

Suffrage in St. Lawrence County:
As Reported in the Local Newspapers



Barnard, E. H. "Girl at Typewriter." Drawing. In Agnes Rogers (Ed.) Women are Here to Stay: The Durable Sex in its Infinite Variety Through Half a Century of American Life. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1949: 49.

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In the March 14, 1915 issue of the *Canton Commercial Advertiser* a woman named C.C. Van Walters of Rensselaer Falls is quoted as saying:

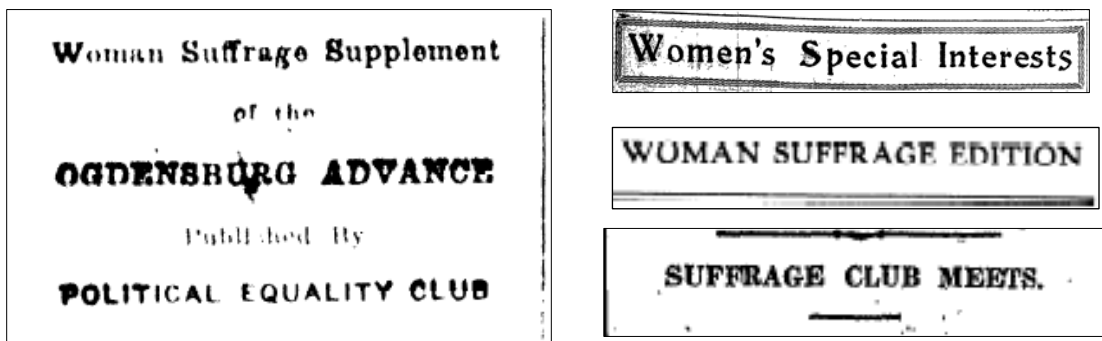
America is heralded the world over as a land of liberty, justice and equality. Our flag is regarded as emblematic of these noble words, but how much meaning must they really have to the American woman with political rights denied her! Give her the ballot and make our country truly free.

The struggle to obtain the vote between the Seneca Falls convention of 1848 and the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920 was characterized by neither a smooth nor straight path for American women. Progress in the demand for suffrage came in waves, as the country advanced technologically, and struggled ideologically to settle on their governing beliefs. The first proposal for an amendment to the constitution that would give women the right to vote was made in 1878, but would not be ratified until forty-two years later. In that period of time, issues like slavery, temperance, labor rights and social reforms, as well as civil and international wars, shaped the environment in which women fought for their right to vote.

One of the most fascinating and significant elements of the suffrage movement was the evolving relationship between women and the popular press. Newspapers and magazines became a unifying and cohesive force in the collective demand for change amongst American women; they served as a public space in which women could connect with one another, and became a tactical approach at broadening support for the movement. Patricia Bradley notes this in her work titled Women and the Press: The Struggle for Equality: “Support by the press was considered necessary in the state-by-state campaigns... as part of an over-all strategy” (58). Through the press and the printed word, women were able to collectivize in a way that was uniquely accessible. In light of the changes in technology and industrialization—such as the

development of the mass press and improvements in printing technologies—even small towns had staple newspapers beginning in the mid to late nineteenth-century. Local papers were each town’s primary source of current events and shared community knowledge, other than word of mouth. By the latter decades of the suffrage movement, newspapers were a major means of activism for women who could not afford the expenses of travelling to national or even state conventions. Local organizations like the Canton Suffrage League and The Political Equality Club—which had branches in many local towns—published events and sponsored special newspaper columns and supplements which addressed suffrage.

Local newspapers were the means by which many people could be reached who had little other access to public events and information—they covered conferences, speeches, and events pertaining to suffrage, enabling women and men of the area to take part in or simply be aware of activities that contributed to the woman’s suffrage movement. Papers also hosted anti-suffrage columns and published letters both for and against various aspects of women’s rights, featuring articles that brought national prospective within the lens and context of St. Lawrence County, and blending them with local opinions.



The forum offered by local newspapers was of particular importance for regionally isolated women who gained through this medium a place to broadcast their voices and a way to

take a more informed role in society. From looking at the newspaper articles printed in St. Lawrence County during the suffrage years, a picture of mixed ambitions and opinions emerges. Certainly, periods of interest waxed and waned through the seventy years following the Seneca Falls convention, mirroring national trends during times of war and hardship. In the introduction to volume five of the History of Woman Suffrage series, the fluctuating attention paid to the suffrage movement is discussed: “Congress was stone deaf to their pleadings and arguments and from 1894 to 1913 its committees utterly ignored the question...From 1896 for fourteen years not one State enfranchised its women” (Harper, xviii). Clearly the conditions in the North Country were unique unto themselves during these years. However, repeated searches into the early papers of the region using the historical newspaper digitization project of the Northern New York Library Network reveal basic trends in the publication of suffrage related stories and articles (*Appendix C*).

One of the earliest examples of suffrage activism in the area, advertised in the *Potsdam Courier Freeman*, was Susan B. Anthony’s lecture at the Potsdam Town Hall in December of 1870. Other notable women speakers who came to the area included: Harriet May Mills in 1911, Mrs. Gertrude Nelson in 1913, Marion Sanger Frank, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Kate Devereux Blake, Francis M. Bjorkman, and Mrs. Emma S. DeVoe in 1915, and Dr. Helen B. Owens in 1916. Surely there were others, but these women in particular were featured in the local papers. Speeches focused on subjects like taxation without representation, the positive effects of suffrage elsewhere, the ‘higher ideas of civilized life,’ white slavery, and justice; some even featured musical numbers such as a 1917 Lecture in Norwood where a suffrage song, “Just Put Us On Your List, Dear Uncle Sam,” was played (“Lecture Given at Norwood”). The articles published in St. Lawrence County over time captured the major themes and ideas of the Suffrage

movement. As a space to communicate local events, newspapers had a particularly important function at the local level (*see Appendix A*).

Articles and stories that did not cover events in the county were those that featured reports about suffrage, the accomplishments of various organizations, and columns for community members to express their views. During 1904 and 1905 articles such as, “The Position of American Women,” and “Making Great Strides: Splendid Material Progress of Womanhood,” reported the status of women in education, in the work force, and in places where suffrage was legal. Articles also included stories of local interest, such as a college student at St. Lawrence University named Miss Reba Swan—a militant suffragist who as a freshman, was an outspoken and determined activist for the cause of suffrage (“Many People and Places”). Special edition papers were also printed in the North Country from time to time, such as the “Suffrage Supplement to the [Ogdensburg] Advance,” on March 25th, 1915, in which multiple articles, advertisements, and statistics were given about suffrage.

Advertisements and images concerning suffrage were often printed in local papers by organizations like the New York State Women’s Suffrage Party, and they called upon those who already had the vote to extend that right to women. Most of these advertisements were large, bold, and attention grabbing, giving statistics that would persuade men to support suffrage. From the October 31st, 1917 edition of the *Courier and Freeman*, one such advertisement reads: “Men of New York, cast your Votes for Women!” The rhetorical elements used in advertising are carefully at work here, and men are appealed to in various ways: their families are brought to mind with the mention of wife, mother, daughter, and sister; their sense of patriotism is called upon with the mention of war, and political pressures are highlighted by the fact that other countries and states have approved suffrage for their women. Large lettering, and catch phrases

like, “This is the year of all years!” and “Let nothing keep you from the polls next Tuesday,” are meant to encourage men to vote for the cause. Giving facts and figures as well as using exclamation points and varying font sizes keeps the piece visually interesting and lends it a sense of urgency and excitement. This advertisement exemplifies the kinds of materials that were printed in support of suffrage in local papers, particularly during the nineteen-teens.

Another popular publication in local papers was poetry that addressed the suffrage cause. Poetry was used as a means of motivating local citizens to get involved in suffrage activity. Take for instance this anonymous poem about Cranberry Lake:

Why should the women of Cranberry Lake

Stay in their homes just half awake?

Why not get out and help the Campaign?

Our neat little town, of Cranberry Lake,

Is still upon earth and will not see its fate.

If the men of this town will vote for women this fall,

Our wish will be granted and that will be all. (ll. 1-7)

The simple rhyme scheme used here is important both as a poetic convention and for the effect that it has on readers. These poems almost take on a “song-like” quality when spoken, and this technique may be one which encourages repeatability and memorization. Simple verses are a

Men of New York, cast your Votes for Women!

THERE is a man's work for you to do on Election Day. It is to let your vote count for Woman Suffrage. Your vote is just as vital to the women of your State—to your wife or mother, or daughter or sister—as it is to you.

This is the year of all years!

LET no one say that a war year is not the time to extend suffrage to women. *It is the time of all times!* Since January seven states have given women the vote.

England has announced that it will gladly give its women votes. In advocating it, former Prime Minister Asquith said: "The war could not have been carried on without the women." Before the war, he opposed suffrage bitterly. "To give women no voice," says Prime Minister Lloyd George "would be an outrage."

France, through its Chamber of Deputies, has promised women the vote.

Italy has taken a step in the right direction.

Russia takes Woman Suffrage as a matter of course in planning the new government.

Canada, in the midst of war, and with the votes of her soldiers included, has adopted Woman Suffrage in the five great Provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Ontario.

The Allied Countries at War

have either granted Woman Suffrage or are seriously considering it at this moment.

Here today, in your own state, 1,012,994 enrolled women are asking to be allowed to take the same full share of responsibility that has been given to the women of other states and countries. To give them what they ask is more than duty. It's your privilege—the highest exercise of civic right you can perform.

Let nothing keep you from the polls next Tuesday! Your vote may win the day for Woman Suffrage!

NEW YORK STATE WOMAN SUFFRAGE PARTY
303 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

convention of children's rhymes and colloquial folk songs. Simple rhyme schemes are the most common amongst the local suffrage poems. Also interesting to note, is the way that these poems were positioned near news stories of similar content—such as reports of other countries who were struggling with suffrage issues (like England and Australia), as well as state to state developments. Frequently, advertisements or timelines of suffrage developments were a part of the newspaper spreads where suffrage poems were found.

Poetry was an accessible form of literature, as it was short and expressive. Also, women commonly wrote sentimental poetry; therefore the form itself may have been a suitable form of social commentary for issues relating to women (and may have added a layer of satirical edge to their meaning). The way that poetry functioned as a kind of public speech is reflected in the way that speech itself, or dialogue, is included in many of the suffrage poems. In a poem titled, “An Old Old Rime” in the *Potsdam Herald Recorder* in August of 1915, the form of poetry and public speech are blurred together:

“Mother, may I go out to vote?”

“No my darling daughter.

Father and brother do that for us;

They say we hadn't oughter.”

Titled with an archaic spelling of the word “rhyme,” this verse is actually dialogue which functions as a metaphor for the speech of a mother to her child. This plays into the domestic location of the woman as mother and, as she answers her daughter with simple obedience and submission to her husband, also as wife. However, the poem conveys a sense of sarcasm and as a piece of rhetoric functions satirically. The repetition of “old” in the title is perhaps our first clue, as it is emphatically related to us that this is an outdated dialogue. This dialogue, which

represents a private dialogue between mother and daughter, is transformed by its very publication in the newspaper into a public dialogue between poem and reader. Many of the poems in support of suffrage used quoted dialogue to indicate voice. This convention points to the function of the poetry itself as public speech.

Following in this tradition, other suffrage poems functioned as a public voice amongst a broad readership or “community” of women:

Largely complaint poems, whose social, cultural, and political affiliations give them historical value outside the aesthetic...will clarify this poetry’s function as a form of *public* speech addressed to concrete, empirically identifiable others. Doing so, it will establish the vital role that women’s poetry, taken collectively, played within the intersubjective framework of the public sphere.” (Bennett 4-5)

Complaint poems were a common category of suffrage poetry. These poems, especially those published in local papers, have been largely indistinct in discussions of suffrage history because of their lack of aesthetic qualities. However, they should be acknowledged for their historical and social value, as suggested by Bennett.

One such complaint poem, “And Why Not?” from the May 19, 1917 issue of the *Heuvelton Bee*, is an example of the way complaint poems criticized gender roles and advocated change. This poem was also published in *The Canton Commercial Advertiser* in 1915:

Many a laddie votes his ballot

Not so bright as I;

Many a laddie votes his ballot,

Overcome with rye.
 If a lassie works for wages,
 Toiling all the day;
 When her work the laddie's equals
 Give her equal pay. (ll. 6-13)

These lines clearly set up a distinction between the genders of male and female and highlight what the speaker of the poem feels to be a notable injustice—that men can vote, even when they abuse that right by doing so while drunk. Women's lack of franchise is highlighted by the repetition of "many a laddie votes his ballot." This poem, published both in 1915 and 1917 in different local papers, exemplifies the complaint poem genre. Complaints are an expression of disease, or unhappiness, and often come in a verbal form. Through these publications, a complaint is made, and the demand for suffrage is thus illuminated. This common style of poem demonstrates one of the ways that suffrage poetry functioned as a kind of dialogue between women—an indirect way of communicating opinions, ideas, and frustrations.

In the poem published in *The Ogdensburg Advance* on March 25th, 1917, Ogdensburg suffragist Marion Sanger Frank provides a good example of how women would come to strategize ways to gain the vote. One important development was to use popular ideas about domesticity and women's roles as support for enfranchisement. Frank's poem states:

Yes, the 'woman's place the home is,'
 So 'twas always, so should be,
 But, we women of the future.

Hope to shelter all Humanity.
 Better homes and stronger children,
 Not more mansions for the rich,
 Fewer Warships, but more playgrounds,
 Is her earnest soulful wish. (ll. 1-8)

These arguments focus on elements of domesticity and purity—but also assert that to defend those characteristics “the vote shall be her weapon” (ll. 13). The suggestion is that by giving women suffrage men will be securing the domestic sphere with strong children, less corruption, less war, and “more playgrounds.” Frank’s rhetoric works well because she acknowledges opposing arguments, such as women belonging in the home, and makes them her own. She turns the logic around to say that women are the defenders of the home, the authorities on moral issues, and therefore they deserve the vote to better perform their duty.

For women arguing in support of suffrage, maintaining domestic values in the public sphere was accomplished through expanding the definition of home beyond the walls of the family dwelling. An anonymous poem from the *Potsdam Herald Recorder*, printed as a part of an article titled “An. Advisor on Bone Dry Town,” works as a kind of dialogue between a man named Reuben and a woman named Rachel. Rachel expresses her support of suffrage, much to Reuben’s dismay:

Rachel stop that kind of talking!
 Just this one thing don’t forget;
 What I want’s a perfect lady,
 Not a headstrong suffragette! (ll. 5-8)

However, Rachel goes on to argue that even ladies must pay taxes, and in gaining the vote, women could help men improve the world. Central to her argument for suffrage is her expansion of the definition of home. When Reuben states “That the woman’s place is home,/ From the cook stove and the wash tub/ She should never wish to roam,” Rachel replies:

Reuben, Reuben, home’s no longer

Bounded by our flat’s four walls,

Factory, prison, pure food, playground—

Woman hears a hundred calls. (ll. 21-29)

For all of the other reasons she has listed, this final argument convinces Reuben that women should be given the vote; he concedes: “Woman’s proper sphere’s the home, dear, / But the home’s our whole great state” (ll. 30-31).

As times changed, so too did the nature of suffrage arguments. America’s entrance into World War I in 1917 was perhaps one of the most influential historical events in terms of the suffrage press. The changing roles that women played during war times sparked them to speak out—they no longer had a reason not to, as they were performing jobs traditionally performed by men on a national scale. The movement also picked up the contradictions WWI posed to social roles and incorporated them into their rhetoric. Often, these realities were the very thing which made the platform of traditional domesticity and the *cult of womanhood* ironic and humorous. These attitudes were reflected in local publications, and articles, images, and poems often used the war to address the issue of women’s rights.

In a March 1915 issue of the *Ogdensburg Advance*, an anonymous poem titled “Women” uses the complaint format to highlight contradictions in society’s treatment of women in light of war:

I went into a factory, to earn my daily bread.

Men said: ‘The home is woman’s sphere.’ “I had no home.” I said.

But when the men all marched to war, they cried to wife and maid,

‘Oh, never mind about your homes, but save the export trade!’

For It’s “women this,” and “women that,” and “Home’s the place for you,”

But it’s “patriotic angels” when there’s outside work to do,

There’s outside work to do, my dear, there’s outside work to do,

It’s “patriotic angels” when there’s outside work to do. (ll.17-33)

This poem calls to light the hypocrisy of confining women to the home when they must labor to feed themselves and fill men’s jobs when they are away at war. Although America had not yet entered the war in 1915, American men enlisted in Canada and other countries. Also, the possibility exists that the speaker of the poem is not American, and the poem is thus reproduced from a country which was engaged in the conflict in 1915 with no credit given to the author. Local readers would have surely connected with the message found within its lines.

Another poem, originally published in the *Saturday Evening Post* and reprinted in the November 10, 1917 issue of the *Heuvelton Bee*, titled “Her Part” uses satire as well as contradictions fueled by the war to discuss women’s roles in society:

Antoinette Brown—the eccentric Miss Brown—

Loans to the Red Cross her big house in town;

Get's writer's cramp signing checks for the cause:

Works with no thought of reward or applause.

If you should tell her she's generous—then:

“Look at the women who're sending their men!

I'm only giving the price of a gown;

It's only money I'm giving”, says Antoinette Brown. (Miller ll.1-15)

The poem conveys the sense of dedication that suffrage leaders gave to their efforts, particularly noting the deep sacrifice felt by women who lost their sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers—to war.

From these examples of local publications about suffrage, it becomes clear that St. Lawrence County and its residents were closely connected with what was happening throughout the country. Articles, announcements, advertisements and poetry in regional newspapers echoed national perspectives and sought to reconcile them with local viewpoints. Together, area women organized themselves and others, starting clubs and organizations dedicated to suffrage and attending lectures and conventions all over the state and country. The upstate area was connected to the larger movement in many ways, and the range of expression found in St. Lawrence County over time shows that anti-suffrage sentiments as well as pro-suffrage sentiments were felt in every corner of the country.

Examining how this period of social transition played out at the local level provides an iterative sketch of what the nation as a whole experienced during the years in which women worked for suffrage. From local women who influenced the community, to articles and events

printed in local newspapers, come stories of suffrage that help us to better understand how the women's rights movement was at work in the North Country. As a mixed bag of activism and resistance to change, the area's story is a reflection of how the seeds of the movement, against all obstacles, would grow into the fruits of success with the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920.

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Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 23 September 2008

<<http://news.nynln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Appendix A

**Suffrage Events in St. Lawrence County
As Reported in the Local Papers:**

December 15 th	1870	Susan B. Anthony Lectures @ Potsdam Town Hall.
March 2 nd	1902	Papers Read on "Franchise" @ Universalist Church
July 21 st	1911	Tuesday @ 8pm Address in favor of suffrage in the Park. Harriet May Mills speaks.
May	1911	Carrie Chapman Catt Speaks in Canton.
June 6 th	1913	Mrs. Gertrude Nelson, Women's Suffrage Speaker @ 8pm Universalist Church.
May 19 th	1914	Suffrage Association Convention in Canton @ Universalist Church- 10:30am. Carrie Chapman Catt speaks in this month and Year as well.
June 11 th	1914	8pm Canton Auxiliary of the State Association Opposed to Women Suffrage.
February 7 th	1915	Mrs. Julius Frank gave an address on suffrage for over an hour at Music Hall in Norwood.
June 22 nd	1915	Dr. Anna Howard Shaw speaks in Canton.
August 18 th	1915	Kate Devereux Blake Speaks at Opera House on "White Slavery" And on "Woman Suffrage" on the corner of Elm and Market St.
September 9 th	1915	Frances M. Bjorkman speaks at County Fair on Suffrage.
October 27 th	1915	The Ogdensburg Political Equality Club will host an address on Suffrage by Beatrice Robinson at the Opera House.
October	1915	Wednesday evening Mrs. Emma S. DeVoe and John Temple Graves spoke at the opera house at the suffrage mass meeting.
October 28 th	1915	A second meeting concerning suffrage held at the opera house with Congressman Bill and B.F.R. as the speakers.
November 5 th	1915	Second Fortnightly Number Play held, "Servant in the House."
September 13 th	1916	Suffrage Club Meeting at the fire station hall last Wednesday. Dr. Helen B. Owens of Ithaca spoke
February 23 rd	1917	February Meeting of the Woman's Club held at Fireman's Hall Tuesday evening. Women discussed gaining the ballot and the NYS Woman Suffrage Party.
April 13 th	1917	Ida M. Tarbell to speak at the Opera House in the Evening. Advertised on April 6 th in the Potsdam Herald Recorder.

Appendix B

Supplementary Images

“In Return---Will women be Given the vote By the Men of New York State?”

Canton Commercial Advertiser

May 29th 1917



In Return---Will women be Given the vote By the Men of New York State?

“For a Greater Democracy the World Over”

Commercial Advertiser

June 19th 1917



Appendix C

Chronological Annotated Bibliography of Northern New York Historical Newspapers Articles

Following is a listing of articles that appeared in St. Lawrence county newspapers from 1848-1920 regarding woman's suffrage and the status of women. All articles are taken from the Northern New York Historical Newspaper electronic database, limiting the search criteria to the: Canton Commercial Advertiser, Gouverneur Tribune Press, Ogdensburg Advance and St. Lawrence Weekly Democrat, Ogdensburg Advance News, Potsdam Courier Freeman, Potsdam Herald-Recorder, Potsdam St. Lawrence Herald and selected 'others'. Full-text articles are available through the online newspaper archive or upon request. This database is not a complete compilation of every article published in these newspapers over the 70 year period I have studied, but form a representative spectrum of articles that address public opinion and local coverage of the Woman's Suffrage Movement. All information available for the day, month and year of each article is hereafter listed along with brief summary/paraphrase of the article and/or interesting quotes from the article.

1870-1899

“Susan B. Anthony Will Lecture At Town Hall.” *Potsdam Courier Freeman*. (15 December 1870). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 5 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A small advertisement for December 28th 1870 at 7:30pm, when Susan B. Anthony was scheduled to lecture on the subject: The False Theory.

“Washington Letter.” *Ogdensburg Advance* (29 January 1885). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008. <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This is an interesting piece from a journalist who referred to Susan B. Anthony and Cady E. Stanton as “old war mares of woman’s rights” and caught heat for it. He responds by ‘arising’ to defend the women against themselves, as his term was appropriate with regard to sex and he provides an ample defense of his case. The journalist also makes note that the printing of such terms was an “accident” on the part of the Editress.

Beckwith, Emma. “Her Race for Mayor.” Emma. “Her Race for Mayor.” *Advance and Democrat*. (28 November 1889). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Beckwith writes about her campaign experiences, highlighting her concerns for working women’s treatment and rights. She ran for Mayor of Brooklyn and pitched a better government for the city with better rights for all citizens.

New York Mail and Express. “Woman’s World: Mrs. Russell Sage Takes Her Stand as a Woman Suffragist.” *Courier & Freeman* (May 30 1894). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 21 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Russel Sage writes that: There is a small town in the northern part of the state owned entirely by rich widows. They pay the taxes, but have no say in the town’s government.” She also writes that, “Women, too, arrested for crime are never tried by their peers.” Her letter is attributed to the New York Mail and Express.

“Patriotic Women.” *The St. Lawrence Herald* 21.21 (27 May 1898). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article focuses on how intense women are in their patriotism, and how they have an opportunity to encourage and uphold men at battle, relieving suffering and breaking the monotony of camp life. This shows the role of women in society particularly during war times. Words like nobility and heroic are associated with women’s work and contributions.

“Progress of Equal Suffrage.” *Potsdam Courier Freeman* (9 November 1898). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 5 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A timeline of suffrage progress beginning in 1838.

1900-1905

“Resolutions Adopted by the W.C.T.U.” *St. Lawrence Herald* (2 March 1902). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 5 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Among the listed resolutions is a section titled “Franchise,” which states: “We believe in the equality of men and women; in home, church and state...we want honors not by courtesy but by right and justice.”

“Meeting of the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union.” *The St. Lawrence Herald* 25.10 (7 March 1902). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 7 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

On Thursday and Friday of this week in March, the mid-year convention for the W.C.T.U. was held in Potsdam at the Universalist Church. Papers were read by Mrs. O. B. Colt and J. R. Loveless of Potsdam, on these subjects: “Franchise” and “The Making of Criminals,” (respectively).

“Mrs. E. C. Stanton Dead.” *Courier Observer* 51.21 (29 October 1902). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton died in her home at the age of 87. The article talks about her accomplishments in the Suffrage movement and mentions her deceased husband and her children. The Seneca Falls convention is also mentioned.

“The Nation’s Advance.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (2 February 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 24 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article highlights the humble beginnings of the Woman’s Suffrage Movement, beginning with the Seneca Falls convention, and expresses that changes in American society have been positive as a result of women’s progress.

Herrick, Christine Terhunk. **“The Woman Who Holds Her Own.”** *The St. Lawrence Herald* (10 June 1904): 1. Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 20 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Christine Terhunk Herrick, Author of “Cradle and Nursery” and “First Aid to the Young Housekeepers” amongst others, publishes this article in response to inquiries she has received from all over the country from women seeking advice. The article suggests that women shouldn’t neglect their duties in the home for outside pursuits: “If you have a New England conscience of the virulent type, take chloroform and have it extracted...”, “A woman must not be all housekeeper...She must not be all wife...Still less should she, in her desire to keep step with the march of events outside, devote herself so unreservedly to Women’s Clubs, Mothers’ Meetings, and Cooking Classes that her children bring themselves up by hand, and her husband finds his only satisfactory gastronomic greeting at the club or the restaurant.”

Babcock, Elnora Monroe. **“Too Many Women Teachers, So Say The Men Teachers.”** *The St. Lawrence Herald* (10 June 1904): 1. Northern New York Library Network.

Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 20 June 2008

<<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A response by Elnora M. Babcock to a report by the Male Teacher Association of New York City. Equal work for Equal Pay, men fearing the loss of jobs as women enter the workforce in increasing numbers. Also notes and refutes the argument that it is wrong to give education over to a class. She concludes by stating that the Male Teacher Association should show more justice toward female teachers if they expect justice be shown to them.

“There are 15,000 Girls at College.” *The St. Lawrence Herald*. (8 July 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 13 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An article on women in education, estimating 15,000 girls at college in the US. Princeton is the only major university where women are still not admitted; 22,000 girls also studying at professional schools throughout country.

“Women in the Packing Houses.” *Potsdam St. Lawrence Herald* (August 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 9 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An article about the large influx of women into packing house labor, citing that the unpleasant jobs are unsuitable for women and that men on strike are replaced with female labor, and often immigrant female labor, which puts men out of work.

“The Dressmaker’s Slave.” *The St. Lawrence Herald*, 27.40. (30 Sept. 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Women are condemned to keeping their sleeves in style, worrying more about fashion than politics or education. Women are really wearing a uniform, the business of dressing properly is a mockery of the idea of sex equality.

“Feminine Fidelity.” *The St. Lawrence Herald* 27.47 (18 November 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 25 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Women are increasingly being employed in positions of trust by financial institutions. Are women more honest than men or less subject to temptation?

“Never were there such opportunities for capable, energetic women as at present await them in the business world.”

“Beauty Not a Fatal Gift.” *St. Lawrence Herald* 27.47 (18 November 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 25 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article disagrees with an opinion regarding beauty and how women are viewed arguing that beauty and frivolity do not necessarily go hand in hand: “A professor in a Philadelphia business college has informed a local reporter that beauty is an obstacle to the employment of women in business houses.”

“The Position of American Women.” *The St. Lawrence Herald*, 23. (30 Dec. 1904). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 16 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Dr. Mary Pulman Jacobi writes on the position of women and the lack of franchise for women. She states: “The white woman-the American woman-the woman in whose veins runs the blood of those heroic colonists who founded our country, of those women who helped to sustain the courage of their husbands in the Revolution; the woman who may have given the flower of her youth and health in the service of our Civil War, this woman is excluded.”

Bigelow, Herbert S. “Making Great Strides.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* 32.45. (7 Feb. 1905). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

In this article, Herbert S. Bigelow says of the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention “In that day the few who stood for the right of woman to a larger life were made the butt of ridicule. Yet in the light

of history how ridiculous are their opponents!” The article states that there are over 430,000 professional women in the United States, listing their professions as: lawyers, journalists, clergymen, literary and scientific persons, physicians, government officials, merchants, teachers, and college professors. As of this time there were only four states with full suffrage. The author concludes: “I had rather be ahead of my time and suffer ridicule for a season than shake my fist and make grimaces in the face of advancing truth and thereby become the laughingstock of posterity.”

Babcock, Elnora. “Not Dangerous to Women.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* 32.45. (7 Feb. 1905). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article, written by Elnora Monroe Babcock brings to light the contradictory arguments of anti-suffragists. From an editorial in the Pittsburg Gazette which claims women should not vote because they are not like men, Ms. Babcock points out that: “one class of opponents tell us women should not vote because they would become like men if they did so, and the other class...that women should not vote because no amount of education could make them like the men...Women have no desire to become like men nor vote like them. They want to be women and vote like women. Women, being specially interested in the spiritual, moral and home side of life, would look after these interests in our government.”

Blackwell, Henry B. “What Women Stand For.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* 32.45. (7 Feb. 1905). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article by Henry B. Blackwell says that rather than spend time comparing women to men in regards to the vote, people should look at what giving women the vote will accomplish. He argues that the difference between men and women needs to be represented in politics, and that doing so would end wars and the destruction of families. Subsequent sections included: *Women’s Individuality*, which was signed, ‘Springfield Republican’ and commented on women who sign their letters using their husbands names rather than their own, for example: “Mrs. John R. Smith”

instead of “Lucy M. Smith.” They claim that this is ignorance that is found in abundance; and an untitled entry signed ‘Bishop Gilbert Haven’ which says that political people are asking if the country can maintain universal suffrage and in his opinion the answer is no, not without giving women the right to vote.

1910-1914

“Known By Her Works.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (30 September 1910). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 11 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article, printed side by side with an article titled “Crane Normal Institute” gives Julia E. Crane praise as a music educator and describes an event that honors her.

“Mrs. Catt’s Ancestors Lived in Potsdam.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (May 1911). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 30 May 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An article covering Carrie Chapman Catt’s connection to the North Country as a part of promoting her speech in Potsdam: “One of the greatest speakers for woman suffrage in the world is to speak in Canton tonight...Mrs. Catt has lived in New York city for the last 25 years. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lane, were residents of Potsdam N.Y., and her family have lived in New York state for several generations.”

“Woman Suffrage.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (21 July 1911). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Tuesday evening at eight o’clock an address in favor of Woman Suffrage is being held in the park. Speakers included Rev. D. Fisher and Harriet May Mills of Syracuse-President of the NYSWSA, Mrs. Robert H. Elder and her husband, as well as Mrs. Jeanie Stubbs of Chicago. Topics included taxation without representation, the positive effect in states where suffrage had already been passed, and the world wide call for suffrage to alleviate deplorable conditions for women and children in the workforce. Cards were handed out for people to join the Woman’s Suffrage Association.

“Many People and Places.” *Potsdam Courier Freeman* 60.21 (18 October 1911): 2. Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 6 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An article about Miss Reba Swan- a militant suffragette who attended St. Lawrence University. As a freshman, she proposed to devote her time to educating the college women of Canton of the importance of gaining the right to vote.

“Kate Douglas Wiggin.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (12 January 1912). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 18 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article talks about Kate Douglas Wiggin, an important figure in the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage. This new organization argues that woman can accomplish more without the vote. Other women in this organization include: Mrs. Greer, Miss Ida M. Tarbell, and Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge among others.

“Coming Events.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (6 June 1913). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Gertrude Nelson Andres, Woman Suffrage speaker in Universalist Church at 8:00pm on June 6th. She has been sent for the NYSWSA-she is a writer as well as a speaker.

Macdonald, Edith O’Nell. “People’s Column: An Appeal to Voters.” *Potsdam Courier Freeman* (August 1913). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 26 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Letter by Edith O’Nell MacDonald Assembly District Leader of Franklin County, St. Regis Falls, NY. She writes at length about the successes of the movement so far and touches on the false logic of opposing arguments: “The suffrage states have cleaned house politically,” “We find a few men who hide behind the comical excuse that women’s voting will cause domestic trouble.” She also says: “Woman has to obey laws that she had no voice in making. She

is treated as a chattel by laws she has no voice in making. Instead of being considered a distinct unit of society, with the legal rights pertaining thereto, she is simply negligible social filler.”

“Women’s Special Interest.” *The Northern Tribune* (1914-1917). Newspaper Column.

Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 23 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

The “Women’s Special Interest” column ran in the Northern tribune, offering selections about women in positions of interest and the right for women to vote.

“A Real Home Woman’s Letter.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (5 May 1914). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Raymond Brown is the president of the New York State Woman Suffrage Association, and her letter to the Editor is published here. The letter refutes the argument that woman is represented by man because there are 13,000,000 married women in the U.S. but 6,900,000 unmarried women with no representation even by husbands. She emphasizes that times have changed since primitive times and women and men work side by side and should therefore have an equal hand in making decisions: “The antis say that we are represented by the men. Is this true? There are not men enough.”

“The Suffrage Movement: Harriet May Mills Tells What She Thinks of It.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (5 May 1914). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 12 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

President of the State Suffrage Association for 3 years, vice president for eight years and recording secretary for a long time, Harriet May Mills writes on suffrage: “I have been working for suffrage so long...that I can’t seem to see it as a woman movement any more. It is just a step ahead toward a better democracy and one that will help the men as it will the women. It will help the home, the children, the widows, orphans, indigent, the aged, ever one who needs assistance...We are not children, and our duty is to take our places with men and work side by

side. We cannot be held responsible for conditions that depend on laws that we have no hand in making. This is not a sex fight.” Other Sections in this Paper: ‘*Verdict of Fifteen Judges,*’ ‘*Better Polling Places Here,*’ ‘*Improved Voting Places.*’

“Suffrage Association Convention.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (19 May 1914).

Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers.

Potsdam, NY. 30 May 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Coverage of the St. Lawrence County Convention of the Woman Suffrage Association.

Speakers: Carrie Chapman Catt, Mrs. A. Barton Hepburn-former resident of Canton and graduate of SLU, Mrs. Helen Probst Abbott of Rochester/SLU alumna-singing of “Suffrage America,” Mrs. R. D. Ford of Canton, Dr. Lucia Heaton of Canton- President of Local Suffrage League, Mrs. Vasco P. Abbott, Rev. J. M. Attwood.

“Art Poster by Buffalo Woman Is Used In ‘Votes for Women’ Campaign.” *Canton*

***Commercial Advertiser* (19 May 1914). Northern New York Library Network.**

Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 30 May 2008

<<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A poster designed by Elizabeth Carey of Buffalo, NY “The Fruit of Her Hands” used to help get the vote in NY.

“Growth of Equal Suffrage.” *Potsdam Courier Observer* 51. (26 May 1914): 2. Northern

New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam,

NY. 30 May 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Progress in some states and in other countries reviewed-generally some progress has been made in the past decade concerning ‘equal’ suffrage.

“Suffragist Convention.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* 42.10. (26 May 1914). Northern

New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam,

NY. 30 May 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

The convention was held in St. Lawrence county at the Universalist church in Canton on May 19th, commencing at 10:30am. Mrs. A. B. Hepburn said “It was here that I received from SLU

my desire to make the world better. The fact that the occupation of most women is domestic does not make it inconsistent that she should engage in civic affairs.” The substance of Catt’s address is as follows: “Our government is based on two principles. First, that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; second, taxation without representation is tyranny...if these principles are to be carried out in all justice and fairness, the suffrage must be extended to women.”

“Announcement.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (9 June 1914). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 11 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A short announcement about a meeting of the Canton Auxiliary of the State Association Opposed to Women suffrage Thursday June 11th at 8pm.

1915

“Carrie’s Caustic Comment.” *Courier & Freeman* (27 January 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 20 July 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A somewhat contradictory article reporting the speech of Carrie Chapman Catt’s comments at a Potsdam Normal School alumni dinner in New York City. Mrs. Catt is quoted saying “Northern New York is a fine place to get out of” amongst other comments, such as: “there is more illiteracy in the Northern Counties than anywhere else in New York State,” and “The first old maid I ever saw was in Potsdam.” However the article points out that the address was a unique sample of finesse, tact, and courtesy. The writer says “Maybe, there will be some who won’t like it, but that’s because they are illiterate old moss-backs and behind the times.” The following poem was also printed with the article:

There’s sorrow on the mountain,	The maples droop their heads.
There’s sadness on the plain.	The power supplying rivers
The noble Adirondacks	Are groaning in their beds.
Ne’er will seem the same again.	The dairy herds and cattle
The fir trees stand dejected,	

Have taken the alarm.
 The farmer peers affrighted
 Through a knot-hole in the barn.
 The people all are leaving—

What is the cause of that?
 This country has been tabooed
 By Carrie Chapman Catt!

“News and Views of Equal Suffrage.” *Ogdensburg Advance and St. Lawrence Weekly Democrat* (14 February 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 5 July 2008 <<http://news.nynln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Various views about suffrage, both those for and against speak out: “With battles to be fought by men, and men’s lives to be sacrificed, it would seem only fair that men alone, should determine a nation’s policy. J. Howard Cowperth writes,” “Rebellious women think they can grow to do all things as well as man...They excel in two things-nursing and singing soprano”-K.Q.K., “The women who furnish the men to fight the battles should have something to say as to what conditions justify the battles to be fought”-Representative Phillip P. Campbell of Kansas. Other subheadings in this article include: Consulting Motherhood Expert, Did the Chicago Woman Vote?, Women Should Have Voice, Oregon Mothers’ Pension Law, Made in U.S.A., and Woman Heroes.

“Progress of Equal Suffrage.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (16 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 24 June 2008 <<http://news.nynln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An article attributed to the *Woman’s Journal*, which explains that although the suffrage movement is said to be losing ground, many gains have been made: “sixty years ago women could not vote anywhere”.

The Canton Suffrage League. “Woman Suffrage Section of the Commercial Advertiser.”
Canton Commercial Advertiser (16 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008
 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Reports of local suffrage activity in: Canton, Lawrenceville, Rensselaer Falls, Norwood, Winthrop, and Cranberry Lake. Organizations of note include: the Canton Suffrage League, Lawrenceville’s Women’s Suffrage Club, the Norwood Equality Club, the Winthrop Political Equality Club, and Cranberry Lake’s Political Equality Club.

“Step By Step.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (16 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 26 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A narrative breakdown by year of advancements in woman’s rights, which ends at the year 1915 with the question: “Full Suffrage?”

“Comin’ To The Polls.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (16 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 26 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A poem about suffrage:

<p>If a lassie wants the ballot To help to run the town. And a lassie gets the ballot, Need a laddie frown? Many a laddie has the ballot Not so bright as I, And many a laddie votes his Ballot Overcome with rye.</p>	<p>If a lassie works for wages, Toiling all the day, And her work the laddie’s equals, Give her equal pay. If a body pays the taxes Surely you’ll agree, That body ears the franchise, Whether he or she.</p>
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“A Successful Meeting.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (16 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 26 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

On February 7th at Music Hall in Norwood, Mrs. Julius Frank, wife of the mayor of Ogdensburg, delivered an address on suffrage. She spoke for over an hour, appealing to the “higher ideas of civilized life.”

“Local News.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (16 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 24 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

“In May 1914 the League entertained the first Suffrage Convention in St. Lawrence County. The evening meeting was addressed by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt and Mrs. A. B. Hepburn. Young women from the University represented the different Suffrage States at this meeting.”

“Suffrage Supplement to the Advance.” *The Ogdensburg Advance and St. Lawrence Weekly Democrat* (25 March 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 27 July 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A special Woman Suffrage Edition of the paper which included multiple articles, advertisements, and statistics related to suffrage. Some examples are hereby excerpted:

“A College Woman on Suffrage.”

“Women are citizens, property holders, taxpayers. They are engaged in every pursuit, share every burden, often bearing a disproportionate share of the burden’ and are, in tremendous numbers, the sole supporters of families.” –Ida Frank Guttman

“Views of Professional Woman”

A letter from Sally James Farnham, dated March 8th 1915 “As to the question of Suffrage for women, it seems to me the answer to a great problem. I have always been convinced that it takes two halves to make a whole, and surely the male point of view is quite incomplete without the female to balance it and vice versa....If we add to the wisdom and justice of our representative

males the intuitive perception and world-sympathy of the female mind, we ought to be able to adjust almost any problem.

“Mrs. Catt on Woman Suffrage”

“First because we live in a REPUBLIC wherein the entire machinery for making and enforcing laws draws its authority for existence from the people....Obviously women are People, and logic, ethics, common sense tells them that they have the same right to a ballot’s share in the making of their country’s welfare as have men.”

“The army of women who Want To Vote, grows ever larger, better organized, more insistent. It will never pause in its onward march toward the victory which lies ahead...the suffrage army has taken no sides. In New York, as elsewhere, it is non-partisan, non-sectarian and knows only the wrong of women disenfranchised. To the voters of the Empire State we look for the redress of that wrong.”

“Woman’s Place is in the Home.”

Yes the “woman’s place the home is,”
So ‘twas always, so should be,
But, we women of the future,
Hope to shelter all humanity.

Better homes and stronger children,
Not more mansions for the rich,
Fewer warships, but more
playgrounds,

Is her earnest soulful wish.
Not more wealth, but wiser usage,
Of the plenty at our door,
Better care for wait and outcast,
Love and tenderness galore.
And the vote shall be her weapon,
May it come soon, sure and fast,
Victory in 1918,
Woman suffrage, first and last.
-Marion Sanger Frank.

**“Woman’s Sphere.” *Gouverneur Press* (7 April 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008
<<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.**

People offer their opinions about suffrage: “It is said that woman’s place is in the home. Surely it is. But a better place to vote from has never been found.” –Frank Crane

“Equal Suffrage to be Debated.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (August 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Miss Helen Todd and Miss Lucy Price debate at Chautauqua. Arguments against suffrage: Laws are determined by public opinion, need for non political half of population, better to divide up interests. Arguments for: public opinion doesn't necessarily determine laws, taxation without representation, suffrage has proven to lead to other laws of improvement.

“Dr. Anna Howard Shaw At Canton June 22.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* 38.25 (18 June 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

President of the National Woman Suffrage Association, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw spoke at the Canton Opera House on Tuesday evening. Admission was free, and anti as well as pro suffrage attendance was welcome.

“Suffrage Column.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (6 July 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 2 July 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Suffrage Notes and News under the subheading, “Information Gleaned Weekly from Developments in Suffrage Movement Through the World.”

Frank, Mrs. Julius. Ed. “News and Views of Equal Suffrage.” *Ogdensburg Advance* (15 July 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Bits and pieces of suffrage related material, both for and against under these headings: A Man to Man Appeal, Brackett Could Find No Reason, The Logical Male, That Bad Woman Bogie, The Real Opposition to Suffrage.

Chittenden, Alice Hill. "Straw Ballot and Antis." *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (August 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Alice Hill Chittenden, president of the New York State Association, Opposed to Woman Suffrage writes from Brooklyn on August 9th 1915 regarding an article about Suffrage votes at Summer Chautauqua.

"An Old, Old Rime." *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (August 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 1 July 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A short verse about suffrage:

"Mother, may I go out to vote?"

"No, my darling daughter.

Father and brother do that for us

They say we hadn't oughter."

"The Suffrage Girl." *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (6 August 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 29 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

One of several articles in this paper regarding suffrage. This advertisement shows a "Vote for the Woman Suffrage Amendment" sign with a girl on it, and discusses suffrage work. Featured next to this article, is a picture of the Suffrage Float in the Appeal for Liberty Striation held in NYC on July 5th.

"Coming or Going?" *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (August 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 2 July 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article notes a marked increase in public interest regarding the cause of suffrage, more states are considering the suffrage question seriously.

“Suffrage Meetings Today.” *Courier Freeman* 64.12. (18 August 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

At the Opera house on the afternoon of the 18th, the leader of the squad of teachers and accomplished pioneer of the woman’s rights movement, Miss Kate Devereux Blake speaks on “White Slavery,” and at 7:00pm she speaks on the corner of Elm and market on “Woman Suffrage.”

“Last Call for the Fair.” *The St. Lawrence Herald* (3 September 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 6 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Frances M. Bjorkman will speak before the grandstand on September 9th at the County Fair. The local [suffrage] club will also have a booth at the fair where they hand out literature and souvenirs.

“City Locals.” *Ogdensburg Advance and St. Lawrence Weekly Democrat* (23 September 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

On October 27th, the Ogdensburg Political Equality club has reserved the opera house for an address on suffrage by Beatrice Robinson.

“Famous Suffrage Speakers.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* 38 (8 October 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 9 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Emma Smith DeVoe and John Temple Graves will speak on equal suffrage next Wednesday at 8:00pm. Both are well accomplished in the efforts of suffrage and a brief biography of each is provided.

“Why Not Now?” *Watertown Daily Times* (18 October 1915): 10. Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 6 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Advertisement promoting suffrage and discussing these issues: Protection of the Young, Equal Guardianship, Age of Consent, Commercialized Vice, Eight-Hour-Day for Working Women, and Widowed Mothers' Pensions: “You Will Vote ‘Yes’ Eventually. 1,000,000 Women Ask You To.”

“Suffrage Speakers Heard.” *Courier Freeman* 64.21 (20 October 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Last Wednesday Evening at the suffrage mass meeting in the opera house, Mrs. Emma S. DeVoe and John Temple Graves spoke, and a reception was held after. A second meeting is being held on the 28th in which Congressman Gill and B.F.R. will be the speakers.

“Woman Suffrage and Constitution Fail to Pass.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (5 November 1915). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 7 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Woman suffrage was defeated in NY by over 200,000. Massachusetts and Pennsylvania also voted against woman suffrage. In Potsdam the vote was very close but numbers are not available. “Potsdam stood by woman suffrage in good shape. The majority against being very small”.

1916-1919

“Suffrage Club Meets.” *Courier & Freeman* (13 September 1916). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 1666 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

The local suffrage club held a meeting at the fire station hall last Wednesday at which Dr. Helen B. Owens of Ithaca was a speaker. Women interested in the Suffrage movement were present and a committee was made for fall arrangements.

“People’s Column: Jumping on the Editor.” *Potsdam Courier Freeman* (20 September 1916). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 26 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A Winthrop woman writes the editors of *Courier and Freeman* requesting they publish Mrs. Catt’s speech in their next week’s paper. She states that it is not fair for subscribers to be shorted the opportunity to read what is being printed in other papers on the Suffrage question and cites an example of two women in her town that stopped receiving the paper because of positions they had taken in the past. Letter dated September 9th, 1916.

“Woman’s Club Notes.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (23 February 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 7 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

February meeting of the Woman’s Club held at Fireman’s Hall Tuesday Evening. Women worked on comfort bags for French soldiers, read a letter from an American doing relief work in France, and Mrs. Ford spoke on the merits of gaining the ballot, outlining the plan of the state organization for suffrage work called the “New York State Woman Suffrage Party”.

“Anti-Suff Notes and Comments.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (July 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An article discussing anti-suffrage perspectives such as a resistance to a campaign of money thrusting into the realm of politics and a repudiation of hysteria. Also highlights disunity within suffrage party and gives accounts of failures of suffrage legislation.

“There are even greater words than Liberty, Equality and Rights. Lacordaire, during the revolution in France dared to say to his countrymen: ‘Above Liberty write Duty, above Fraternity write Humility, above Equality write Service, above the immemorial creed of your Rights inscribe the divine creed of your duties.’”

“Lecture Given at Norwood: Mrs. Thompson of Buffalo Speaks.” *The Courier and Freeman* (12 September 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 16 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Miss Thompson of Buffalo Speaks-E. E. Wright Talks on “Justice of Woman Suffrage”
The lecture was held in Music hall on Monday evening and featured speakers as well as musical selections such as “Just Put Us On Your List, Dear Uncle Sam.”

Cadogan, Anna. “Suffrage Notes.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (27 October 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This column was run for several years with Anna Cadogan signing off at the end. This example contains several notes about suffrage: Do women vote? In 1916 women could vote in twelve states. Samuel Gompers wrote a letter stating that women must have the vote in NY and all states. Pittsburgh men cite Anti Suffrage as efforts against democracy. The Ogdensburg Political Equality club has reserved the opera house for an address on suffrage by Beatrice Robinson on October 27th, Letter from Anna Cadogan Etz, Upstate Woman Suffrage Press.

“People’s Column: Their Foes are of Their Own Household.” *Potsdam Courier Freeman* (31 October 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Letter from an observer about an article titled “Soldiers On Suffrage”. Opinion expressed that it is not the Anti’s that are restricting the vote but boys who are not raised to believe in the vote and women who are unpatriotic because of not having the vote.

**“Men of New York, Cast Your Votes for Women!” *Courier & Freeman* (31 October 1917):
2. Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical**

Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 30 May 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Advertisement put out by the New York State Woman Suffrage Party, NYC, asking men to vote in favor of woman suffrage.

“Personal Items.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (November 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 30 May 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

This article relates that Mrs. Robert Ford, Chairman of the Fourth NY Campaign District, and other St. Lawrence County women including Mrs. Julius Frank and Mrs. J.R. Bill of Ogdensburg and Mrs. Julio O. Hyde and Minnie Church of Massena, are in New York Attending the Forty-Ninth convention of the N.Y. State Woman Suffrage Party held at the Ritz-Carlton. Among the speakers at the convention will be Theodore Roosevelt, Governor Whitman, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw and Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt.

New York State Woman Suffrage Party. “A Message From the President of the United States to You.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* (November 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 9 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

An advertisement published by the New York State Woman Suffrage Party to the men of New York, emphasizing the president’s support of suffrage as well as the role of women in the war.

“Anti-Suff Notes and Comments: Mrs. Catts Letter of Warning to Anti-Suffragists Answered.” *Canton Commercial Advertiser* (6 November 1917). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 26 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

A reply by anti’s to Carrie Chapman Catt regarding how she was quoted in the paper.

“People’s Column-Jumping on Mr. Snell.” *Courier and Freeman* (9 January 1918). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 16 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Mrs. Abbie K. Cleveland of the Canton Auxiliary of State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage asks the editors to kindly print an “open letter” to Hon. Bertrand H. Snell, Potsdam. The letter criticizes Mr. Snell’s word that he would support the Susan B. Anthony amendment, saying that he is misrepresenting his constituents who are opposed to suffrage. It also calls some suffrage tactics undemocratic and compares the socialism found in New York to German propaganda which wears Socialism as a mask. The author concludes with the idea that the verdict of granting suffrage could very well be reversed.

“News and Views of Equal Suffrage.” *Ogdensburg Advance* (6 May 1918). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 22 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Letters and quotes from various sources under the followings subheadings: Equal Suffrage and Illiteracy, “Be a Suffrage Fan,” New Vocation for Women, Whose Ballot Represented This Family Unit, and Anti suffragists in Politics

“Federation of Woman’s Clubs: Hold Meeting at Gouverneur.” *Potsdam Herald Recorder* 42.40 (3 Oct 1919). Northern New York Library Network. Northern New York Historical Newspapers. Potsdam, NY. 15 June 2008 <<http://news.nnyln.net/st-lawrence-county/search.html>>.

Hold Meeting at Gouverneur. Program Announced.

Northern New York Federation of Women’s Clubs calls for a midyear meeting to be held in Gouverneur on Friday October 10th.