

FORM 1529.

**Western Union Telegraph Co.**  
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No. ....

41

*Miss Laura Clay and Family*

**PAID.**

Form No. 168

**THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**  
INCORPORATED  
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THOS. T. ECKERT, President and General Manager.

**RECEIVED** at 98 East Main St., Phenix Hotel Block, Lexington, Ky.

Standard Time.

April 1900

31C B Q 23 Paid 1122 AM -

Rochester N Y 30 -

Miss Laura Clay and Family, Lexington-

Deepest sympathy your noble heroic loving loved loyal woman wife  
mother gone not lost henceforth more constantly in your thoughts -  
than ever before -

Susan B Anthony-

# National - American Woman Suffrage Association.

MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Honorary President, ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, 250 West 94th Street, New York.  
Honorary President, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, 17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

President, CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,  
2008 American Tract Society Building, New York.

Vice-President-at-Large, Rev. ANNA H. SHAW,  
1830 Diamond Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Corresponding Secretary, RACHEL FOSTER AVERY,  
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3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.

Treasurer, HARRIET TAYLOR UPTON,  
Warren, Ohio.

Auditors, } LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Ky.  
              } CATHARINE WAUGH McCULLOCH, The Rookery, Chicago, Ill.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, NEW YORK.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

1904  
Jan. 23, 1900 -

Burrish - Mrs Backstaff has sent  
to the Treasurer \$8000-81 - Don't that  
good? - We shan't have to use  
more than \$1500- of it to balance this years  
accounts - I think we would have  
gotter enough to do this - but that  
all energies were turned to the Bazaar -  
well - I am glad - any way -

"The Queen is dead" - a good woman -  
I hope it will be King Albert Edward  
it will be so much better than being  
Ed No. 7, of the old & perfidious  
Edward - It will be the begining a  
new line - that of Victoria & Albert -  
I do hope well well be King Albert Edward

a woman has gone and gone away  
and when shall we see the look  
of her - to sneer - as the world  
goes - we always illustrated -  
since 1837 - by - if a woman may be  
queen - she sure may be a voter?

With love to each of you  
Yours - affectionately

Susan S. Anthony

This is just the  
same you then  
Trump's friends?

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER, N. Y. April 15, 1900

My Dear Miss Clay

Here it is just two  
months since I rounded out my  
four score years - I little thought then  
when told it was the illness of your noble  
mother that kept you away from us - that  
I should feel thus to write you. I do  
hope she is better - and that your hearts  
are lightened for a time at least - still  
we all know that approach to 80 must  
in the nature of things bring us nearer to  
the flight to the beyond!! Why is it that we  
cannot learn to see ourselves & our loved  
ones pass on with out such heart-breaks.

Do - if but on a Post-card - tell me how your  
dear mother is - and how you & Mary & Sarah are  
also - - We did so very, very much need you  
My dear Laura - in our Business Committee  
meetings - yes and in our Ex. Com. meetings also.

I am sure your level, judicial  
mind would have been a great help  
all round - Very truly & affectionately

Susan D. Anthony

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

*April 27, 1900*

*My Dear Miss Clay*

*It seems too cruel to  
send these papers to you - and  
yet I am instructed to do so -  
you will see that Mrs Catt sends me  
her first draft - that Mrs Harper may  
go over it with me - and I enclose the  
result of our study upon it - Now  
will you see if you wish to add to -  
a subtrait from - and suggest - to  
me the changes - and return to  
me - - I have asked Mrs Catt - a  
rather written her that I have asked  
all of the B. O. to do this - because it  
is so impossible to get all of their*

to her - in the Spring as she is - so  
I hope all will do this at once -

I hope your precious  
mother is not a very great sufferer  
all these weeks & months - It does  
seem too cruel - after such a noble  
& true life - that one has to go through  
so a long & suffering ordeal to  
pass on to the beyond - But how  
comforting to you & May & Sol & Annie - that  
you are permitted to minister to her &  
smooth her way - If she is able to  
hear it - do give her my best love  
and profound reverence - for the noble  
example she has set - to her daughters  
and to all women - and for you  
all - to you all goes out my deepest  
sympathy & affection -

Sincerely - Gratefully -

Susan D. Anthony



Personal - London - I had better cut off the first sheet L.A. 15, 1903

It was a most unexpected crisis - From what Mrs. Lupton<sup>had</sup> reported to me that Mrs. Catt said when you<sup>had</sup> returned to the Hotel from calling on me at Mrs. Small's - that Sunday A.M. at Indianapolis - last December - I had thought she entirely agreed with what I replied to you - viz - that when any one threatened to leave us a quit work for the cause - if she couldn't have<sup>had</sup> the presidents chair at the meeting - and last the Chairmanship of the Organization Committee - "It was time to let her go!!" And Mrs. C. - replied - "Well I guess Miss Anthony is right." - But to my utter amazement after all the amendments the B.C. had decided upon were made - and as we thought everything settled just as we all talked at Indianapolis - & just as we all had agreed in Washington - Mr. Blackwell moved the re-instatement of the Organization Com - just at the close of the last session - when not a member of the B.C. was present - & it was voted - At the Ex. Com. next A.M. he - the B.C. <sup>opened</sup> the question - saying that Mrs. Ray was, by his motion, still the Secretary of the Org. Com.!! Well I cannot go through with the story - but finally at the last Ex. Com. meetg - she was discontinued - & the B.C. was made the Organization Com - The terrible hurt of all this came from the fact that Mr. Blackwell went to Mrs. Swift of California - and asked<sup>her</sup> to make the motion - saying to her - "Mrs. Catt asked me to tell you that she wished you to make it" - Mrs. Swift - did not do it - & Mr. B. at that last moment - made it - himself! - That Mrs. C. had all through our talks seemingly assented

to making the B. C. the Organizational Com-  
- leaning me in the feeling that it was just  
what she wished - and then at that very  
last Session - getting Mr. D. to ask - by  
swift to move the re-establishment of the  
old Com. - well - to find I hadn't  
learned Mr. Catt - was such a shock  
to me! - I cannot lose faith in one's  
genuineness - frankness - openness - without  
a wound that agonizes me beyond  
words! - This revelation of one whom  
I had trusted absolutely - just spoiled  
my whole birth-day - ~~the~~ It came to  
me that A. C. at the Ex. Com. meeting - and  
I had all I could do to hold myself  
steady - as I sat through that Opera  
House scene - - It was too cruel  
to have had it fall on me then -  
when all of my friends wanted me -  
at my best - - But I venied myself  
~~to~~ the best I could & went through it all -  
- But why need it to have been precipitated  
then? - Perhaps time will prove its wisdom! -  
I have felt ever since as one does at a  
funeral of the hearts lone - a sore loss - Oh - if, my  
my old trust could come back to me!! - I wouldn't  
have written this - if I didn't know that you  
must have received our new President's letter

Apr. 15, 1903

to the Business Committee - The strange news  
 crushes me anew - her charges are  
 fearful - I have asked her to call  
 a B. C. Meeting at the very earliest  
 day possible - she cannot - we  
 must go on - this way - Just  
 to think of her dictating that  
 letter to an office clerk - well  
 it must stop - I do wish I  
 could see you - but it will  
 be better for us all to be together  
 - She & also her husband told me <sup>at Washington</sup> that  
 Mrs Bay was the most suspicious & jealous  
 person they ever knew - and Mr Batt said to  
 me & to Mrs Npton her conduct has been such in  
 my house - that he can never live in it again -  
 - and yet she went directly to their home & has  
 remained in it ever since - until now - when  
 she goes to Ohio - I am perfectly non-plussed -  
 I cannot understand things - Mrs Torler & Mrs  
 & Mrs Npton were fearfully broken up - they as you know  
 had the most entire belief in Mrs Batt - But what can  
 we do to get back into trust in each other. That is the

thing we must do - somehow - and it  
cannot be done by letter - we must  
have a meeting - and we must  
have you - & every single one of our  
members at it -

Love & try to be happy

Susan S. Anthony

Received  
for the same  
1852



(L. C.)

-2-

July 25, 1900

Mrs. Catt's letter, received this morning, says (what I wrote her last night) that it is simply impossible for our different members, living so far apart and having no chance for discussion of the various questions, to give an intelligent vote upon them. I wrote her that I had not felt competent heretofore and feel vastly less so now, since in her letter she says: "I ask you to make the returns as speedily as possible. More importance is attached to these answers of yours than perhaps you may realize." I feel none of us should be asked to vote on a question without knowing the importance of the results which are to follow its being carried or lost.

She also writes now that Miss Blackwell wants the meeting to be by the middle of August if possible, during her transit from Chilmark to her other summer resort in Canada. I have written Miss Shaw this morning, asking her to give the very earliest dates in August that she can possibly stop here.

Now, my dear Miss Clay, I very much hope you will be able to come on to the meeting, whatever date shall be fixed. I should love dearly to have you under my own roof, not only during the B. C. meeting, but for a good visit either before or after, as might best suit you. I have told Mrs. Catt that I did not think our meeting could be effective without your presence. I felt last winter that we needed you very, very much.

I have written Mrs. McCulloch inviting her to come, but I hardly expect she will feel like either leaving at home or taking with her her two children, and we can get along without her a great deal better than we can without you. Indeed, we can't get along at all without you. Were it not

(L. C.)

-3-

July 25, 1900

for going further South and into a hotter atmosphere, I would even propose to go to your home to hold the meeting rather than to have you absent.

Hoping to hear from you very soon, and that you may be able to be present here for a visit and the meeting, I am, with much sympathy,

Very sincerely yours,

*Lillian D. Anthony -*

*P.S. - Give my best love to each & all of  
your ladies - & keep lots for yourself -*

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

July 31, 1900.

Dear Member of the Business Committee: --

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have just sent to our president in response to her R. C. letter of July 30, and I very much hope you will be able to come to Rochester for the 26th or whatever later date shall be fixed and that you will immediately write her that you can come for it is high time the date was settled upon.

I trust you agree with me that we must have all the members present not merely for one day but for just as many days as are needed for the transaction of our business.

Very sincerely yours,

*Susan B. Anthony*

Dear Mrs. Clay - Not getting a reply to my earnest invitation of a week ago or more - I greatly fear my letter has not found - it now occurs to me that you may be out at your farm gathering in the Golden Wheat Park - So I mail, to day - to both places - & also send a letter to your sister May - hoping to catch you & to hear that you can be here the 26<sup>th</sup> -



for that is really the earliest day the two  
whos, <sup>here</sup> positive lecture engagements can be here - for more  
than one day - & as you know that will not do at all -  
Mrs Catt is to speak in Prairie the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>  
is the earliest she can get here -

Then my dear - remember that you are  
not to be slept outside of No. 17 - but are to be  
here my personal guest - for the entire meeting - not out - but  
for a good long visit either before or after the D.P. meeting is over -  
- If you plan it for after - you can have the company  
of Miss Thann & my niece Lucy C. - who will both stop  
a few days - And I shall have plenty of room for  
the three - - So plan just to suit your own  
convenience - but plan to be here from Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>  
and no fail - I'm - S. D. A

*600*

July 31, 1900.

Mrs. C. Chapman Catt,  
2008 American Tract Building,  
N. Y.

My Dear Friend: --

Your B. C. letter of July 30, with your private note of July 31, is here by this morning's mail. Since August 13 can give us only one day of full committee it seems to me the only practical thing is to put the meeting off until August 26 or later when we can have the entire committee. Miss Blackwell's engagement is a visiting one and she expressed herself entirely willing to change its date, and the last week of August is the one which Mrs. Foster Avery first indicated as her preference. I had some days ago written to each one of the committee that I felt the earliest time possible for us to hold a full board meeting was the last week of August, so I know that all of them have been shaping their plans in that direction. The one great need of this mid-year meeting is for close and consecutive study of all the work that is before us for the remaining half of the year, and especially the work of the bazaar. I hope, therefore, that you will indicate to the different members of the committee ~~that the meeting should not be held earlier than the 26th, and that we~~ *the meetg will be called for* ~~that~~ *shall* all stay together until we feel that we have talked over every possible point, and have carefully voted on every plan of procedure upon which we are to act.

(over.)

As to the travelling expenses of Mrs. Upton as well as other members of the committee I have already expressed my opinion that the money contributed by our earnest friends could not be more wisely expended than in defraying the expenses of the committee to this mid-year meeting. A line from Mrs. Avery received this morning says that she had never thought of anything other than that the expenses of the committee would be paid. Of course this must be, and then as I said before, if any one wishes to make a present of them to the treasury she is at liberty to do so. It would be invidious to pay one person's expenses and not all of the others, so I say make it a decided rule that if there is business of sufficient importance for a meeting of the B. C. at least the travelling expenses thereof shall be paid.

I am sending a copy of this to each member of the ~~xxxx~~ committee asking her to inform you immediately if she can be here on the 26th or later, and for the number of days necessary for the transaction of our business.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Susan A. Smith

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Jul 31 - 1900 -

Dear Miss Clay

Yours of yesterday is

just here this noon - after  
I had mailed Mrs Catts - enclosed  
to you at Lexington - though so  
expecting you were at the game  
that I had enclosed duplicates  
in this envelope - to Whitell -

I am delighted that you  
can come & also that you can  
come Aug 26<sup>th</sup> - And hope that all of  
the others may be able to do so - all  
had written they would come - I  
am delighted, too, that you are

to be under the roof of my  
dear Mother - who left us in  
the Spring of 1880 - as your Mother  
left you in the Spring of 1900 - at  
about the same age with me -  
- The world is the poorer to us  
ever after we can no longer say  
Mother - & see & hear her look at  
you & say - -

Give my love to all of your  
dear Sisters - I am glad you  
can all be near to each other  
this Summer - especially -

Yours

Susan D. Anthony

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

July 31, 1911

Dear Miss Clay

I mailed a copy of this  
from Mrs Catt to you at Whitehall -  
thinking you may be there - I do hope one  
or the other will find you speaking - and  
that you will be able to accede to the  
25<sup>th</sup> of August - as the earliest - date to call our  
B. B. meeting - The 13<sup>th</sup> is the only day - prior <sup>to</sup> the  
26<sup>th</sup> - and that number of hours would do us very  
little good - We must all be together - and all  
talk in presence of all - in order to be able  
to vote wisely - I asked the Pres. to call a  
meeting a long time ago - but - there has seemed  
to her to be no possible time - to suit all - & not  
short of all - can help <sup>us</sup> to act intelligently -

With this my kind regards  
and affectionate

Susan B. Anthony

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, N. Y.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Aug. 8, 1900.

Miss Laura Clay,  
Whitehall,  
Ky.

My Dear Friend: --

Now we are settled that the B. C. ~~Committee~~ meeting shall be on August 30th, and having heard from some source that you may be able to get a Niagara Falls excursion ticket I want to say that if this requires that you come earlier I beg of you to take advantage of it. If it will be just as convenient for you, it will be a little more so for me, if you can plan to be here a few days before the 30th. As you know Mrs. Coonly Ward and her mother, Mrs. Look Avery, have their summer home at Wyoming only about 40 miles south of Rochester and I think they will claim you for a visit. They have already <sup>^</sup>morgaged Miss Shaw for one, and as she is to be here from Aug. 25th to September 3rd only, her visit will have to be made prior to the B. C. meeting, and it will be exceedingly nice if you can be here to go there with us. So just lay your plans to come at your own convenience any time after the 26th. I fix that date because my now only living brother, D. R. and his wife, of Leavenworth, Kan., expect to arrive here on the 20th and remain four or five days. But I want you to come and save rail road fare if you possibly can.

I am writing to Mrs. <sup>Coonly</sup> Ward and Mrs. Avery and I know they will at once write you begging you to visit them either before or after the B. C. meet-

( over. )

ing, but it will be very nice for Miss Shaw and me to be of the party.

Ever affectionately yours,

Jessie D. Anthony

P. S. - I have written Mrs. Npton that if any one  
worked to get our meeting at the time and if its members could  
be here - it was S. B. D. for I felt less harm would  
come with all of us together at the later date - than to  
have even but one absent at an earlier time - so I plead  
guilty - but do not think any one of deserveth other than what  
she thought the best for our work - or differing is no cause  
for guilt - So you see - we are all O. K. -



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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, NEW YORK.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

Aug. 19, 1900 -

My Dear Miss Clay

Now that Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> & Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> D. B.  
is settled upon as the hour & day of our first  
D. B. Meeting at No 17, Madison St - Rochester N. Y. it will  
necessitate your arriving at latest on the 29<sup>th</sup> - It is  
also, now settled - that as many of the D. B. as can  
are to go to Lugonia - on Monday ~~Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>~~ - to Mrs  
Lydia Avery - Cooney - Ward's - & as soon as the D. B. is  
through with its meetings - She wished us all to go to her on  
Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> - have a meeting that evening in their hallage - & then  
stay with her & finish our D. B. work - but Mrs Catt would  
not hear to that at all - said she should insist on staying  
& working here until the D. B. adjourns - which <sup>she</sup> intended should  
be Saturday D. B. in time for her to take the train that night for  
New York - But judging from our D. B. Meeting of three  
years ago at Adams - of a whole week - and Washington  
of a whole week after the close of the Convention -  
I do not believe we can possibly get through by Sat. night  
- Nevertheless we will do the best we can - and  
to please her - we will not make a break here until she  
feels she is done with the rest of us & starts for New York -

— But I do hope you & all of the rest will  
arrange to stay & go to Wyoming — it is a lover  
that — & I know you will wish to visit dear  
Mrs Susan Cook Aney — while you are here — and  
Mrs Coonly Ward is destined to be one of our  
best helpers — hence my anxiety — to have  
you & all the rest accept her invitation — It  
is only an hour from here —

Mrs Batt has a friend ill at her  
house — & is expecting more company —  
so that she is overwhelmed in her home  
as well as her office work — I do  
wish she could arrange to lessen her  
home cares — When one takes such heavy  
association responsibilities — one ought to be free  
from heavy private cares — there has been my  
salvation — freedom from home responsibilities to a very  
great extent — — Well — as I have said  
before — Don't fail to reach here the 29<sup>th</sup> & as  
much earlier as it pleases you — and do plan  
to visit Mrs Coonly Ward's either before or after the S. C.  
meets — for I know she & her mother care especially  
to have you in their summer home —

With love your dear sisters — all & a  
great deal for yourself I am  
as ever

Susan D. Anthony

# National - American Woman Suffrage Association.

MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Honorary President, ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, 250 West 94th Street, New York.  
Honorary President, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, 17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

President, CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,  
2008 American Tract Society Building, New York.

Vice-President-at-Large, Rev. ANNA H. SHAW,  
1830 Diamond Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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              } CATHARINE WAUGH MCCULLOCH, The Rookery, Chicago, Ill.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, NEW YORK.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

Sept. 7, 1900

My Dear Miss Clay

Here is the Post-man's receipt for the little package containing your pin - I hope it will reach you safely - a postal from Mrs Upton says she Mrs Osham drove them out to Miss Emily Howlands on Tuesday - that Wednesday they went to Syracuse - to Miss Hulls - and today they were going to the George Junior Republic - and tomorrow - home to Warren Ohio -

A note from Mrs M. Culloch - <sup>through</sup> -  
shows she must have reached Chicago -  
It is now fixed that I am to be in the Wisconsin Convention Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> & spend some of the Olympic Brown - the Illinois' meeting is to be the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> - and the Ohio meeting the 16 & 17 - so that

if you really - very much indeed - want me  
to go to Kentucky - no I couldn't either - between  
the Wisconsin & Ohio meetings - I would dearly to  
visit you four sisters - all together - but then Anna  
would be gone back to her Virginia home -  
so I must wait until another year - when  
Vol. IV - is finished & ready to go on the book shelves  
& the side of vols I, II, III, IV - want it be well for  
me & all of us to know there is the history  
of our movement in compact form down to  
the opening of the 20<sup>th</sup> century - to be found in  
all of the great Libraries of country - when  
every student can have access to it -

My highest hope just now is to live &  
get the money to see this an accomplished  
fact - I am going to get ~~the~~ estimates  
of the cost of 2,000 copies of Vol. IV, & of 1,000  
of Vol. II - I have in stock now 1,000 copies of Vol. III  
ready to be bound up - And after that strike  
for a publisher - & the amount of cash to meet  
the entire cost - that done - my job will be to  
put Vol. IV - into every Libry that now has the other three  
volumes - & after that to get the whole four volumes  
placed in another thousand Libraries - Then they  
will be in fully twenty-five hundred Libraries of this  
country - & about a hundred Libraries of the old world -  
My - how this brain & heart of mine do push me to work on again  
Love's yours - Susan D. Anthony

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OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

Nov. 29, 1900

Dear Anna

I consign to you  
tender mercies the General Federation  
of Labor - that meets at Louisville - Kentucky  
- the 5<sup>th</sup> of December - that is the meeting  
that I attended last year at Detroit -  
they gave me a half-hour - to present my  
reasons for woman's enfranchisement - there were  
200 - or more delegates - they represented a  
million - more or less - of working men -  
Now their Convention is near you - and  
you should go to it and ask a hearing -  
you will be a new person & hence they will  
feel you will have something new to say -  
a 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment is what I ask them to endorse

NOV 29 1900

But the question of the states basing it  
Congressional representation upon the actual number  
of votes cast is coming to be the question - and it  
would increase every northern state representation - to  
enfranchise their women - You would know whether  
to present it or not - But you can make the job  
on the general ground - I think you ought  
to attend the meeting or get new points for  
the enfranchisement of women - any way -

My address for the first ten days  
of December will be - No 10 - East 84<sup>th</sup> St - New  
York - shall be at my cousins - Mrs Semmes  
W. Saphores - - during the Bazaar - and how  
much longer I cannot say - <sup>with</sup> day  
<sup>after</sup> tomorrow begins Winter - and we are not  
to meet in Washington or anywhere else until  
next June - I am sorry to say - With love to all  
I am  
Yours truly

Arson D. Anthony

# National - American Woman Suffrage Association.

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 2008 AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY BUILDING, NEW YORK.

OFFICE OF HONORARY PRESIDENT, 17 Madison St., ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

March 5th, 1901.

Miss Laura Clay,

81 North Mill St.,

Lexington, Ky.

My Dear Friend: --

I received your valentine with a great deal of pleasure. It found, visiting me, Rachel Foster Avery, Mrs. Gross, and Saturday the 16th brought Mrs. Sewall, of Indianapolis, so I had those three blessed women to visit with, until Sunday night when Mrs. Sewall returned to her home.

I do wish you and others of the young women would study the council idea. I believe we should do a great deal more and better work if we fell into hearty line with its purposes. The National Council will hold a meeting at Buffalo, in September, and the International Council will meet there about the same time, and if our ~~council~~ <sup>association</sup> could manage to be there either the week before or the week after it would be a good thing.

I expect all this will be settled at Minneapolis. Shall I see you there? I hope so. You had a great gala day, or days, with Miss Shaw speaking before your Woman's Club and the W. C. T. U. She is doing a great work every time she goes under the auspices of different associations. I hope Miss Shaw will be around this way before very long.

Please give my love to your sisters, and believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

*Susan B. Anthony*

Bristol Ferry, Oct.16,1901.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Kentucky.

Dear Friend:-

Your letter of September 30 came duly. I wish I could attend your Convention the 17th and 18 inst., in Covington but I am here at Providence visiting Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer and Miss Sarah Eddy who spends the summer at Bristol Ferry a short distance from here so you see I am too far off to come to Covington much as I would like to do.

I hope that you will have a good Convention, but exactly what you should say or do I cannot say, but I am sure you will be able to see the true things. But first of all I would advise you to appoint some good speaker to go before the different boards that assemble in your State. I am satisfied we shall do more now by presenting the claims of our movement before everybody <sup>of men</sup> no matter what particular purpose the organization may stand for.

I have not my paper to see what conventions are held in your State but you must keep run of them and whether they are to consider religious, social or political questions visit them and make our plea for suffrage before them.

I hope you ~~are~~ <sup>will</sup> ~~have~~ <sup>e</sup> a good and large representation at <sup>the</sup> Washington Convention in February, <sup>shall</sup> and expect to see you there in full force, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Susan B. Anthony*





Miss Laura Clay  
Lexington, Ky.

This huge volume is presented to you for the kindly aid you rendered Mrs. Harper in the preparation of the Kentucky chapter and in recognition of your good services to the cause of woman suffrage and of your sainted mother before you.

From your friend and coworker,

Susan B. Anthony.

17 Madison Street,

Rochester, N.Y.

Feb. 18, 1903



[ Sep 30, 1903 ]

Oct. 3 contains a reference to the magazine articles written at the time of her death. With these two authorities all the societies throughout the country can get data for a suitable celebration. I enclose here\_ with a circular of the History and urge that every club which does not possess a copy will endeavor to do so at the earliest possible moment. If every local club cannot afford to purchase the History then let ever so many of you ask the city or town library to buy them and so place them where they can be seen by all.

With an earnest wish for the success of your convention and the ultimate victory of the cause for which we are all working, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

*Susan B. Anthony*

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

Rochester, N. Y., April 8, 1904.

Dear Members of the Business Committee:-

I am minus a typewriter to-day, and you must excuse my pen-tracks, therefore.

All the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States directly show their animus -- or its animus -- which is to throw the right to vote wholly over to the respective states. So it behooves us to ply ourselves to the state legislatures, and to the Constitutional Convention to secure the suffrage to the women. The territories, Oklahoma, and Arizona, are first in order. Verily the one thing, that of National Supremacy, is being lost. What we said we gained by the Civil War is frittered away inch by inch. The most ultra states rights champion could not ask for a fuller assertion of his claim. We are thrust back into the chaos of each states right to do what it pleases with us; there is not the slightest protection of National government over the citizens of the United States.

Well, so be it, we shall see what we shall see.

(Signed) SUSAN B. ANTHONY.

# National American Woman Suffrage Association.

MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Honorary President, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, 17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

President, REV. ANNA HOWARD SHAW,  
7443 Devon Street, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice President at Large, CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,  
205 West 57th Street, New York City.

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Treasurer, HARRIET TAYLOR UPTON, Warren, Ohio.

Auditors { LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Ky.  
CORR SMITH EATON, M. D., Masonic Temple, Minneapolis, Minn.

National Press Committee, ELNORA M. BABCOCK, Dunkirk, N. Y.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO.



June, 25, 1904.

Dear Miss Clay:-

The Suffrage Association of West Virginia has secured a suffrage day at the Moundville Chautauqua. They can pay the travelling expenses of some speaker, but no more. They have telegraphed me asking me to speak at the morning session, they are going to have a contest in the afternoon and no evening session. It is'nt possible for me to go, because I have promised to go to New Jersey for the seaside meeting. I am, therefore, writing to ask you if you will go? It does seem to<sup>d</sup>awful to think of these women struggling along and getting a suffrage day and then having no one to speak for them. Please send me your answer right away.

Have just dictated a long letter to the Business Committee in regard to the Republican Convention. If it gets out in time to enclose in this letter all right, if not it will follow.

Hastily yours,

*Harriet Taylor Upton*

*Moundville is a little out of Wheeling & is reached by electric cars -*







Miss Lavinia Clay

# National American Woman Suffrage Association

## Member National Council of Women

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Auditors } LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Kentucky.  
          } DR. CORA SMITH EATON,

717 Masonic Temple, Minneapolis, Minn.  
National Organizer, LAURA A. GREGG, Omaha, Neb.

Oklahoma Headquarters, Guthrie, O. T.

Miss Susan B. Anthony,  
17 Madison St.,  
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Miss Anthony:

I have not written to you earlier about Oklahoma because I wanted to wait until I had become familiar enough with the conditions here to be able to give you an impartial judgment of the situation.

When I first came into the territory, I felt very much encouraged, as the old friends here in Guthrie received me so cordially, and there seemed to have been considerable growth in sentiment among the representative women, who were quite agitated over the Attorney General's having decided two years ago that women could not vote on school questions in cities of the first-class; and as the schools of Guthrie were in a dreadfully demoralized condition, a good many of these women were clamoring for the right to vote in school elections, which they had before Guthrie became a city of the first-class. My first judgment was, therefore, that suffrage sentiment had considerably grown in the territory as it seemed to have grown in Guthrie.

But the more I learn of the rest of the territory, the more I am impressed that this growth is more in Guthrie than any where else, and that it has been stimulated by local conditions.

On the other hand, I have learned some thing about the territory which, it seems to me, make the situation a very grave one. In the

No. 2, Miss S. B. A.

first place, you have probably read the Enabling Act of the new Omnibus Bill which has just been reported from the committee, and which will undoubtedly pass the House and be hung up in the Senate until next winter that "male citizens over twenty-one years of age" will be the qualified voters for delegates to the constitutional convention. I think the act has been written that way on purpose, so as to shut out any possibility of our carrying the next legislature, and getting a right to vote on the delegates and on the constitution itself, for undoubtedly if we should carry the legislature, we would not be allowed to vote on the constitution, owing to this Enabling Act. It is my impression that those who were qualified to vote for members of the legislature in other territories, were qualified to vote on the constitution. Was this not true in Wyoming and Utah, and did not the women vote on those Constitutions? Dennis Flynn, has just been to Washington helping them to fix up that Omnibus Bill, and I think he has seen to it that the Enabling Act was worded in that way.

Now, of course, this Omnibus Bill has not passed, and undoubtedly will not pass the Senate until next winter, but since it will in all probability pass the House, I do not believe any change in it could be effected, and this takes away our strongest appeal to the women to organize for work in the legislature, in the hope that they might get suffrage and have the opportunity to vote on the constitution.

But a more discouraging feature still, is the situation in the territory itself. The territory changed since we were here five years ago. It has certainly made the most marvelous growth of any country in recent years, not only in population, but in wealth, and the people are simply dizzy with their prosperity. In the mean time the saloon has flourished like a green bay tree, and is exceedingly impudent and high handed in its power. It has terrorized the people who have lifted a hand

No. 3, Miss S. B. A.

against it by breaking them financially, and its wealthy emissaries join the church in order to terrorize the preachers and hold the balance of power in the church by their wealth, so that I find about the same conditions here now, that we found in South Dakota six years ago, which rendered it impossible for us to accomplish any thing. The people who oppose the saloons are such rabid, intense people that they are generally unpopular, and would not carry much influence for us, while the people of a more temperate judgment do not dare to ally themselves with us for fear of being affected financially by the saloons: consequently about the only people that I can get to take hold are the W. C. T. U. women and prohibition ministers whose position is well known on the liquor question. In sending out my letters for the route, I purposely steered clear of the W. C. T. U. women, addressing my letters to ministers, editors, and club women, but invariably before I can get hold of any body who will do anything it comes around to the W. C. T. U. women. The club women write respectful letters and refer me to the officers of the W. C. T. U.; the editors do the same, and like wise the ministers, except a few who are undoubtedly prohibitionists.

The W. C. T. U. has very materially grown in this territory. Indeed it is the most active W. C. T. U. that I have found in my travels, and these women are concentrating their efforts upon getting prohibition in the constitution, and the prohibition men are helping them, so that there has been enough prohibition activity in the territory to place the liquor men on their guard, and they have formed a special organization separate from their regular Liquor Dealer's Association, and more respectable in appearance, for the purpose of fighting prohibition in the constitution, and they have headquarters at Unid, and organizers in the field. One of them who claims to be a liberal minister, and who opened his meeting with the Lord's Prayer, lectured here yesterday.

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Now, of course this association will fight woman suffrage just as strenuously as it will fight prohibition, and with its forces already organized, and with headquarters, and workers already in the field, they will undoubtedly have the delegates to the constitution pledged before ever they are elected.

We have had hard enough fights with the liquor power when they did not consider us of sufficient importance to organize against us before we got into the legislature, and it seems to me with their organization effected this early, and with the mints of money which they have at command and with their power to terrorize respectable citizens by their threats of financial wreckage, there is not any very good prospect for us ahead.

Miss Shaw and Mrs. Catt have both written that they felt that Oklahoma would be hopeless if the Indian Territory were annexed to it, and you know this has been done in the enabling act, and the Oklahomans have pretty generally accepted the situation. I tried not to feel that it would be hopeless with that territory annexed, because I thought that having had prohibition in the Indian Territory, there would not be a liquor organization there to fight us, and perhaps it would not be much harder to convert sober half-breed Indians, than drunken white people, but I have been told since that the people there, having no whiskey to drink, simply drink lemon extract and Feruna, and get about as drunk as they do elsewhere. I am also told that the white people there are the off-scouring of the world; criminals that have fled from justice and have changed their names; and a generally worthless outfit that have married Indians, and others who have tried to prove Indian blood in order to get land. Several different parties have given me this description of the inhabitants of the Indian Territory, and if this be true, I shall certainly agree with Miss Shaw and Mrs. Catt that the Indian Territory is hopeless.

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I thought when I was in Montana that the high-handed-ness of the liquor and gambling elements was the worst that I had ever seen, and that Montana was a pretty barren field, but even there we had considerable advantage over what we have in Oklahoma, for there we had very generally the support of the Labor Unions, and they were a tremendous power in our favor, that is, as any power in our favor goes; they made themselves felt in the legislature, and they pretty generally voted for us; but here the Labor Unions are poorly organized, and not very strongly affiliated with the Territorial Organization, and I am told that their power in politics is practically nothing; so while good Mr. Lynch sent a very cordial letter to our convention inviting us to come to the territory and help them secure suffrage for the women, yet I doubt if they will be able to control a single vote in the legislature or the constitutional convention. Also in Montana there had been no prohibition agitation, and consequently the saloon element did not have its back up against us so determinedly, as was evidenced by the fact that some of the bar tenders' unions passed resolutions along with other Labor Organizations, indorsing woman suffrage.

As to the newspapers, there is an editor of a weekly here in Guthrie, who is a suffragist, and who has asked me to write for his columns; he used to be a reporter on the Capital when I was here before, and was very helpful to us then. But the dailies, both in Guthrie and Oklahoma City, are controlled by the powers that be.

The editor of the Capital (Republican) told me that he was not favorable, but that he would publish some suffrage matter. However, his paper has already opened fire upon us editorially, and we shall get no support from that quarter.

The Times-Journal of Oklahoma City, also Republican, is edited by a man who used to be a good friend of mine in Kansas, but since he came to the Territory he has degenerated into a ring politician, and has

P. G. S.B.A.

killed a man since I saw him five years ago. He would not help us then, and of course, will not now. The Leader and the Oklahoman, both Democratic, always were opposed.

So, as I have been making a careful study of the situation the past month, having weighed every influence against every other influence as best I could, the outlook does not seem very promising to me, and I feel it my duty to write the plain truth to the Business Committee before any more money is spent in the territory.

Now, as to the favorable conditions, I will say that I believe the Governor is a genuine suffragist, and all the women with whom I have talked, except one, are of the same opinion. One woman in Oklahoma City told me she did not believe he was anything more than a ring politician like the rest of the gang, Flynn, Grimes, etc.; but the women in Guthrie swear by him and declare that they know he is a true blue suffragist and temperance man, and he impresses me as being honest and sincere; but of course I have no means of estimating how much he would do for us other than sign a suffrage bill, which I feel very sure he would do.

I came into the territory quite determined that I should see the bright side of everything, and that I should not lose my hope and courage, and indeed I have not lost them; but there always hangs over me a very solemn obligation to make the best possible use of our limited means, and I must confess, that with these conditions confronting us, it does look like a waste of money to spend it on Oklahoma; and since I have learned about the Liquor Dealers' special organization, and that the enabling act expressly excludes women, and that the Labor Organizations are so weak, and that the situation in the Indian Territory is so unpromising, my conscience troubles me about spending any more money before I have laid the matter before the Business Committee; and I am therefore sending copies of this letter to each member of the Business Committee, so that if you feel that we should not spend any more money on Oklahoma,

P. 7. S.B.A.

action can be taken before I have the route for the last two months made up.

This trip is going to be an expensive one if I reach to the far western part of the territory, for I have failed to find any one to take full charge of my route; I have a young girl from the Business college who can work fairly well under my direction, but does not know how to force meetings in towns that are difficult, and I shall therefore have a good many of the meetings to work up on the spot myself, and I really feel it my duty to lay these things before the Business Committee before I plunge into this expense, so that if you feel that it is a waste of money to put it into Oklahoma, we can cut the work off and save the money for a more promising field.

In the meantime, if you feel that with these conditions which I have outlined, it is still the best use to make of the money to go on, the work shall have my hardest and most devoted effort.

Most Faithfully Yours,

Lock Box 255,  
Guthrie, Okla.