Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
1997

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78041210

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms998020

Prepared by Audrey Walker
Revised by Karen Linn Femia

Text converted and initial EAD tagging provided by Apex Data Services, 1999 January;
Revised 2018 February
Collection Summary

Title: Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers
Span Dates: 1814-1946
Bulk Dates: (bulk 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; 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 and feminist. 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.

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.
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, 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**

Reformers.
Suffragists.

**Provenance**

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 1927-1928. The Library acquired smaller accessions of material by gift and purchase through 1957.

**Processing History**

The papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton were arranged and described in 1979. The register was revised in 1997.

**Transfers**

Photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as a part of these papers.

**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. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

**Microfilm**

A microfilm edition 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 Web site at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000066.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1815, Nov. 12</td>
<td>Born, Johnstown, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1832</td>
<td>Graduated, Emma Willard's Seminary, Troy, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<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>1848</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 U.S. House of Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1869-1870</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>Published Eighty Years and More (1815-1897), Reminiscences of Elizabeth Cady Stanton... (New York: European Publishing Co. 474 pp.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902, Oct. 26</td>
<td>Died, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Scope and Content Note

Although the papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) cover the years 1814 to 1946, most of the material is 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 Negro 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 retarded 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.

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.

Prominent correspondents represented in the collection include Susan B. Anthony, Daniel Cady, W. H. Channing, Lydia
Maria Francis Child, Frances Power Cobbe, Paulina W. Davis, Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Thomas
Wentworth Higginson, Julia Ward Howe, Lucretia Mott, Emmeline Pankhurst, Wendell Phillips, Elizabeth E. Pike, Edith
Kermit Carow Roosevelt, John Osborne Sargent, Elizabeth Oakes Prince Smith, Gerrit Smith, Henry B. Stanton, Lucy
Stone, John Swinton, Theodore Tilton, Thurlow Weed, and John Greenleaf Whittier.

**Organization of the Papers**

The collection is arranged in four series:

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

Container      Series
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 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | **General Correspondence, 1814-1928**  
Letters sent and received.  
Arranged chronologically. |
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | 1814-1849  
[Digital content available](#)  
1850-1855  
[Digital content available](#)  
1856-1859  
[Digital content available](#)  
1860-1869  
[Digital content available](#)  
1870-1878  
[Digital content available](#)  
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  
[Digital content available](#) |
| BOX 2 REEL 2 | Nos. 11-12  
[Digital content available](#)  
Nos. 16-17  
[Digital content available](#) |
Nos. 19, 21-22, 26  
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Nos. 30-31  
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Nos. 32  
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Digital content available  
Nos. 56-57  
Digital content available  
Nos. 60-64, 66, 68  
Digital content available  
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  

30 Aug., “What Woman Suffrage Means,”  
*Woman's Tribune*  
Digital content available
Digital content available
1893, Feb., “Shall the World's Fair Be Closed on Sunday?” National Bulletin, with draft
Digital content available
1894
Digital content available
Apr., “Women Do Not Wish To Vote,” National Bulletin
Digital content available
“An Appeal to Young Women”
Digital content available
1895, 14 Feb., “Educated Suffrage,” The Independent, with typescript
Digital content available
[1895?], “Is the Woman's Bible a Success?”
Digital content available
1899, “Great Men's Wives,” Omaha Republican
Digital content available
1900, Mar., “Are Homogeneous Divorce Laws in All the States Desirable?” North American Review, with earlier article, 20 Nov. 1898
Digital content available
1901
29 June, “Self-Government the Best Form for Self-Development”
Digital content available
Digital content available
1902
Digital content available
Digital content available
Undated
“Home Patriotism,” undated
Digital content available
“Jails and Jubilees,” The Open Court, undated
Digital content available
“Shall Women Ride the Bicycle?” undated
Digital content available
“What Should Be Our Attitude Towards Political Parties,” Woman's Tribune with draft, undated
Digital content available
“Worship of God in Man,” The Open Court with draft, undated
Digital content available
“What The Woman's Bible,” undated
Digital content available
Miscellaneous articles in newspapers
Digital content available

BOX 4 REEL 2
Speeches
1848, untitled
  Digital content available
[1850s], “Education,” address delivered before village lyceum, Seneca Falls, N.Y.
  Digital content available
[1856?], “Woman”
  Digital content available
[1860?], “Antislavery”
  Digital content available
1861
  Digital content available
  8 Feb., address on divorce bill before the Judiciary Committee, New York State Senate
  Digital content available
  1861, speech in Orleans County and speech on slavery
  Digital content available
  [1861-1864?], “What Can Woman Do for the War?” New York, N.Y.
  Digital content available
  BOX 4 REEL 3
  [1861-1865?], “The Future of the Republic,” Boston, Mass., with partial draft of another speech
  Digital content available
  1863, address before Woman's Loyal League
  Digital content available
  [1863?], untitled
  Digital content available
  [1865-1869?], untitled
  Digital content available
  1866, 10 Oct., speech to electors of Eighth Congressional District, New York
  Digital content available
  1867
  May, speech at hearing before the Judiciary Committee of the New York Senate
  Digital content available
  Address on right of women to vote for delegates to constitutional convention, New York
  Digital content available
  First speech in suffrage campaign in Kansas
  Digital content available
  Untitled speech in Kansas campaign
  Digital content available
  1868, “Labor”
  Digital content available
  1869, 19-20 Jan., address before first convention, National Woman Suffrage Association, Washington, D.C.
  Digital content available
  BOX 5 REEL 3
  [circa 1869], speech before club of men and women in New York, N.Y.
  Digital content available
  1870
  17 May, speech on the McFarland trial, Apollo Hall, extract
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<tr>
<td>[June]</td>
<td>“The True Republic”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Speech before Young Men's Suffrage Association, Plympton Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>[1870's]</td>
<td>extract from a lyceum lecture</td>
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<td>1872</td>
<td>speech before Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senate</td>
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<td>[1872]</td>
<td>“Co-education”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Our Young Girls”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Presidents and Parties”</td>
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<td>BOX 5 REEL 4</td>
<td>[circa 1874], “Self-Government”</td>
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<td>BOX 6 REEL 4</td>
<td>[1875], “Our Boys”</td>
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<td>1876</td>
<td>“Prison Life”</td>
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<tr>
<td>[circa 1876]</td>
<td>“The Subjection of Woman”</td>
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<td>1878, 11 Jan.</td>
<td>“Address on National Protection for National Citizens,” before the Committee on Privileges and Elections, U.S. Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>1878, 19-20 July, Third Decade Meeting of Woman's Rights Convention, Rochester</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Feb. 1861</td>
<td>address on divorce bill before the Judiciary Committee of the New York Senate</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>12 Nov., “The Pleasures of Age,” an address delivered on her seventieth birthday</td>
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<td>[1880-1890]</td>
<td>“Taxation”</td>
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<td>1883</td>
<td>June, Princess Hall, London, England</td>
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<td>1884</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>25 Mar. -1 Apr., welcome address, International Council of Women, Washington, D.C.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>2 Apr., statement at hearing before the Committee on Woman Suffrage, U.S. Senate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1889, 21 Jan.</td>
<td>speech to members of National Woman Suffrage Association</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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

Digital content available

Digital content available

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Digital content available

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Digital content available

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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

Box 8 Reel 4
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
Published letters of Stanton
   Digital content available
Suggestions for the National Woman Suffrage Association, spring 1872
   Digital content available
Untitled, [1876]
   Digital content available

Box 8 Reel 5
Untitled and undated
1 of 5
   Digital content available
2 of 5
   Digital content available
3 of 5
   Digital content available
4 of 5
   Digital content available
5 of 5
   Digital content available
Fragments, undated
   Digital content available

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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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  |
|              | Miscellany, 1840-1946  
Container Contents  
Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers 14 |
| BOX 9        | Miscellaneous ephemera  
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Protest Against the Unjust Interpretation of the Constitution by the Officers of the National Woman Suffrage Association, Philadelphia, Pa., 17 Sept. 1886  
Digital content available  
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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Digital content available  
2 of 4  
Digital content available  
3 of 4  
Digital content available  
4 of 4  
Digital content available  |
| BOX 10 REEL 5| #2, prepared by Susan B. Anthony  
Digital content available  
#3, prepared by Susan B. Anthony  
Digital content available  
Speeches |
Blatch, Harriot Stanton, “Elizabeth Cady Stanton,” Buffalo Convention, Buffalo, N.Y., 1915
Digital content available
Digital content available
Susan B. Anthony's appointment as agent of the Woman's New York State Temperance Society, 23 May 1852
Digital content available
The Una, Jan. 1855
Digital content available
Digital content available

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.

BOX OV 1 REEL 2 Speeches and Writings
Books
The Woman's Bible, handwritten draft, undated (Container 3)