

# ***Votes for Women: An Island Perspective***

Online Exhibit

Artifact List  
Credit and Donor Information

January 2021





***On the Road to Gay Head***

c. 1888

Watercolor on paper

**Amelia Watson**

*Museum purchase*

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.023



***Tupelo, Hornbeam, Beetlebung***

1888

Watercolor on paper

**Amelia Watson**

*Museum purchase*

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.024



***Vineyard Haven***

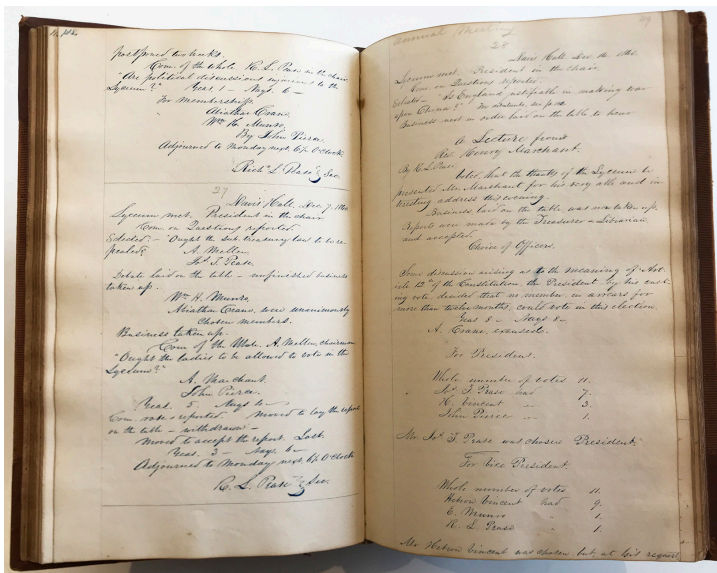
1889

Watercolor on paper

**Amelia Watson**

*Museum purchase*

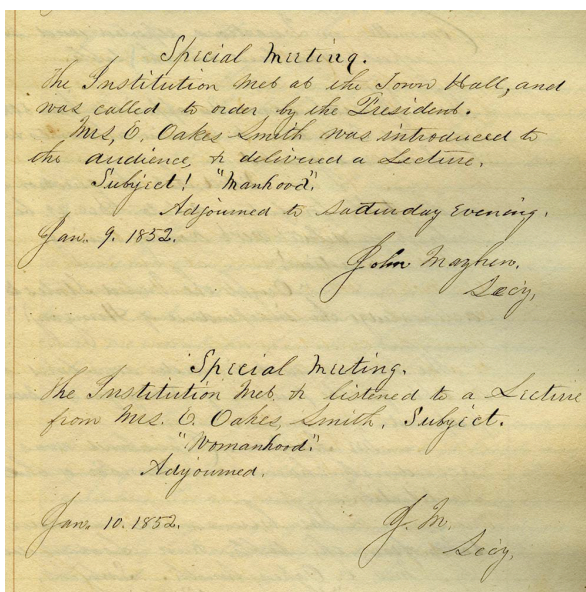
Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.011



## Edgartown Lyceum record book

1837-1853

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 394, Literary & Debating Societies of Martha's Vineyard Collection



## Edgartown Lyceum meeting minutes

January 9-10, 1852

Scanned from:

## Edgartown Lyceum record book

1837-1853

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 394, Literary & Debating Societies of Martha's Vineyard Collection



## Elizabeth Oakes Prince Smith (Mrs. Seba Smith)

1845

Oil on canvas

John Wesley Paradise

Courtesy of the National Gallery of Art,  
1963.10.188



The Vineyard Gazette.  
EDGARTOWN:  
Friday, February 6, 1852.  
PRICE OF THE GAZETTE:  
Only One Dollar per year!  
E. MARCHANT—EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
V. B. Palmer, Stationer's Building, Boston, is our  
only authorized general agent.

EDUCATION LESSONS AND INSTRUCTIONS.—It  
will be recollected by our readers, that Mrs. E.  
Oakes Smith recently delivered several lec-  
tures before the above named institution. At  
the close of the series, the following resolu-  
tions, after debate, were adopted:—  
Whereas, The members of the Edgartown  
Lyceum and Institute have listened with un-  
usual pleasure and interest, to the course of lec-  
tures by Mrs. E. O. Smith, upon the subjects—  
‘Manhood,’ ‘Womanhood,’ and ‘Humanity,’ de-  
livered before this institution, therefore,  
Resolved, That in the judgment of this insti-  
tution, Mrs. Smith is entitled to great consid-  
eration and praise, for the high toned, logical  
method, eloquence, and rhetorical beauty which  
permeate her lectures, as well as the earnest and  
gratitude of this institution, for the highly dig-  
nified and truly lady-like bearing, which it has  
been our pleasure and delight to witness during  
our acquaintance with her.  
3d. Resolved, That the great fundamental  
and moral basis of her lectures, “That the hu-  
man mind is highly susceptible of, and possesses  
great natural and moral elements, the tendencies  
of which are progression and improvement,” are  
truths which should be impressed upon the mind  
of all.  
3d. Resolved, That the particular forms or  
modes, in which she would have these great  
principles practically exemplified, would, to our  
minds, tend vastly to the physical amelioration  
of, and to the moral and mental cultivation  
of our race, as they are entirely free from that  
extraneous which is sometimes urged by  
writers.  
4th. Resolved, That the great question, par-  
ticularly contained in the lecture on ‘Woman-  
hood,’ in regard to the right and necessity of  
the moral influence of women in the legislative,  
judicial, and civil codes of nations, is one which  
the crying wrong of mankind, and the enlight-  
ened judgment of all Christians and philantrop-  
ists demand.  
5th. Resolved, That a copy of these resolu-  
tions be presented to Mrs. E. Oakes Smith.

## “Edgartown Lyceum and Institute”

Vineyard Gazette, February 6, 1952

Courtesy of the Vineyard Gazette

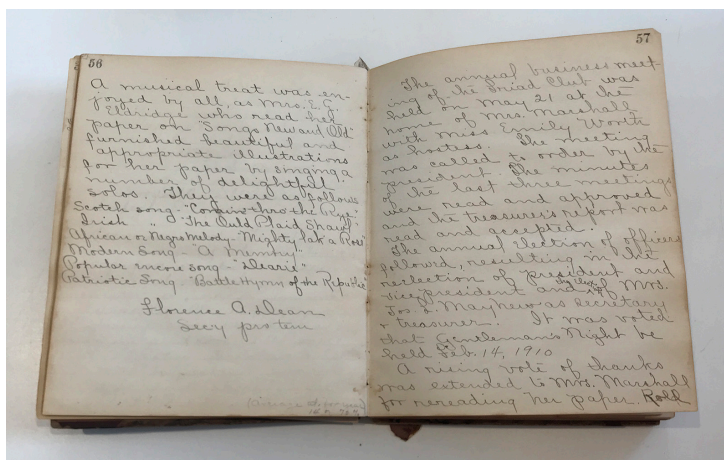
Image edited for display purposes,  
original article spanned multiple columns

Mrs. E. Oakes Smith in Boston.—It will be  
seen by the following, which we clip from the  
Boston Daily Mail, that Mrs. Smith did not  
come quite up to the editor's standard of perfect  
‘Manhood.’  
This is an age of wonders, and one of the  
wonders is—that the women are becoming men.  
On Sunday afternoon, according to an announce-  
ment, Mrs. E. Oakes Smith made her debut as a  
Boston preacher, in the Melodeon.  
At the hour of church service, the Melodeon  
was nearly full, and still men and women, in  
about an equal proportion, came, until the house  
was crowded, and yet no preacher appeared.  
All was silence; there was no strain from the  
organ, and every eye was turned to the side  
entrance. Presently, there entered a person in  
female attire uncovered, attended by a man—  
That must be the preacher. Yes; she ascended  
the platform, and takes the chair in the rear of  
the desk. She is exquisitely dressed in black  
silk, with a green velvet sack, her black  
hair skillfully dressed, shone, together with a  
supply of pins and rings, making her ‘ob-  
servable of all observers.’ The organist plays a  
light air, and a trio of one female and two males,  
sing an anthem. There was no prayer, or signs  
of prayer, or devotion. The preacher, or preach-  
ress, now read an account of the temptation of  
Eve by the serpent; and then a few verses from  
the Gospel of John, where Christ speaks of the  
new commandment he gave to the disciples,  
namely, to ‘love one another.’ She now pro-  
ceeded to deliver her discourse. She said that  
she ‘should not undertake to say whether the  
Bible was from God, or not, whether the ac-  
count of Eve's temptation was a truth, a fable,  
or a parable—but would leave that to min-  
isters, who were paid for their opinions on the  
subject; and who ought to be competent to give  
their views.’ Children and men think there may be  
a God, and therefore there is evidence that a  
God exists. Readers were conversant with con-  
vincing evidence as to the origin of the kind, it is  
not important to trace the origin of the kind, it is  
she seemed to teach that the introduction of  
sin into the world was not so much to be de-  
plored, since men and women thereby have  
‘become gods, knowing good and evil.’ As  
to a hereafter, she thought there might be one,  
because we long for one.  
This woman uttered various common place  
remarks about women's rights, an unknown ac-  
count four years in college, because, the boys  
must take the next four years to mature and  
habits, (not so bad) direct calculations to love  
and sympathize with all the world, and the rest  
of mankind, because Jesus Christ did not come  
to save the world in adultery; the importance  
of universal progress; the practice of anti flag-  
ging in the family, because the flagger is as bad  
as the flagged, and because the wickedness all  
around is the result of war, organization and de-  
velopment, and such like.  
Moral: If this is a specimen of woman's  
right preaching, we would say to women, grin  
to the counting room, practice medicine and law,  
do anything, but for your own sake, for human-  
ity's sake, for Heaven's sake—Don't Preach.

## “Mrs. E. Oakes Smith in Boston”

Vineyard Gazette, February 6, 1952

Courtesy of the Vineyard Gazette



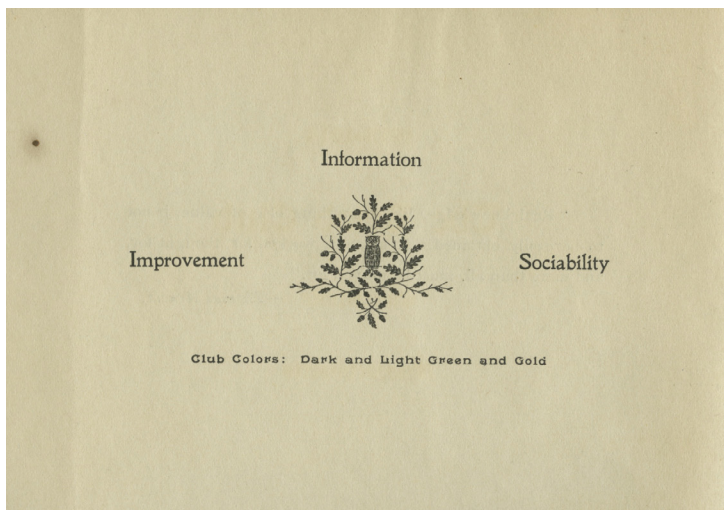
## Secretary's Minutes (Bound) Vol. I

February 28, 1908-May 22, 1914

Gift of Anne Cummings and Barbara  
Murphy

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 491, Triad Club Collection



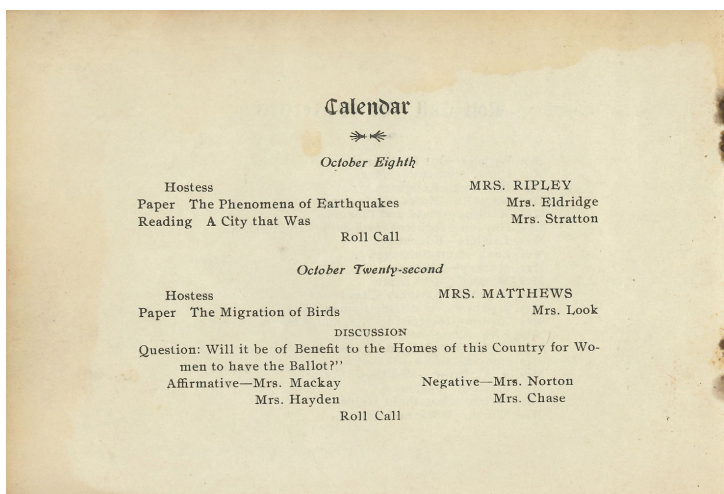


### ***Triad Club Yearbook***

1913-1914

*Gift of Anne Cummings and Barbara Murphy*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 491, Triad Club Collection

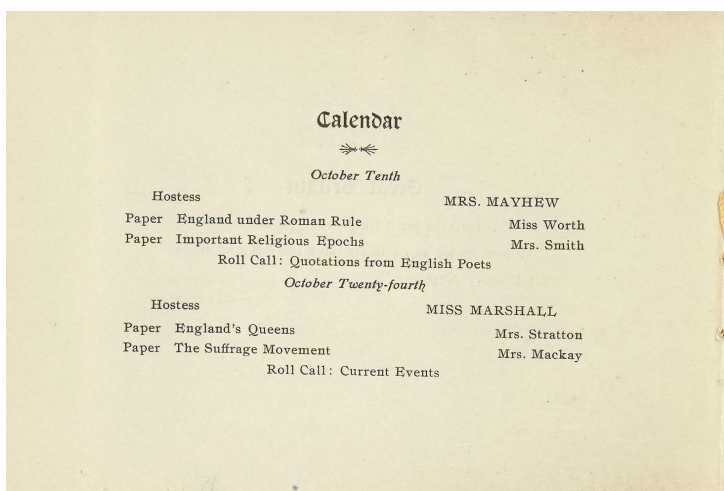


### ***Triad Club Yearbook***

1913-1914

*Gift of Anne Cummings and Barbara Murphy*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 491, Triad Club Collection

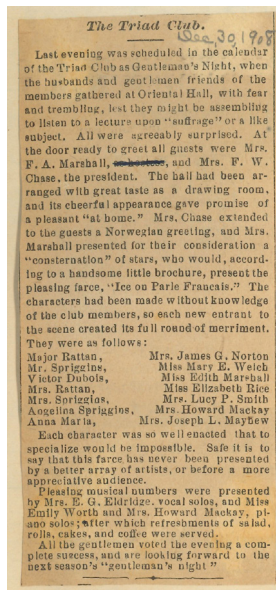


### ***Triad Club Yearbook***

1915-1916

*Gift of Anne Cummings and Barbara Murphy*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 491, Triad Club Collection



## “The Triad Club” newspaper clipping

December 30, 1908

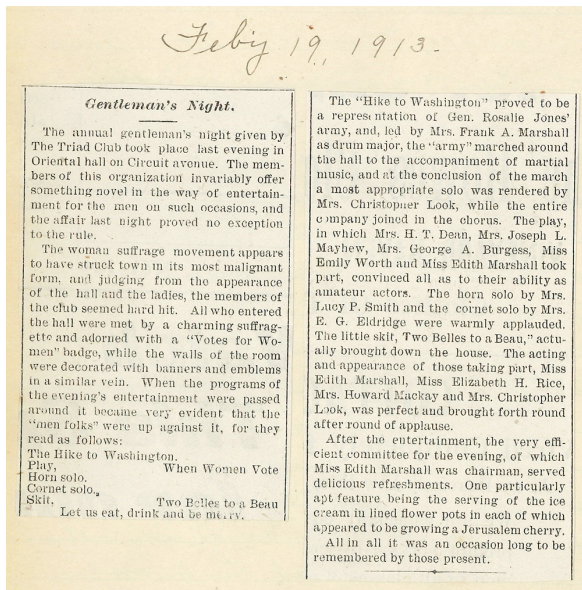
Scanned from:

### **Secretary's Minutes (Bound) Vol. I**

February 28, 1908-May 22, 1914

*Gift of Anne Cummings and Barbara Murphy*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 491, Triad Club Collection



## “Gentleman's Night” newspaper clipping

February 19, 1913

Scanned from:

### **Secretary's Minutes (Bound) Vol. I**

February 28, 1908-May 22, 1914

*Gift of Anne Cummings and Barbara Murphy*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 491, Triad Club Collection



## Mary Wesley Worth

c. 1898

Scanned from:

### **Edgartown Women's Club scrapbook**

c. 2000

*Gift of Carolyn O'Daly*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 390, Edgartown Women's Club Collection





**Sara Joy Mayhew**

c. 1898

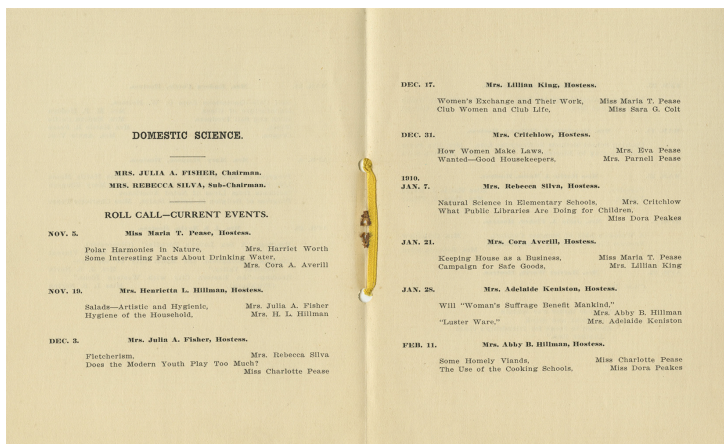
Scanned from:

**Edgartown Women's Club scrapbook**

c. 2000

*Gift of Carolyn O'Daly*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 390, Edgartown Women's Club Collection



**Annual Report of the Edgartown Women's Club**

1909-1910

*Gift of Eileen Robinson*

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
RU 390, Edgartown Women's Club Collection



**Squibnocket and Noman's Land**

c. 1888

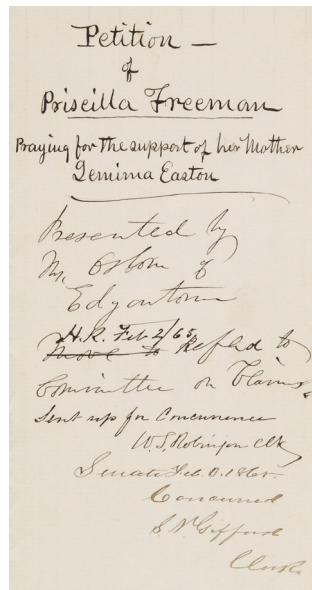
Watercolor on paper

**Amelia Watson**

*Museum purchase*

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.012



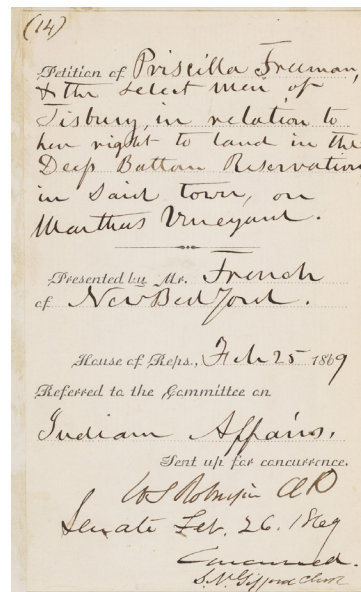


**Petition of Priscilla Freeman for support of her mother, Jemima Easton**

January 1865

Courtesy of the Massachusetts Archives

Passed Resolves, 1777-2016 Petition of Priscilla Freeman in Resolves of 1865, chapter 10, passed March 16, 1865. SC1/series 228. Massachusetts Archives. Boston, Massachusetts.



**Petition of Priscilla Freeman for land rights in Deep Bottom Reservation**

February 25, 1869

Courtesy of the Massachusetts Archives

Passed Acts, 1775-2016, Petition of Priscilla Freeman in Acts of 1869, chapter 413, passed June 17, 1869. SC1/series 229. Massachusetts Archives. Boston, Massachusetts.



**Squibnocket**

1888

Watercolor on paper

**Amelia Watson**

Museum purchase

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.009



***Group portrait, outdoors, of members of the Blackwell and Spofford families***

c. 1875-1880

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20022786

Image ID: 20022786\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20022786/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:252781/catalog>



***View of Quitsa and Menemsha Ponds from Lookout Hill***

c. 1928

Matha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1514

**Oral History link**

"Click here to listen to Ethel Whidden talk about her suffragist family"

<https://mvmuseum.org/audio/ethel-whidden-clip1/>

***Clip from oral history interview with Ethel Whidden, re suffragist family***

Date: April 4, 1982

Interviewee: Ethel (Pat) Whidden

Interviewer: Linsey Lee

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Oral History Collection, 1994.174.002





***Road past Quitsa Pond in Chilmark***

1905

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 520



***Blackwell family at Fulling Mill Brook  
Cove of Chilmark Pond***

c. 1888

**Alice Stone Blackwell**

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1702e



***Sugarloaf Rock, overlooking Squibnocket  
Village***

c. 1887

**Baldwin Coolidge**

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1505





***Members of the Blackwell family on a sailboat***

1901

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvgroup1002597

Image ID: 20022793\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvgroup1002597/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:311192/catalog>



***Members of the Blackwell family sailing***

1901

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvgroup1002597

Image ID: 20022792\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvgroup1002597/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:311189/catalog>



***Portrait of Lucy Stone (Blackwell) seated***

ca. 1875-1885

**Warren**

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20022831

Image ID: 20022831\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20022831/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:253587/catalog>

## Oral History link

“Click here to listen to Ethel Whidden share a story about Lucy Stone”

<https://mvmuseum.org/audio/ethel-whidden-lucy-stone/>

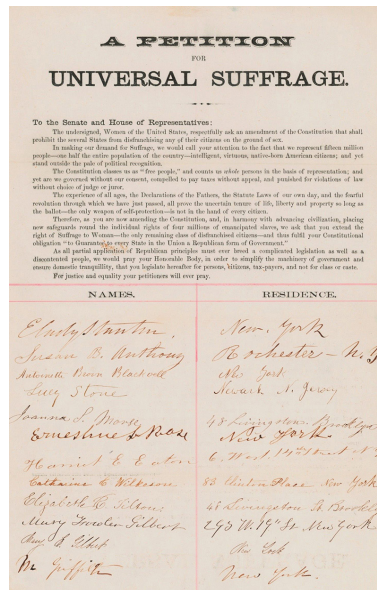
## Clip from oral history interview with Ethel Whidden, re Lucy Stone

Date: April 4, 1982

Interviewee: Ethel (Pat) Whidden

Interviewer: Linsey Lee

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Oral History Collection, 1994.174.002



## Petition for Universal Suffrage

1866

Courtesy of the National Archives

Petition Asking for an Amendment of the Constitution that Shall Prohibit the Several States from Disfranchising Any of Their Citizens on the Ground of Sex; 1/29/1866; (HR 39A-H14.9); Petitions and Memorials, 1813 - 1968; Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, Record Group 233; National Archives Building, Washington, DC. [Online Version, <https://www.docsteach.org/documents/document/petition-prohibit-disfranchisement>, December 29, 2020]



## Mail stage at Cliff Cottage

c. 1900

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1702e





***Exterior view of Cliff Cottage, the Squibnocket home of Captain Samuel Blackwell***

c. 1920

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20023029

Image ID: 20023029\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20023029/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:252820/catalog>



***Head and shoulders portrait of Henry Browne Blackwell***

c. 1870-1885

**Fredricks, Charles D. & Co.**

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20022828

Image ID: 20022828\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20022828/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:316200/catalog>



***Portrait of Alice Stone Blackwell***

ca. 1885-1895

**Notman, American [photographer]**

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20023028

Image ID: 20023028\_1

<http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20023028/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:252817/catalog>





***Alice Stone Blackwell (standing, dressed in black) speaking at the meeting***

August 13, 1918

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvgroup1001838

Image ID: 20023026\_1

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvgroup1001838/  
urn-3:RAD.SCHL:311297/catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvgroup1001838/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:311297/catalog)



***Antoinette Louisa Brown Blackwell and Alice Stone Blackwell seated in a horse-drawn carriage for a parade***

c. 1913-1917

**Edwin Levick**

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20016365

Image ID: 20016365\_1

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/  
olvwork20016365/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:134762/catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20016365/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:134762/catalog)

### **Oral History link**

“Click here to listen to Horace Robinson remembering the celebrations”

<https://mvmuseum.org/audio/horace-robinson/>

### ***Clip from oral history interview with Horace Robinson, re Blackwell suffragists***

Date: September 9, 1995

Interviewee: Horace Robinson

Interviewer: Linsey Lee

Martha's Vineyard Museum, Oral History  
Collection, 1995.099.001



***Group portrait, outside, of Samuel Charles Blackwell and Antoinette Louisa Brown Blackwell with four of their daughters***

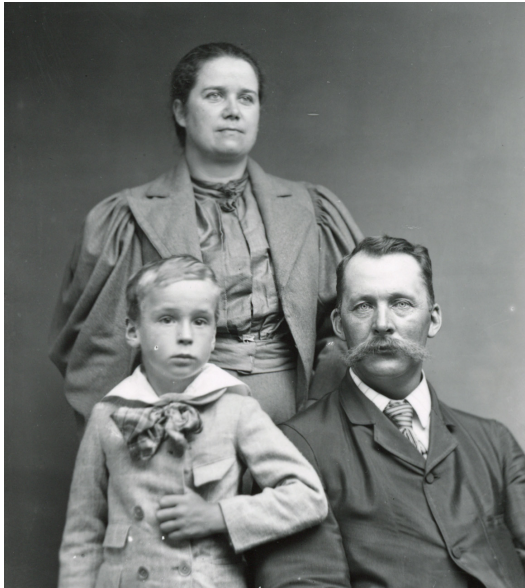
c. 1884-1894

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20016406

Image ID: 20016406\_1

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/  
olvwork20016406/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:134876/  
catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20016406/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:134876/catalog)



***E. Elliot Mayhew and Florence Blackwell Mayhew***

1895

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1713g, 2018.001.124



***Huntington family in cart pulled by Bob***

1909

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1708i





***Exterior view of a Blackwell family home  
from a field on the west side***

1907

*Image courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork20016843

Image ID: 20016843\_1

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/  
olvwork20016843/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:306516/  
catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork20016843/urn-3:RAD.SCHL:306516/catalog)



***Pohogonot***

1889

Watercolor on paper

**Amelia Watson**

*Museum purchase*

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.021

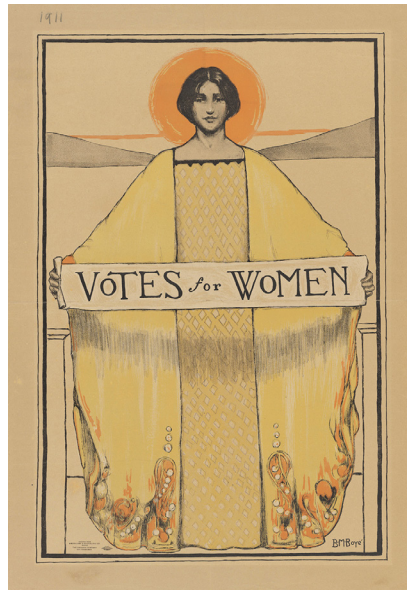


***Bluebird pin***

c. 1915

*Loaned by Jackie Baer*





### **"Votes for Women" poster**

c. 1913

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University*

HOLLIS number: olvwork391769

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork391769/  
catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork391769/catalog)



### **"Dispossessed"**

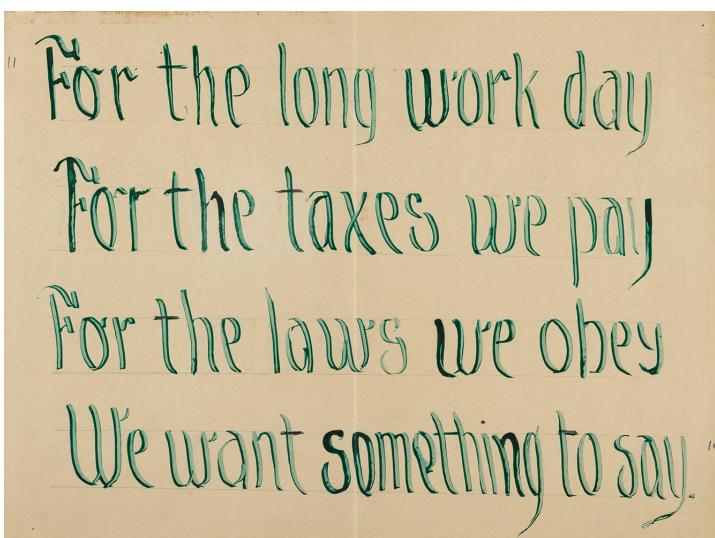
c. 1911

**Lou Rogers**

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University.*

HOLLIS number: olvwork602332

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork602332/  
catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork602332/catalog)



### **"For the long work day, for the taxes we pay, for the laws we obey we want something to say"**

c. 1911

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University.*

HOLLIS number: olvwork602328

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork602328/  
catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork602328/catalog)



***Suffrage poster depicting Inez Milholland Boissevain dressed in white, riding a white horse, as she did for the March 3, 1913 suffrage parade in Washington, D.C.***

c. 1913-1916

*Courtesy of Schlesinger Library,  
Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University.*

HOLLIS number: olvwork365799

[http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork365799/  
catalog](http://id.lib.harvard.edu/images/olvwork365799/catalog)



***Dress***

c. 1900

*Gift of Louise Mieklehorn*

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1955.014.001



***Reproduction "Votes for Women" sash***

*Exhibit prop, not collections piece*





***LWVMV 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary sash and pins***

2020

*Gift of the League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard*

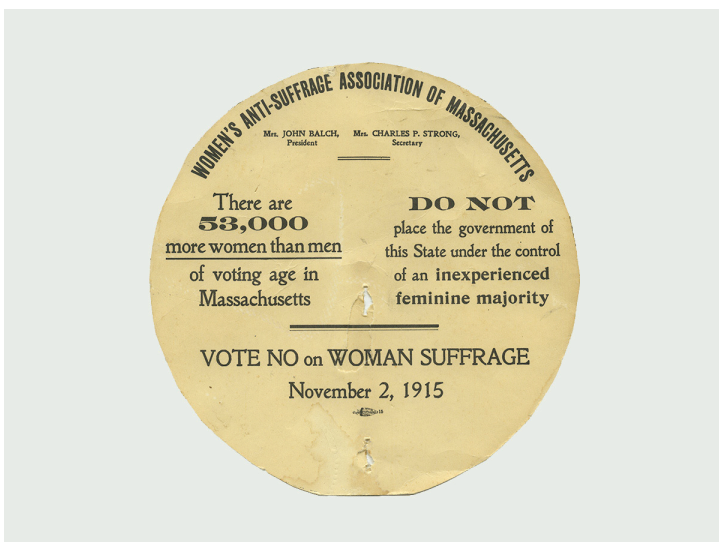


***League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard rally***

2020

**Brooke Bartletta**

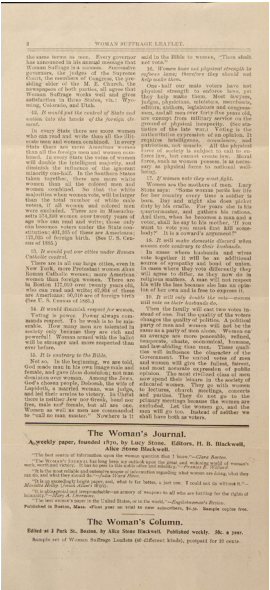
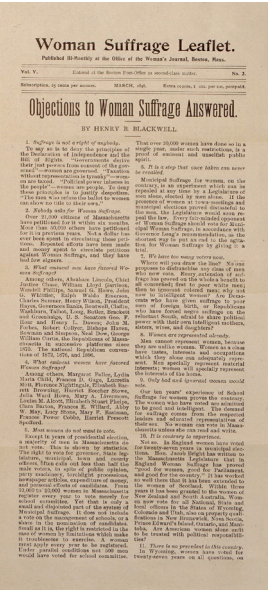
*Courtesy of the photographer*



***"Vote No" ephemera***

c. 1915

*Gift of Martha's Vineyard Community Services*



# “Objections to Woman Suffrage Answered”

1886

Henry Blackwell

From the Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, courtesy of the National Archives

“Objections to Woman Suffrage Answered,” by Henry Blackwell; 3/1896; Petitions and Memorials, 1813-1968; Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, Record Group 233; National Archives Building, Washington DC, 20408. [Online Version, <https://www.docsteach.org/documents/document/woman-suffrage-blackwell>, December 29, 2020]

## Up Island

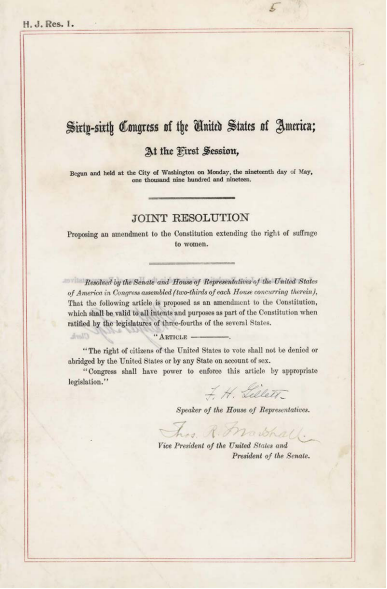
c. 1888-1893

Watercolor on paper

Amelia Watson

Museum purchase

Martha's Vineyard Museum, 1942.059.008



# Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution

June 4, 1919

Courtesy of the National Archives





### **Chilmark Town Hall**

c. 1915

Martha's Vineyard Museum,  
Photo Collection, File 1502

### **Women Disprove Pet Theory That They Won't Admit Age**

When the Tennessee house gets through taking the part of an Indian giver and casts the deciding vote for woman suffrage without changing its mind—an ultra feminine trait—woman voters of Martha's Vineyard will have an opportunity to prove that they can vote as intelligently as they can register. The registration in the Island towns has not been exceedingly large but is of a size and quality encouraging to those who believe in equal suffrage.

Sixty eight women have registered in Edgartown, but this number will probably be largely increased today, as there will be a last opportunity to register this afternoon and tonight. Fifty six registered in Oak Bluffs, while Vineyard Haven turned out the largest number, 115.

Mere men who acted as registrars of voters were unqualified in their approval of the spirit in which the women of the island are approaching their new task. And as for the old stigma which has attached to womankind from time immemorial—her foolish reluctance to tell her age—that bubble has burst for ever, if Vineyard experience is any criterion.

### ***"Women Disprove Pet Theory They Won't Admit Their Age"***

*Vineyard Gazette*, September 2, 1920

*Courtesy of the Vineyard Gazette*

### **FIRST EDGARTOWN WOMAN TO VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.**

Mrs. Henry H. Jerneagan was the first woman in Edgartown ever to cast a vote for the President of the United States. Mrs. Jerneagan's ballot dropped into the box when the polls opened Tuesday morning.

### ***"First Edgartown Woman Votes for President"***

*Vineyard Gazette*, November 4, 1920

*Courtesy of the Vineyard Gazette*

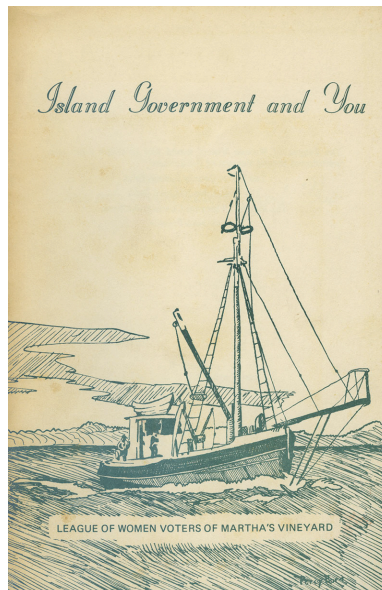
## PETTICOAT GOVERNMENT IN CHILMARK AT END

Chilmark, Feb. 8.—This little Martha's Vineyard town has had enough of petticoat government. At the town meeting last night the voters not only threw the three women office holders out of power but abolished their offices.

The women were Mrs. Bartley Mathew and Mrs. Evelyn M. Adams, field drivers, and Mrs. Hope Flanders, pound keeper. They were elected at the annual meeting last year to appease those who thought women ought to have representation in the town government.

### ***"Petticoat Government in Chilmark at End"***

*Fall River Daily Evening News,*  
February 8, 1923



### ***"Island Government and You"***

c. 1970

**League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard**

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 175, Martha's Vineyard Women Voters Collection



### ***"Your Vote Makes a Difference"***

c. 1970

**League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard**

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 175, Martha's Vineyard Women Voters Collection



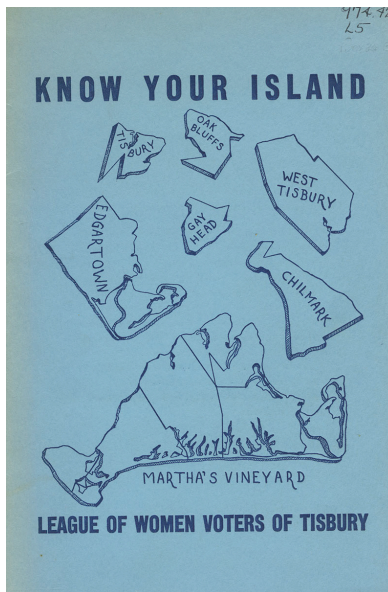


***"Our Island Government"***

c. 1970

**League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard**

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 175, Martha's Vineyard Women Voters Collection



***"Know Your Island"***

c. 1970

**League of Women Voters of Martha's Vineyard**

Martha's Vineyard Museum, RU 175, Martha's Vineyard Women Voters Collection