

# **Elizabeth Cady Stanton**

## **A Register of Her Papers in the Library of Congress**

**Prepared by Audrey Walker  
Revised by Karen Linn Femia**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

**Washington, D.C.**

**1997**

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

**Text converted and initial EAD tagging provided by  
Apex Data Services, 1999 January; encoding  
completed by Manuscript Division, March 1999**

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms998020>

Latest revision: 2004-12-15

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton

**Span Dates:** 1814-1946

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1840-1902)

**Creator:** Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902

**ID No.:** MSS41210

**Extent:** 1,000 items; 10 containers plus 1 oversize; 4.3 linear feet; 5 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Repository:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Abstract:** 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 Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Names:

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902  
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 Francis, 1802-1880--Correspondence  
Cobbe, Frances Power, 1822-1904--Correspondence  
Davis, Paulina W. (Paulina Wright), 1813-1876--Correspondence  
Douglass, Frederick, 1817?-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, 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--19th century  
Antislavery movements  
Feminism  
Social problems--United States--19th century  
Temperance--United States--Societies, etc.--19th century  
Women--Legal status, laws, etc.--19th century

Women--Suffrage  
Women's rights

**Occupations:**

Reformers  
Feminists

## Administrative Information

**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.).

**Microfilm:**

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on five reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

**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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1815, Nov. 12	Born, Johnstown, N.Y.
1832	Graduated, Emma Willard's Seminary, Troy, N.Y.
1840	Married Henry B. Stanton Attended World Anti-Slavery Convention, London, England
1846	Moved from Boston, Mass., to Seneca Falls, N.Y.
1848	Organized the first Woman's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, N.Y., which adopted, at her instigation, the first public resolution for woman suffrage
1851	Met Susan B. Anthony; enlisted her in woman's rights cause

1852	President, Woman's Temperance Convention, Rochester, N.Y.
1866	First female candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives
1868-1870	Joint editor with Parker Pillsbury of the weekly <i>Revolution</i>
1869	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
1881-1886	Published with Susan B. Anthony and Matilda Joslyn Gage, <i>History of Woman Suffrage</i> (New York: Fowler & Wells. 3 vols.)
1888	Helped organize the first International Council of Women, Washington, D.C.
1890	Elected president, National American Woman Suffrage Association
1895, 1898	Published <i>The Woman's Bible</i> (New York: European Publishing Co. 2 vols.)
1898	Published <i>Eighty Years and More (1815-1897), Reminiscences of Elizabeth Cady Stanton...</i> (New York: European Publishing Co. 474 pp.)
1902, Oct. 26	Died, New York, N.Y.

## 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, n.d.](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902, n.d.](#)
- [Miscellany, 1840-1946, n.d.](#)
- [Oversize, n.d.](#)

## Description of Series

### *Container*

BOX 1  
REEL 1

### *Series*

#### General Correspondence, 1814-1928, n.d.

Letters sent and received.  
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 2-8  
REEL 1-5

#### Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902, n.d.

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, n.d.

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, n.d.

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

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
<b>BOX 1</b> <b>REEL 1</b>	<b>General Correspondence, 1814-1928, n.d.</b>  Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
<b>BOX 1</b> <b>REEL 1</b>	1814-1928, n.d.  (11 folders)
<b>BOX 2-8</b> <b>REEL 1-5</b>	<b>Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902, n.d.</b>  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.
<b>BOX 2</b> <b>REEL 1-2</b>	Books  <i>Reminiscences</i> , handwritten drafts of chapters Nos. 7-12 (3 folders) Nos. 16-17 Nos. 19, 21-22, 26 Nos. 30-32 (2 folders) Nos. 34-36 (3 folders) Nos. 41-44 Nos. 47-48, 50-51 Nos. 56-57 Nos. 60-64, 66, 68 No. 70 Marriage and divorce Miscellaneous
<b>BOX 3</b> <b>REEL 2</b>	<i>The Woman's Bible</i> , handwritten draft, n.d. <a href="#"><u>See Oversize</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Description available.</u></a> Genesis <a href="#"><u>Items available.</u></a> Exodus <a href="#"><u>Items available.</u></a> Numbers <a href="#"><u>Items available.</u></a>

Matthew

Items available.

Articles

1869, 8 Apr., "The Man Marriage" and "What Possible Value Would Suffrage Be to Woman?" *Revolution*

1886, 11 Mar., "Religion for Women and Children," *The Index*

[1890's], "The Bicycle [sic] Era"

1890

4 July, "Wyoming, the First Free State for Woman"

30 Aug., "What Woman Suffrage Means," *Woman's Tribune*

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

Jan., "An Appeal to the Women of New York," *National Bulletin*

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

"An Appeal to Young Women"

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

[1895?], "Is the Woman's Bible a Success?"

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," n.d.

"Jails and Jubilees," *The Open Court*, n.d.

"Shall Women Ride the Bicycle?" n.d.

"What Should Be Our Attitude Towards Political Parties," *Woman's Tribune* with draft, n.d.

"Worship of God in Man," *The Open Court* with draft, n.d.

"The Woman's Bible," n.d.

Miscellaneous articles in newspapers

Speeches

1848, untitled

[1850s], "Education," address delivered before village lyceum, Seneca Falls, N.Y.

[1856?], "Woman"

[1860?], "Antislavery"

1861

4-5 Feb., "Free Speech," Fourth Annual New York State Anti-Slavery Convention, Albany, New York

8 Feb., address on divorce bill before the Judiciary Committee, New York State Senate

1861, speech in Orleans County and speech on slavery

BOX 4  
REEL 2-3

Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902, n.d.

Container

Contents

---

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

Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902, n.d.

Container

Contents

---

- 15 Feb., address before U.S. Senate Special Committee on Woman Suffrage, *Woman's Tribune*
- BOX 7  
REEL 4
- 23 Feb., "Change Is the Law of Progress," National American Woman's Suffrage Convention, Washington, D.C.
- 4 Dec., speech to National American Woman Association Suffrage Association convention
- 1891, "The Degradation of Disfranchisement," National American Woman Suffrage Association convention, Washington, D.C., with clipping
- 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
- 19 July, "Emma Willard, the Pioneer in the Higher Education of Women," Chicago, Ill.
- Sept. "The Ultimate Religion," New York, N.Y., also entitled, "Worship of God in Man"
- 22 Dec., "Christmas on the Mayflower," Foremothers Dinner, New York, N.Y.
- "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
- Sermons
- 1882, Sept., "Women's Position in the Christian Church," London, England
- 1883, 20 May, "Is the Bible Opposed to Woman Suffrage?" Street, England (near Bristol)
- Undated, sermon from Genesis
- BOX 8  
REEL 4-5
- Other writings
- Account of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's attempt to vote, 1880
- "An Interpolation?" n.d.
- "Annie Besant," n.d.
- Bible and Church Degrade Woman*, (pamphlet), also two articles on "The Christian Church and Woman, n.d.
- "Clerical Assumption," n.d.
- Drafts of resolutions for suffrage convention of 1875
- "My Creed," n.d.
- Published letters of Stanton
- Suggestions for the National Woman Suffrage Association, spring 1872
- Untitled, [1876]
- Untitled and undated
- (5 folders)

## Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902, n.d.

### Container

### Contents

---

Fragments, n.d.

BOX 8-10  
REEL 5

#### Miscellany, 1840-1946, n.d.

Biographical data, certificates, printed matter, speeches by others, and scrapbooks.  
Arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject name.

BOX 8  
REEL 4-5

Address by Caroline Severance at Elizabeth Cady Stanton Memorial Service, Los Angeles, Calif.,  
15 Nov. 1902

Address by Moncure D. Conway at funeral services for Stanton, New York, N.Y., 1902

Biographical data

Certificates

Clippings

*Elizabeth Cady Stanton As Revealed in Her Letters, Diary, and Reminiscences* by Theodore  
Stanton and Harriot Stanton Blatch, 1922

Hearing of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on the Judiciary, 28 Jan. 1896

Legal papers of Daniel Cady, 1840, 1854

*The Lily*, May 1852

Memorials and tributes

BOX 9

Miscellaneous ephemera

National Woman's Party's celebration of the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, 1923

Protest Against the Unjust Interpretation of the Constitution by the Officers of the National  
Woman Suffrage Association, Philadelphia, Pa., 17 Sept. 1886

Scrapbooks

On the Woman's Rights Convention, prepared by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 1848

#1, prepared by Susan B. Anthony

(4 folders)

BOX 10  
REEL 5

#2, prepared by Susan B. Anthony

#3, prepared by Susan B. Anthony

Speeches

Blatch, Harriot Stanton, "Elizabeth Cady Stanton," Buffalo Convention, Buffalo, N.Y., 1915

Barney, Nora Stanton, "World Peace Through a Peoples Parliament," 1944 and "Women As  
Human Beings," 1946

Susan B. Anthony's appointment as agent of the Woman's New York State Temperance Society,  
23 May 1852

*The Una*, Jan. 1855

"Woman's Half-Century of Evolution," by Susan B. Anthony, *North American Review*, Dec. 1902

BOX OV 1  
REEL 2

#### Oversize, n.d.

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, n.d. (Container 3)