed and the finding aid revised by Pang H. Xiong in 2022.

Transfers
Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as a part of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers. Patrons are encouraged to contact the Prints and Photographs Division in advance of a research visit.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Elizabeth Cady Stanton is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.
Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on five reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Online Content

The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton are available on the Library of Congress website at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000066. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the online edition as available.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1815, Nov. 12</td>
<td>Born, Johnstown, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1832</td>
<td>Graduated, Emma Willard's Seminary, Troy, N.Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>Married Henry B. Stanton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>Attended World Anti-Slavery Convention, London, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>Moved from Boston, Mass., to Seneca Falls, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1848</td>
<td>Organized the first Woman's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, N.Y., which adopted, at her instigation, the first public resolution for woman suffrage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>Met Susan B. Anthony; enlisted her in woman's rights cause</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852</td>
<td>President, Woman's Temperance Convention, Rochester, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>First female candidate for the United States House of Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868-1870</td>
<td>Joint editor with Parker Pillsbury of the weekly Revolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1869</td>
<td>A founder and first president of the National Woman Suffrage Association; provided leadership (usually as president) until its merger in 1890 with the American Woman Suffrage Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881-1886</td>
<td>Published with Susan B. Anthony and Matilda Joslyn Gage History of Woman Suffrage (New York: Fowler &amp; Wells. 3 vols.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>Helped organize the first International Council of Women, Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>Elected president, National American Woman Suffrage Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895, 1898</td>
<td>Published The Woman's Bible (New York: European Publishing Co. 2 vols.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>Published Eighty Years and More: Reminiscences, 1815-1897 (New York: European Publishing Co. 474 pp.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1902, Oct. 26</td>
<td>Died, New York, N.Y.</td>
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Scope and Content Note

The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) cover the years 1814 to 1946, with most of the material concentrated between 1840 and 1902. The collection is composed of correspondence, speeches, articles, drafts of books, scrapbooks, and printed matter relating to Stanton and the woman's rights movement. This material reflects Stanton's role as a social reformer and a leading proponent of woman's rights for more than half a century. Stanton spoke and wrote widely about the political, economic, religious, and social wrongs perpetrated against women and provided leadership in organizations devoted to securing rights for women, particularly the right to vote.
Married to an abolitionist, Henry B. Stanton, Stanton was active in the antislavery movement in the decades preceding the Civil War and a proponent of African American rights during Reconstruction. Denied a university education because of her sex, she was an early proponent of higher education for women. A supporter of the temperance movement, though not particularly active in it, she insisted that drunkenness should be a cause for divorce. That drunkenness and cruelty, not divorce, were the real enemies of marriage, that the churches and canon law slowed women's progress, that laws must be changed to ensure property rights for married women, including the right to their own wages, that women must take their rightful place in business and the professions, that “self-development is a higher duty than self-sacrifice,” and that women and men should be equal before the law, in churches, and in society were among the basic themes which brought her widespread denunciation as well as many followers. Overall, however, she sought woman's right to vote as basic to all other rights and worked arduously for state laws and a constitutional amendment to that effect.

The collection elucidates the goals, tactics, and activities of many of the men and women associated with the woman's rights movement and depicts the external opposition as well as the internal division which the movement encountered. The correspondence provides glimpses into Stanton's family life illustrating how she balanced her family responsibilities with the demands placed on her as a leader in the movement. Her speeches and writings document in detail her stand on woman's rights and her concern for other contemporary social issues. Included in this series are drafts of Stanton's memoirs Eighty Years and More: Reminiscences, 1815-1897, and a draft of The Woman's Bible.

Those papers donated by Harriot Stanton Blatch and originally arranged in scrapbooks have been dismantled and interfiled with the other papers that make up the collection. Blatch's notes on various items have been retained and are filed with the relevant manuscripts. The scrapbooks which were prepared by Susan B. Anthony (see Miscellany) have been kept as units except for the holograph material they contained. This material has been removed and interfiled in the papers with identifying notes.

The 2022 Addition consists of a letter from Stanton to Reverend Edward Payson Powell concerning the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893.


Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged in five series:

- **General Correspondence, 1814-1928**
- **Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902**
- **Miscellany, 1840-1946**
- **2022 Addition, 1893**
- **Oversize, undated**
### Description of Series

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
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</table>
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | **General Correspondence, 1814-1928**  
Letters sent and received.  
Arranged chronologically. |
| BOX 2-8 REEL 1-5 | **Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902**  
Drafts of books, drafts and holograph and printed copies of articles and speeches, published letters, and miscellaneous writings.  
Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein. |
| BOX 8-10 REEL 5 | **Miscellany, 1840-1946**  
Biographical data, certificates, printed matter, speeches by others, and scrapbooks.  
Arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject name. |
| BOX 10 not filmed | **2022 Addition, 1893**  
Correspondence. |
| BOX OV 1 REEL 2 | **Oversize, undated**  
Handwritten draft of *The Woman's Bible*.  
Described according to the series, folder and box from which it was removed. |
## Container List

Microfilm edition available. Shelf no. 17,781

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Arranged chronologically. |
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1856-1859  
Digital content available  
1860-1869  
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1870-1878  
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1880-1884  
Digital content available  
1885-1889  
Digital content available  
1890-1895  
Digital content available  
1896-1899  
Digital content available  
1900-1928  
Digital content available  
Undated  
Digital content available |
| **BOX 2-8 REEL 1-5** | **Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902**  
Drafts of books, drafts and holograph and printed copies of articles and speeches, published letters, and miscellaneous writings.  
Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein. |
| **BOX 2 REEL 1** | Books  
*Reminiscences*, handwritten drafts of chapters  
Nos. 7-8  
Digital content available  
Nos. 9-10  
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| **BOX 2 REEL 2** | Nos. 11-12  
Digital content available  
Nos. 16-17  
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|           | No. 70  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Marriage and divorce  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Miscellaneous  
|           | Digital content available  
| BOX 3 REEL 2 | The Woman's Bible, handwritten draft, undated See Oversize  
|           | Genesis  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Exodus  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Numbers  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Matthew  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Articles  
|           | 1869, 8 Apr., “The Man Marriage” and “What Possible Value Would Suffrage Be to Woman?” Revolution  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | 1886, 11 Mar., “Religion for Women and Children,” The Index  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | [1890's], “The Bycicle [sic] Era”  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | 1890  
|           | 4 July, “Wyoming, the First Free State for Woman”  
|           | Digital content available  
|           | Digital content available  

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers 8
1892, Mar., “Shall the World's Fair Be Open on Sunday,” *National Bulletin*

1893, Feb., “Shall the World's Fair Be Closed on Sunday?” *National Bulletin*, with draft

1894


Apr., “Women Do Not Wish To Vote,” *National Bulletin*

“An Appeal to Young Women”

1895, 14 Feb., “Educated Suffrage,” *The Independent*, with typescript

1899, “Great Men's Wives,” *Omaha Republican*

1900, Mar., “Are Homogeneous Divorce Laws in All the States Desirable?” *North American Review*, with earlier article, 20 Nov. 1898

1901

29 June, “Self-Government the Best Form for Self-Development”

8 Dec., “Home Life a Century Ago,” *Philadelphia Sunday Press*

1902

5 Oct., “An Honored Place for the Bible in English Literature,” *New York American and Journal*

13 Oct., “How Shall We Solve the Divorce Problem,” *New York American and Journal*

Undated

“Home Patriotism,” undated

“Jails and Jubilees,” *The Open Court*, undated

“Shall Women Ride the Bicycle?” undated

“What Should Be Our Attitude Towards Political Parties,” *Woman's Tribune* with draft, undated

“Worship of God in Man,” *The Open Court* with draft, undated

“The Woman's Bible,” undated

Miscellaneous articles in newspapers

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<td>“Woman”</td>
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<td>1860?</td>
<td>“Antislavery”</td>
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<td>8 Feb., address on divorce bill before the Judiciary Committee, New York State Senate</td>
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<td>1861, speech in Orleans County and speech on slavery</td>
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<td>“What Can Woman Do for the War?” New York, N.Y.</td>
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<td>1863</td>
<td>address before Woman’s Loyal League</td>
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<td>1866</td>
<td>10 Oct., speech to electors of Eighth Congressional District, New York</td>
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<td>1867</td>
<td>May, speech at hearing before the Judiciary Committee of the New York Senate</td>
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<td>Address on right of women to vote for delegates to constitutional convention, New York</td>
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<td>First speech in suffrage campaign in Kansas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Untitled speech in Kansas campaign</td>
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<td>1868</td>
<td>“Labor”</td>
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<td>1869</td>
<td>19-20 Jan., address before first convention, National Woman Suffrage Association, Washington, D.C.</td>
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<td>1870</td>
<td>17 May, speech on the McFarland trial, Apollo Hall, extract</td>
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[June], “The True Republic”
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Speech before Young Men's Suffrage Association, Plympton Hall
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[1870's], extract from a lyceum lecture
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1872, 12 Jan., speech before Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senate
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[1872]
“Co-education”
Digital content available
“Our Young Girls”
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“Presidents and Parties”
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BOX 5 REEL 4
[circa 1874], “Self-Government”
Digital content available

BOX 6 REEL 4
[1875], “Our Boys”
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1876, “Prison Life”
Digital content available

[circa 1876], “The Subjection of Woman”
Digital content available

1878, 11 Jan., “Address on National Protection for National Citizens,” before the Committee on Privileges and Elections, U.S. Senate
Digital content available

1878, 19-20 July, Third Decade Meeting of Woman's Rights Convention, Rochester
Digital content available

[Aug.], “Home Life,” Providence, R.I.
Digital content available

8 Feb. 1861, address on divorce bill before the Judiciary Committee of the New York Senate
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1885, 12 Nov., “The Pleasures of Age,” an address delivered on her seventieth birthday
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[1880-1890], “Taxation”
Digital content available

1883 June, Princess Hall, London, England
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1884, Washington, D.C.
Digital content available

1888

25 Mar. -1 Apr., welcome address, International Council of Women, Washington, D.C.
Digital content available

2 Apr., statement at hearing before the Committee on Woman Suffrage, U.S. Senate
Digital content available

1889, 21 Jan., speech to members of National Woman Suffrage Association
Digital content available

1890
15 Feb., address before U.S. Senate Special Committee on Woman Suffrage, Woman's Tribune


4 Dec., speech to National American Woman Association Suffrage Association convention


1892

18 Jan., “Solitude of Self,” address delivered before Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Congress

Dec., First Foremothers' Celebration, New York, N.Y.

1893

16 May, “The Antagonism of Sex,” World Congress of Representative Women, with article of same title


“New York Constitutional Convention in 1867 ”

1895, 12 Nov., Metropolitan Opera House, New York, N.Y.

1900, 13 Feb., “Woman Suffrage,” statement before Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives

1902, 24 Feb., “Are Homogeneous Divorce Laws in All the States Desirable?” National Legislative League, Washington, D.C., revision of 1898 article of same title

Undated

“Fear”

“Reconstruction”

“Suffrage: A National Right”

“Woman in the Bible”

Speech notes

Digital content available
### Sermons
  - Digital content available
- 1883, 20 May, “Is the Bible Opposed to Woman Suffrage?” Street, England (near Bristol)
  - Digital content available
- Undated, sermon from Genesis
  - Digital content available

### Other writings
- Account of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's attempt to vote, 1880
  - Digital content available
- “An Interpolation?” undated
  - Digital content available
- “Annie Besant,” undated
  - Digital content available
- *Bible and Church Degrade Woman*, (pamphlet), also two articles on “The Christian Church and Woman,” undated
  - Digital content available
- “Clerical Assumption,” undated
  - Digital content available
- Drafts of resolutions for suffrage convention of 1875
  - Digital content available
- “My Creed,” undated
  - Digital content available

### Miscellany, 1840-1946
Biographical data, certificates, printed matter, speeches by others, and scrapbooks. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject name.
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<th>Contents</th>
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| BOX 8 REEL 5 | Address by Caroline Severance at Elizabeth Cady Stanton Memorial Service, Los Angeles, Calif., 15 Nov. 1902  
**Digital content available**  
Address by Moncure D. Conway at funeral services for Stanton, New York, N.Y., 1902  
**Digital content available**  
Biographical data  
**Digital content available**  
Certificates  
**Digital content available**  
Clippings  
**Digital content available**  
*Elizabeth Cady Stanton As Revealed in Her Letters, Diary, and Reminiscences* by Theodore Stanton and Harriot Stanton Blatch, 1922  
**Digital content available**  
Hearing of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary, 28 Jan. 1896  
**Digital content available**  
Legal papers of Daniel Cady, 1840, 1854  
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*The Lily*, May 1852  
**Digital content available**  
Memorials and tributes  
**Digital content available** |
| BOX 9 REEL 5 | Miscellaneous ephemera  
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National Woman's Party's celebration of the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, 1923  
**Digital content available**  
Protest Against the Unjust Interpretation of the Constitution by the Officers of the National Woman Suffrage Association, Philadelphia, Pa., 17 Sept. 1886  
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Scrapbooks  
On the Woman's Rights Convention, prepared by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 1848  
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#1, prepared by Susan B. Anthony  
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#2, prepared by Susan B. Anthony  
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| BOX 10 REEL 5 | Speeches  
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<td><strong>Susan B. Anthony’s appointment as agent of the Woman’s New York State Temperance Society, 23 May 1852</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Una, Jan. 1855</strong></td>
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<td><strong>“Woman’s Half-Century of Evolution,” by Susan B. Anthony, North American Review; Dec. 1902</strong></td>
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| BOX 10 not filmed | Correspondence, 1893 |

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<th><strong>Oversize, undated</strong></th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Described according to the series, folder and box from which it was removed.</td>
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<tr>
<th>BOX OV 1 REEL 2</th>
<th><strong>Speeches and Writings</strong></th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Books</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td><em>The Woman's Bible</em>, handwritten draft, undated (Container 3)</td>
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