

1920-2020

100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

19th Amendment: Passed by Congress June 4, 1919 • Ratified on August 18, 1920

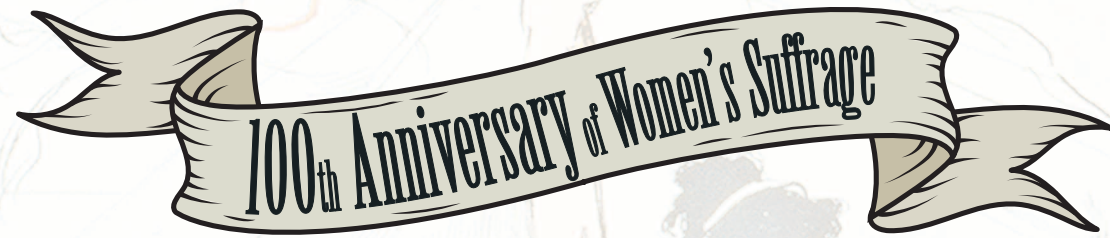


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SENATOR JUDITH L. SCHWANK
11TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Biographies of Suffragists



Birth	Suffragists
1785-1874	• Margaret Wilson Pryor
1793-1880	• Lucretia Mott
1810-1875	• Harriet Forten Purvis
1812-1889	• Jane Clothier Master Hunt
1826-1903	• Eliza L. Sproat Turner
1838-1909	• Caroline "Carrie" Burnham Kilgore
1855-1948	• Gertrude Emily Hicks Bustill Mossell
1862-1928	• Dora Lewis
1875-1935	• Alice Dunbar-Nelson
1880-1962	• Lucy Kennedy Miller
1881-1963	• Mary B. Archer
1881-1963	• Jennie Bradley Roessing
1883-1965	• Daisy Elizabeth Adams Lampkin
1885-1977	• Alice Paul
1888-1968	• Caroline Katzenstein

State Senator



Judith L.
Schwank

Dear Reader,

This year marks the centennial anniversary of women's suffrage – that means women in America have had the right to vote for 100 years. I've worked with the Berks County Women's Commission and the Women's Vote Centennial 2020 to celebrate this historic anniversary, which is why we've created this book about women who've had a lasting impact on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In this book you will read the stories of Pennsylvanian women who fought for many years for women to have the right to vote. They were once kids like you, they played with their friends and spent time learning about the world.

They are examples that each of us can make a positive difference in our world. These women knew what needed to be done and worked hard to accomplish their goals. I hope they inspire you to do the same.

Sincerely,

Judy Schwank

Senator Judith L. Schwank
State Senator- 11th District





Margaret Wilson
Pryor
1785-1874

Margaret Pryor was born in Philadelphia to a Quaker family. She was known to family and friends as "Aunt Margaret." While Pryor spent much of her life advocating for women's rights, she was also involved in the Hicksite Quaker reforms and the abolition of slavery. Her passion and determination to implement change by combatting social injustice led her to attend the first women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, New York, on July 19-20, 1848. In the 1868 presidential election, Pryor and many other women voted in protest of the laws that prevented women from participating in elections. The courage of Pryor and the women who stood with her against voting discrimination inspired the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA) to strategize a similar, more organized form of voting protest.



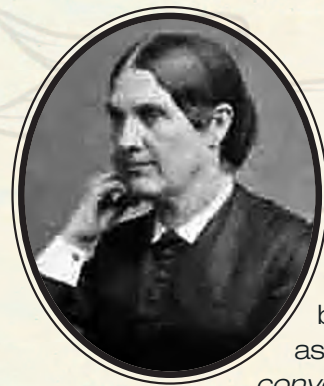
Harriet
Forten Purvis
1810-1875

African American abolitionist and suffragist. Purvis founded the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society with Lucretia Mott and several other women and remained an active member for many years. In her work to end slavery, Purvis initiated the Free Produce Movement that boycotted produce and cotton grown and picked by slaves. Purvis helped slaves who were escaping their masters on the Underground Railroad. She provided them with clothing, money and shelter in her home. Purvis's involvement with the Underground Railroad led her and her family to move from central Philadelphia to the rural outskirts of Byberry, Pennsylvania. When women were not included in the 15th Amendment allowing freed male slaves the right to vote, Purvis joined with her friend Susan B. Anthony and the National Woman Suffrage Association to support a constitutional amendment for women's suffrage.



Lucretia
Mott
1793-1880

Lucretia Mott was born on Nantucket Island, Massachusetts, and spent much of her life in Philadelphia. Mott was a Quaker minister who became one of the most prominent women's rights activists of her time. After being denied entry to anti-slavery conventions abroad, and being criticized for being an outspoken woman in the United States, Mott joined Elizabeth Cady Stanton and three other women to organize the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848. Seneca Falls was the first women's rights convention in U.S. history, and was attended by almost 200 people, including famous abolitionist Fredrick Douglas. After Seneca Falls, Mott continued publicly speaking about the need for women's equality and published the "Discourse on Women" detailing the history of the oppression of women. Mott was also a part of the founding of Swarthmore College, and insisted the institution educate both men and women equally.



Jane Clothier
Master Hunt
1812-1889

Jane Clothier Master Hunt was born in Philadelphia in 1812, and moved to Waterloo, New York, in 1845 with her husband Richard Pell Hunt. Hunt is best known for hosting founders of the Seneca Falls Convention in her home as they planned the convention. The women announced that it would be "a convention to discuss the social, civic and religious condition and rights of woman." The Seneca Falls Conventions, held in New York on July 19-20, 1848, was a pivotal moment for the women's rights movement in the United States. Hunt died in 1889 in Chicago, Illinois.

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Eliza L.
Sproat Turner
1826-1903

Eliza Sproat Turner was born in Philadelphia in 1826. She was an abolitionist, a suffragist, and a women's club founder and leader. Her Quaker beliefs developed her desire for a peaceful society that promoted the equality of all races and genders. Turner was a member of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society (PFASS) and a leader of the Women's Congress. She also distributed the publication "New Century for Women" for the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876. The following year she helped found the New Century Club for women. In 1882, Turner was instrumental in the establishment of the New Century Guild of Working Women, known today as the New Century Trust. The organization continues to work to build the economic and political power of women and girls throughout the Southeastern Pennsylvania region through grant funding.



Gertrude Emily Hicks
Bustill Mossell
1855-1948

Gertrude E. H. Bustill Mossell was born to a prominent African American family in Philadelphia in 1855. Mossell was first published in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) publication "The Christian Recorder" immediately after graduating from school. By 1885, Mossell became the woman's editor for the "New York Age" and was the woman's editor of the "Indianapolis World" from 1891 to 1892. Through her work in journalism, and her book "The Work of Afro-American Women" (1894), Mossell encouraged women, specifically women of color, to engage in the fight for suffrage, to seek higher education and to enter journalism themselves.



Caroline "Carrie"
Burnham Kilgore
1838-1909

Caroline "Carrie" Burnham Kilgore moved to Philadelphia to teach after obtaining a medical degree in Boston, Massachusetts, in the early 1860s. After attempting to vote in 1871 and having her ballot rejected, Kilgore sued the state of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court heard Kilgore's case, and ruled that the constitution did not give women the right to vote. Kilgore then attempted to enroll at the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1871, in 1873, and 1874. After years of independent study with the support of her husband (a practicing lawyer), Kilgore was finally accepted into the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1881. She was the first woman lawyer in Philadelphia and the first woman admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1886. She was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1890.



Dora
Lewis
1862-1928

Dora Lewis was born in 1862 to a prominent Philadelphia family. As a wealthy widow, she began working for the women's suffrage movement through the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Her first major project with the organization was to increase support for a federal women's suffrage amendment. Lewis was one of the first members of the National Woman's Party (NWP), which formed in 1916. Her involvement with suffrage put her in conflict with law enforcement many times. On November 14, 1917, while serving time in prison with other suffragists for protesting for the right to vote, Lewis and 32 others were beaten so severely by prison guards that Lewis was thought to be dead at one point. Today, the incident is referred to as "The Night of Terror." This treatment did not stifle Lewis's courage to continue her work with the National Woman's Party, and she was arrested during protests several times after the "Night of Terror". Lewis continued traveling the country and fighting for the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

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Alice
Dunbar-Nelson
1875-1935

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1875, Alice Dunbar-Nelson became a teacher in 1892. She had her first book, *"Violets and Other Tales"*, published in 1885. After moving from New York to Delaware, Dunbar-Nelson became active in both the civil rights and suffrage movements, using her writing skills to articulate the effects of racial and gender discrimination. In 1915, she was field organizer for the Middle Atlantic States in the campaign for women's suffrage, and during World War I, she served as a field representative of the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense. After the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920, Dunbar-Nelson continued to fight for racial justice and the civil rights movement until her death in Philadelphia in 1935.



Mary B.
Archer
1881-1963

Mary B. Archer was one of the founding members of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women in 1927. A Lifelong resident of Berks County, Archer was instrumental in raising funds for those in need during World War I. Under her leadership, the City of Reading contributed five times more than the national average to relief funds for the war. After her service to the war efforts, and the eventual passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, Archer led the efforts of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, and became the first female member of the National Committee of the Democratic Party. She was also the first female member of the Berks County Prison Board, and the first president of the Berks County League of Women Voters, and founded the Animal Rescue League of Berks County in 1952.



Lucy
Kennedy Miller
1880-1962

Lucy Kennedy Miller served as chairwoman of the Pittsburgh suffrage movement during some of the movement's most crucial years. She founded the State Suffrage Organization in 1912, with members traveling to Harrisburg to lobby legislators, and hosted local gatherings to present the argument for the vote for women. In 1915, Miller wrote an appeal on behalf of the Woman Suffrage Party to voters in Pennsylvania, encouraging them to ratify the 19th Amendment. When the Pennsylvania Legislature met in full session to ratify the 19th Amendment on June 24, 1919, Miller became the first woman to ever address the Pennsylvania Legislature. Miller also became a founding member of the Allegheny County League of Women Voters which grew from the suffrage movement and remains active to this day.



Jennie
Bradley Roessing
1881-1963

Jennie Bradley Roessing was a leader and active member of the suffrage movement in the Pittsburgh area during the early 1900s. Born in Pittsburgh in 1882, Roessing was introduced to the suffrage movement by her father on their many trips abroad to his native England. In 1904, Roessing organized the Allegheny County Equal Franchise Federation with fellow Pittsburgh suffragist Lucy Kennedy. Under Roessing's leadership, the Pennsylvania Woman Suffrage Association also organized the Justice Bell Tour, a four-month tour through Pennsylvania with a replica of the Liberty Bell with its clapper silenced until women won the right to vote. The tour's purpose was to continue lobbying for the passage of the women's suffrage bill, which was narrowly defeated in a statewide vote in November of 1915. After the failure at the state level, Roessing turned her attention to the national level. She lobbied both the Democratic and Republican national conventions of 1916 to make suffrage a part of party platforms. It was through Roessing's and many other women's efforts that the 19th Amendment was finally adopted, and women gained the right to vote in 1920.

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Daisy Elizabeth
Adams Lampkin

1883-1965

Daisy Elizabeth Adams Lampkin was born in 1883 in Washington D.C., and spent much of her youth in Reading, Pennsylvania. Lampkin moved to Pittsburgh where she developed her passion for social justice and began organizing consumer protest groups for black housewives. She was elected president of the Lucy Stone Woman Suffrage League in 1915, where she organized for suffrage for black women. Lampkin also served as national organizer and chair of the executive board for the National Association of Colored Women. She served as the vice chair of the Negro Voters League of Pennsylvania in the 1920s, after the passage of the 19th Amendment. Lampkin was also an active member of the NAACP, increasing membership in the organization throughout the 1930s. In 1964, Lampkin was awarded the Eleanor Roosevelt-Mary McLeod Bethune World Citizenship Award from the National Council of Negro Women for her dedication to racial and gender equality.



Caroline
Katzenstein

1888-1968

Caroline Katzenstein was born in North Carolina in 1888 and moved to Philadelphia in 1907 at the age of 19 with her three sisters. During the fight for suffrage, Katzenstein served in official positions for the Equal Franchise Society of Philadelphia, the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) and the National Woman's Party. Rifts in the movement formed when famed suffragist Alice Paul brought her more militant style of advocacy for a women's right to vote to Philadelphia. The National American Woman Suffrage Association rejected the use of militant tactics. The two opposing sides disagreed on the most effective tactics for their campaigns, but Katzenstein remained a unifying force within the movement. After the passage of the 19th Amendment, Katzenstein worked in the insurance industry. She continued to fight for women's economic rights in both labor and marriage legislation. Katzenstein wrote the book *"Lifting the Curtain"* detailing the history of suffrage and the women's labor rights movements in Pennsylvania. She also lobbied tirelessly for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendments until her death in January of 1968.



Alice
Paul

1885-1977

Alice Paul was one of the most active leaders of the women's suffrage movement, helping to secure the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920 and authoring the Equal Rights Amendment in 1923. After obtaining her master's degree from the New York School of Philanthropy (*which is now Columbia University*), Paul spent time in Britain where she first became involved with the women's suffrage movement. While working on her PhD at the University of Pennsylvania, Paul joined the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) and was appointed as head of the Congressional Committee working towards the passage of the 19th Amendment. Paul also organized over 1,000 people as *"Silent Sentinels"* who protested outside of the White House for 18 months in their fight for suffrage. After being arrested at this protest, Paul was imprisoned for seven months, but was released following public sympathy for her and the suffrage movement. Paul spent the rest of her life advocating for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. Despite the Equal Rights Amendment being ratified by 38 states as of January 2020, the U.S. House of Representatives still faces hurdles in the final passage of the amendment because the deadline for its passage was 1982.

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Suffrage Timeline



(1776 – 1868)

- 1776 – 1802 ● New Jersey's constitution grants women the vote.
- 1838 ● Kentucky widows with children in school are granted the right to vote in school board elections.
- June 1840 ● Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott meet at The World Antislavery Convention in London.
- July 13, 1848 ● Mott, Stanton and three others plan a meeting to discuss women's rights.
- July 19 – 20, 1848 ● Three hundred gather at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Seneca Falls, NY. Frederick Douglass argues for a suffrage plank in the "*Declaration of Sentiments*" signed by 68 women and 32 men.
- April 19 – 20, 1850 ● Woman's Rights Convention in Salem, Ohio.
- October 23 – 24, 1850 ● First National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester, MA with 1,000 in attendance.
- March 1851 ● Susan B. Anthony and Stanton meet.
- May 28 – 29, 1851 ● Sojourner Truth speaks at woman's rights convention in Akron, Ohio.
- June 2 – 3, 1852 ● First Woman's Rights Convention in Pennsylvania at West Chester.
- May 14, 1863 ● Anthony and Stanton organize the National Women's Loyal League which collects 400,000 signatures petitioning Congress to abolish slavery.
- May 1, 1866 ● Stanton, Anthony and Mott form interracial American Equal Rights Association in Philadelphia to work toward suffrage for women and Negroes.
- 1866 ● Petition with 10,000 signatures presented to Congress advocating amendment prohibiting disenfranchisement on basis of sex.
- 1867 ● Kansas rejects women suffrage amendment that was put to a direct vote.
- 1868 ● The Fourteenth Amendment defines "*male*" as a citizen for the first time in the Constitution.
- November 3, 1868 ● In Vineland, New Jersey, 172 women, both black & white, cast ballots in a separate box.
- December 1868 ● Federal women's suffrage amendment is first introduced in Congress.

(1869 – 1896)

- May 1869 ● Anthony and Stanton found National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA) and address other women's rights issues.
- November 18, 1869 ● Lucy Stone, Julia Ward Howe and others found American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA) of more conservative activists to work on suffrage by amending state constitutions.
- December 22, 1869 ● PA Women's Suffrage Association is founded and aligns with AWSA.
- February 3, 1870 ● The 15th amendment is ratified.
- December 1871 ● Petition for women's voting rights is submitted to Senate and House.
- November 1872 ● For casting a ballot with several other women, Anthony is arrested in NY and fined \$100.
- 1872 – 73 ● Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention defeats a proposal for a popular referendum on suffrage.
- 1876 ● Anthony and Matilda Joslyn Gage disrupt Centennial program in Philadelphia to present a "Declaration of Rights for Women."
- 1878 ● Sen. A. A. Sargent introduces a suffrage amendment with same wording which is later adopted.
- 1880 ● Mary Ann Shadd Cary organized the Colored Women's Progressive Franchise Association in Washington, D.C.
- 1882 ● Both houses of Congress appoint a Select Committee on Woman Suffrage and report the measure favorably.
- 1884 ● Harriet Purvis Jr., an African American, was on the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Woman Suffrage Association.
- January 25, 1887 ● The Senate defeats the first vote on woman suffrage 34 to 16, with 25 members absent.
- July 10, 1890 ● Wyoming is admitted to the Union, becoming 1st state since New Jersey to grant women full enfranchisement in its state constitution. The territory granted suffrage in 1869.
- 1890 ● AWSA and NWSA merge to become the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) working on state campaigns with the goal of a federal amendment.
- 1890 ● South Dakota campaign for suffrage fails.
- 1893 ● Colorado adopts woman suffrage.
- 1896 ● Two organizations of women's clubs merged to become the National Association of Colored Women with Mary Church Terrell as first president.
- 1896 ● Utah becomes a state, granting women full suffrage.
- 1896 ● Idaho adopts woman suffrage.

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Suffrage Timeline



(1902 – 1915)

- 1902 ● Philadelphia Society of Friends organizes Equal Rights Association.
- 1910 ● Washington state adopts woman suffrage.
- 1911 ● California adopts woman suffrage.
- 1912 ● Suffrage parade in New York City draws ½ million on lookers.
- 1912 ● Oregon, Kansas and Arizona adopt woman suffrage.
- February 10, 1913 ● First meeting of the Reading branch of the Pennsylvania State Woman's Suffrage League is held. 200 women are turned away due to lack of room.
- March 3, 1913 ● D.C. parade led by Alice Paul is beset by a mob.
- September 1913 ● Berks County Suffrage Association allies with state organization.
- December 1913 ● Frances Addison Mason Wrenshall, Reading suffrage leader, joins delegation to meet with President Wilson to urge him to support suffrage.
- December 1913 ● NAWSA expels Alice Paul and other militants of Congressional Union.
- 1913 ● Alice Paul and Lucy Barns form Congressional Union as auxiliary of NAWSA to work for federal amendment.
- 1913 ● The Alaska Territory adopts woman suffrage.
- 1913 ● Illinois becomes the first state to grant presidential suffrage by legislative enactment.
- 1913 ● Southern States Woman Suffrage Conference is formed.
- 1914 ● Montana and Nevada adopt woman suffrage.
- January 1915 ● Merger of Reading Suffrage Assoc. and local branch of Woman's Suffrage Party of Berks County.
- 1915 ● 500,000 petition Congress for woman suffrage.

(1915 – 1920)

- 1915 ● 40,000 parade in NYC for suffrage—the largest parade ever held there.
- 1915 ● Liberty Bell replica with clapper silenced until women get suffrage travels throughout Pennsylvania, stopping in Reading.
- October 5, 1915 ● Anna Howard Shaw, president of NAWSA, speaks in Reading.
- 1915 ● Suffrage measures defeated in New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.
- August 1916 ● State chapters endorse NAWSA's "*Winning Plan*" to secure federal suffrage amendment.
- 1917 ● New York adopts woman suffrage.
- January 10, 1917 ● National Woman's Party (NWP), formerly Congressional Union, pickets White House 24/7.
- June 22, 1917 ● NWP pickets are arrested for obstructing traffic. Some are sentenced up to 6 months in jail under horrendous conditions. Some go on hunger strikes.
- November 27 – 28, 1917 ● Government unconditionally releases pickets.
- 1918 ● Michigan, South Dakota and Oklahoma adopt woman suffrage.
- January 9, 1918 ● President Wilson first states his public support of federal woman suffrage amendment.
- September 30, 1918 ● President Wilson addresses Senate, arguing for woman suffrage at war's end.
- January 6, 1919 ● NWP burns Wilson's speeches and comments in an urn outside White House.
- May 21, 1919 ● House of Representatives passes federal woman suffrage amendment (19th), 304 to 89.
- June 4, 1919 ● Senate passes 19th Amendment, 56 to 25.
- June 24, 1919 ● Pennsylvania becomes 7th state to ratify 19th Amendment.
- February 14, 1920 ● NAWSA founds League of Women Voters.
- August 18, 1920 ● Tennessee becomes the 36th state to ratify the Amendment.
- August 26, 1920 ● The 19th Amendment is signed into law granting women the right to vote.

Compiled by Susie Stanley and Mary Ellen Heckman.
Adapted from "One Woman, One Vote" with permission (Educational Film Center, 1995)

1920



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Pennsylvania Suffrage



Suffragists with a replica of the Liberty Bell or "Justice Bell." - 1915



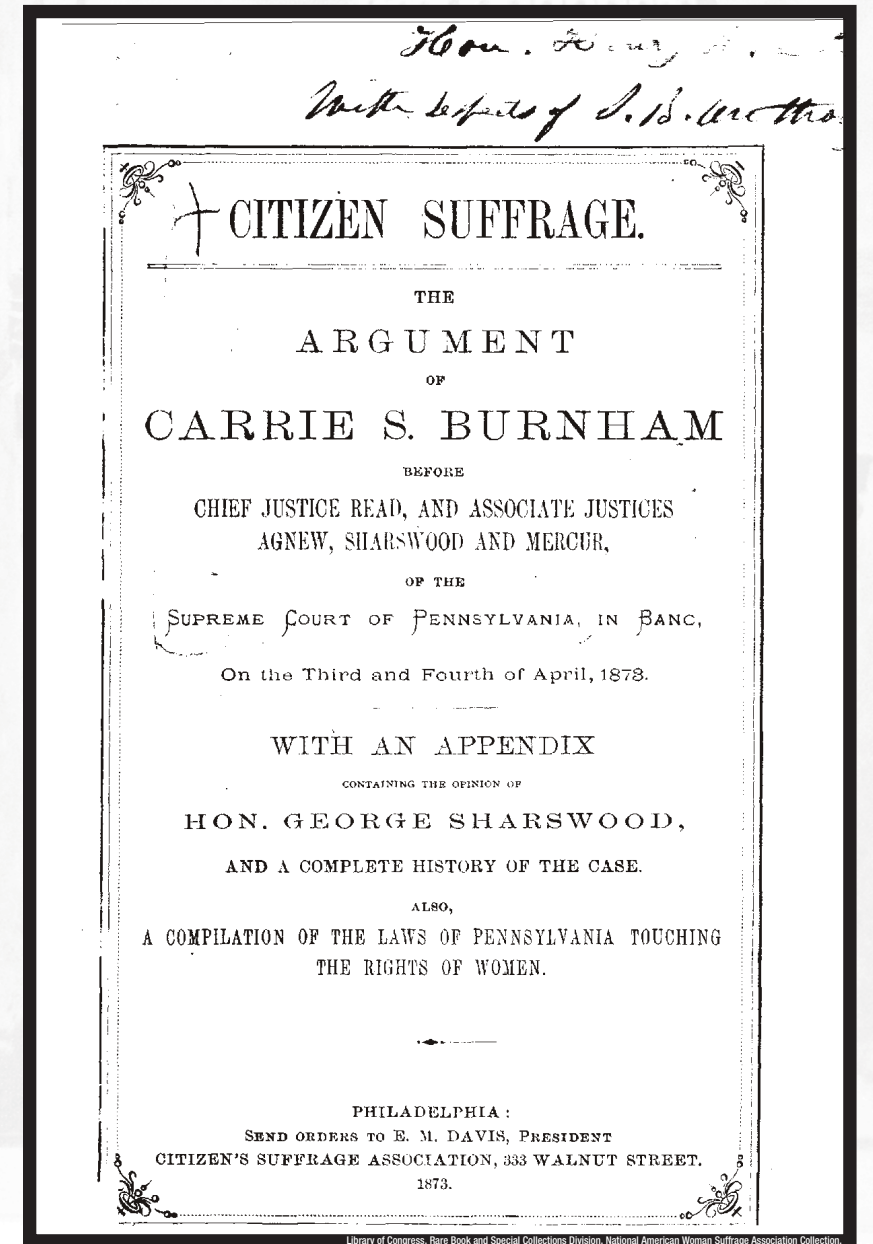
Governor William Cameron Sproul of Pennsylvania signing suffrage amendment while two suffragists watch. - 1919



Suffrage flag - 1919 or 1920



Pennsylvania Pickets - 1917



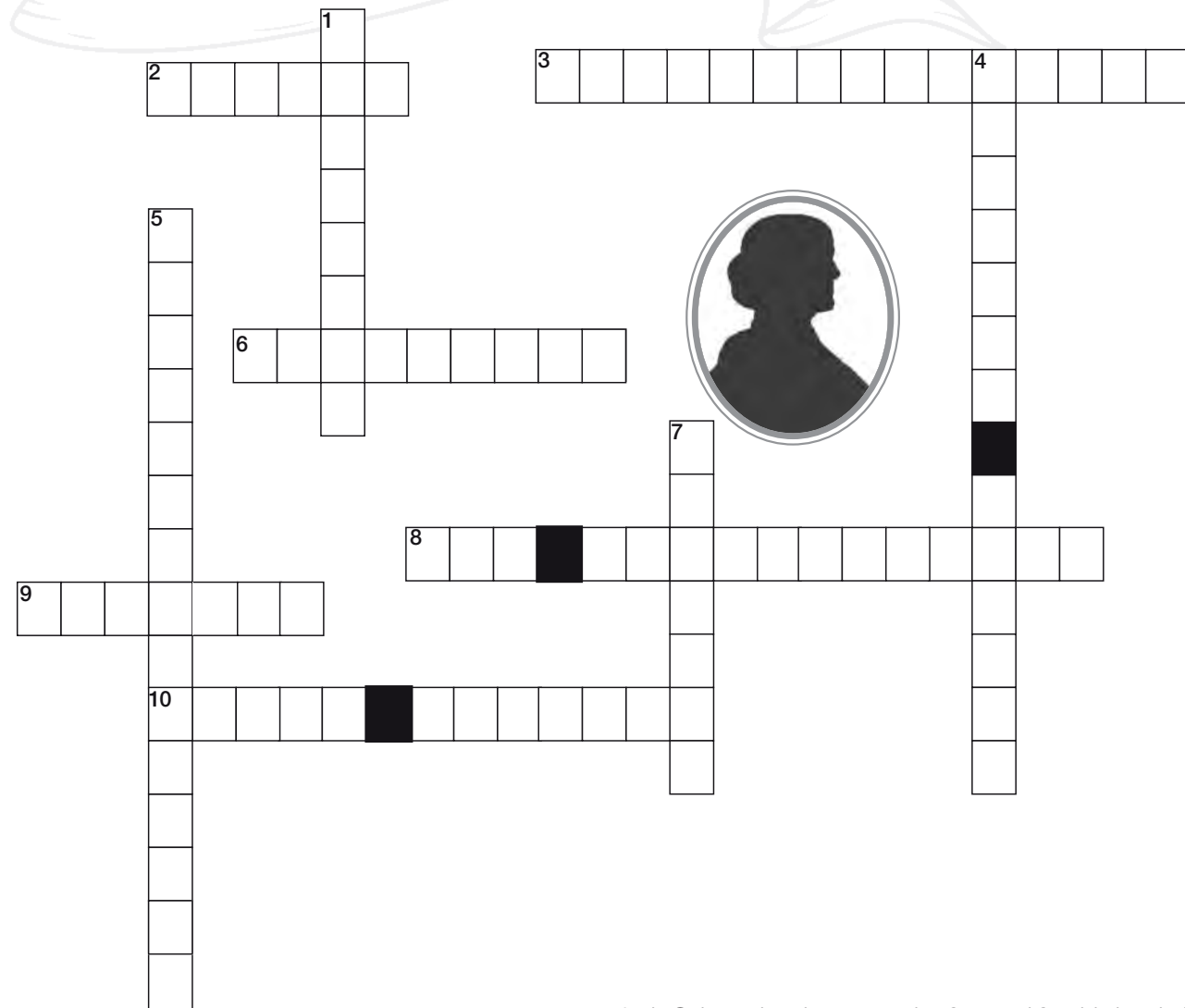
The argument of Carrie S. Burnham before Chief Justice Reed, and Associate Justices Agnew, Sharswood and Mercur, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in Banc, on the third and fourth of April, 1873; with an appendix containing the opinion of Hon. George Sharswood and a complete history of the case; also, a compilation of the laws of Pennsylvania touching the rights of women.

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Puzzle Crossword



ACROSS

- Oregon, Arizona and this state adopted woman suffrage in 1912.
- This happened to a replica the Liberty Bell as part of a four-month campaign in 1915 until women won the right to vote.
- The Federal women's suffrage _____ was first introduced in Congress in 1868.
- All of the women in this book had a lasting impact on _____ of Pennsylvania. (*Two words*)
- Susan B. _____ was one of the most recognized leaders of the Suffrage Movement and was friends to many Pennsylvania Suffragists.

- Judy Schwank, who wrote the forward for this book, is one and represents much of Berks County. (*Two words*)

DOWN

- This happened to the 15th amendment on February 3, 1870.
- Harriet Forten Purvis provided clothing, money and shelter to _____. (*Two words*)
- Women were granted full _____ in Wyoming's state constitution in 1890.
- Mary B. Archer was one of the founding _____ of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women.

Puzzle Trivia

Use the biographies in this book to find the woman who matches the description.

Suffragists

- Alice Paul
- Daisy Elizabeth Adams Lampkin
- 1920
- Alice Dunbar-Nelson
- Harriet Forten Purvis
- Jennie Bradley Roessing
- Lucy Kennedy Miller
- Lucretia Mott
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Biography Description

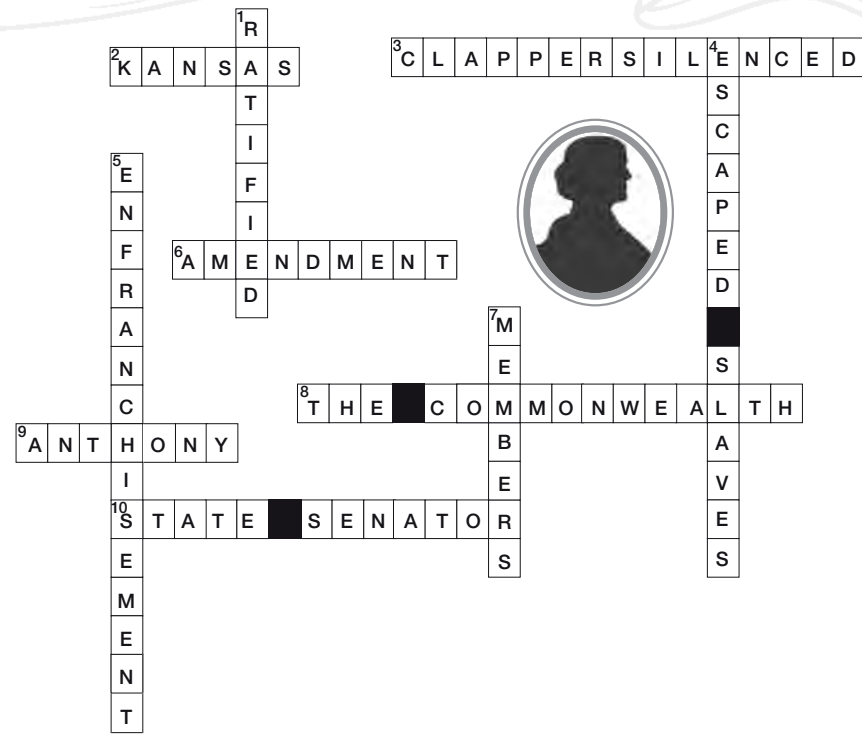
- _____ Whose first book was "*Violets and Other Tales*"?
- _____ Who organized the "*Silent Sentinels*"?
- _____ Who was the first female lawyer in Philadelphia?
- _____ Who received the Eleanor Roosevelt-Mary McLeod Bethune World Citizenship Award from the National Council of Negro Women?
- _____ Who was knocked unconscious while in prison?
- _____ Who provided clothes, money and shelter to escaped slaves?
- _____ Who organized the Justice Bell Tour?
- _____ Who authored "*Discourse on Women*"?
- _____ Who was a lifelong Berks County resident?
- _____ Who was a founding member of the Allegheny County League of Women Voters?
- _____ In what year was the 19th Amendment signed into law?
- _____ Who encouraged women, specifically women of color, to engage in the fight for suffrage?

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Puzzle Answers



Suffragists

- Alice Paul
- Daisy Elizabeth Adams Lampkin
- 1920
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Biography Description

- Whose first book was "*Violets and Other Tales*"?
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Did you Know?

The Justice Bell & The Justice Bell Tour



You can visit a replica of the Justice Bell, which itself was fashioned after the Liberty Bell, at Washington Chapel in Pennsylvania's Valley Forge National Park. The Justice Bell was created in 1915 to bring awareness to the women's suffrage movement.



Casting the Suffrage "Liberty Bell" at Troy.



Women voting in Pennsylvania.

The 19th Amendment

which granted women the **right to vote**, was ratified on August 18, 1920. Approximately **8 million** women used their **right to vote** for the **first time** on November 2, 1920.

Almost one hundred years later, approximately **74 million** women voted on November 8, 2016.



**STATE SENATOR
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