

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Papers

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Washington, D.C.**

1997

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

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm78041210>

Prepared by Audrey Walker

Revised by Karen Linn Femia

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 ; 10 containers plus 1 oversize ; 4.3 linear feet; 5 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

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

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.

Occupations

Feminists.
Reformers.

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.).

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

<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](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902](#)
- [Miscellany, 1840-1946](#)
- [Oversize, undated](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	<u>General Correspondence, 1814-1928</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 2-8 REEL 1-5	<u>Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902</u> 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	<u>Miscellany, 1840-1946</u> Biographical data, certificates, printed matter, speeches by others, and scrapbooks. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject name.
BOX OV 1 REEL 2	<u>Oversize, undated</u> Handwritten draft of <i>The Woman's Bible</i> . 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>
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 <i>Reminiscences</i> , handwritten drafts of chapters Nos. 7-8 Digital content available Nos. 9-10 Digital content available
BOX 2	Nos. 11-12

REEL 2

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 16-17

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 19, 21-22, 26

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 30-31

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 32

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 34

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 35

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 36

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 41-44

[Digital content available](#)

Nos. 47-48, 50-51

[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

The Woman's Bible, handwritten draft, undated [See Oversize](#)

REEL 2

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](#)

1892, Mar., "Shall the World's Fair Be Open on Sunday," *National Bulletin*

[Digital content available](#)

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

[Digital content available](#)

1894

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

[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](#)

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

[Digital content available](#)

1902

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

[Digital content available](#)

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

[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](#)

BOX 4
REEL 2

- “The Woman's Bible,” undated
[Digital content available](#)
- Miscellaneous articles in newspapers
[Digital content available](#)
- 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
- 4-5 Feb., “Free Speech,” Fourth Annual New York State Anti-Slavery Convention, Albany, New York
[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](#)
- [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](#)

BOX 4
REEL 3

Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902

Container

Contents

- 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
[Digital content available](#)
[June], “The True Republic”
[Digital content available](#)
Speech before Young Men's Suffrage Association, Plympton Hall
[Digital content available](#)
- [1870's], extract from a lyceum lecture
[Digital content available](#)
- 1872, 12 Jan., speech before Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senate
[Digital content available](#)
- [1872]
“Co-education”
[Digital content available](#)
“Our Young Girls”
[Digital content available](#)
“Presidents and Parties”
[Digital content available](#)
- BOX 5**
REEL 4 [circa 1874], “Self-Government”
[Digital content available](#)
- BOX 6**
REEL 4 [1875], “Our Boys”
[Digital content available](#)
- 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
[Digital content available](#)
- 1885, 12 Nov., “The Pleasures of Age,” an address delivered on her seventieth birthday
[Digital content available](#)
- [1880-1890], “Taxation”
[Digital content available](#)
- 1883 June, Princess Hall, London, England
[Digital content available](#)

BOX 7
REEL 4

- 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*
[Digital content available](#)
23 Feb., "Change Is the Law of Progress," National American Woman's Suffrage Convention, Washington, D.C.
[Digital content available](#)
4 Dec., speech to National American Woman Association Suffrage Association convention
[Digital content available](#)
- 1891, "The Degradation of Disfranchisement," National American Woman Suffrage Association convention, Washington, D.C., with clipping
[Digital content available](#)
- 1892
18 Jan., "Solitude of Self," address delivered before Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Congress
[Digital content available](#)
Dec., First Foremothers' Celebration, New York, N.Y.
[Digital content available](#)
- 1893
16 May, "The Antagonism of Sex," World Congress of Representative Women, with article of same title
[Digital content available](#)
19 July, "Emma Willard, the Pioneer in the Higher Education of Women," Chicago, Ill.
[Digital content available](#)
Sept. "The Ultimate Religion," New York, N.Y., also entitled, "Worship of God in Man"
[Digital content available](#)
22 Dec., "Christmas on the Mayflower," Foremothers Dinner, New York, N.Y.
[Digital content available](#)
"New York Constitutional Convention in 1867 "
[Digital content available](#)
- 1895, 12 Nov., Metropolitan Opera House, New York, N.Y.
[Digital content available](#)
- 1900, 13 Feb., "Woman Suffrage," statement before Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives
[Digital content available](#)
- 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
[Digital content available](#)
- Undated

“Fear”

[Digital content available](#)

“Reconstruction”

[Digital content available](#)

“Suffrage: A National Right”

[Digital content available](#)

“Woman in the Bible”

[Digital content available](#)

Speech notes

[Digital content available](#)

Sermons

1882, Sept., “Women's Position in the Christian Church,” London, England

[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](#)

Untitled and undated

BOX 8
REEL 5

1 of 5

[Digital content available](#)

2 of 5

[Digital content available](#)

3 of 5

[Digital content available](#)

Speeches and Writings, 1848-1902

Container

Contents

4 of 5

[Digital content available](#)

5 of 5

[Digital content available](#)

Fragments, undated

[Digital content available](#)

BOX 8-10

Miscellany, 1840-1946

REEL 5

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

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

[Digital content available](#)

The Lily, May 1852

[Digital content available](#)

Memorials and tributes

[Digital content available](#)

BOX 9

Miscellaneous ephemera

[Digital content available](#)

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

[Digital content available](#)

Scrapbooks

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

[Digital content available](#)

#1, prepared by Susan B. Anthony

1 of 4

[Digital content available](#)

Miscellany, 1840-1946

Container

Contents

- 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](#)
- Barney, Nora Stanton, "World Peace Through a Peoples Parliament," 1944 and "Women As Human Beings," 1946
[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](#)
- "Woman's Half-Century of Evolution," by Susan B. Anthony, *North American Review*, Dec. 1902
[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)