

Notes on Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902)

- She became interested early in the temperance and antislavery movements and spent time at the house of an uncle who was an abolitionist. His home was a stop for fugitive slaves. She was familiar with the law through her father's practice.
- 1840: Cady Stanton traveled to London, where her husband, abolitionist Henry Stanton, was a delegate to the World Anti-Slavery Convention. Denied her seat at the convention, as were all the women delegates, Elizabeth Cady Stanton discussed with Lucretia Mott, a Quaker who had helped organize the American Anti-Slavery Society in the 1830s, the need for a convention on women's rights.
- 1848: Stanton and Mott called for the first women's rights convention, initiating the women's rights movement in the United States. Stanton wrote the *Declaration of Sentiments* declaring that "men and women are created equal." *The Declaration of Sentiments* enumerated eighteen legal grievances suffered by women, including lack of the franchise and the right to their wages, their person, and their children. It also called attention to women's limited educational and economic opportunities. Frederick Douglass, the abolitionist editor of the *North Star*, supported the resolution calling for the vote for women by saying, "Right is of no sex." Woman is "justly entitled to all we claim for man."
- 1851: Elizabeth Cady Stanton met Susan B. Anthony, with whom she would work for women's causes for the next 50 years. Unwilling to commit to a vigorous travel schedule until her children were grown, Cady Stanton wrote many of her speeches for delivery by Anthony.
- 1863: Cady Stanton and Anthony formed the National Women's Loyal League in 1863 to fight against slavery.
- 1865: Stanton and other women working toward the vote found themselves at odds with abolitionists working for the franchise of male former slaves who felt that including the vote for women jeopardized passage of the Fifteenth Amendment.
- 1869: Cady Stanton and Anthony founded the National Woman Suffrage Association. Cady Stanton served as its president until 1892.
- 1876: Stanton and Matilda Joslyn Gage authored the *Declaration of Rights of the Women of the United States*, which Anthony presented, uninvited, at the Centennial celebration in Washington.
- 1878: Cady Stanton's efforts were largely responsible for the introduction of a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage. The amendment was continuously reintroduced until it became law as the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920.
- 1902: Elizabeth Cady Stanton died and did not live to see women's suffrage in the United States.

