

Chapter 12 Section 3

A Call for Women's Rights

The Struggle Begins

- In 1820 women could not:

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– Married women could not own property or keep wages

– The view at the time: women belonged

- Some women got involved in abolitionism or other movements- demanded equal rights for everyone (including themselves)

The Struggle Begins

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 - Born a slave
 - Illiterate
 - Gave powerful speeches on behalf of slaves and women
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 - Quaker
 - Leader of abolitionist movement
 - The fact that Quakers gave women more freedoms allowed her to develop powerful organizing skills and speaking experience

Seneca Falls Convention

- 1840- Mott went to London for international anti-slavery meeting
- Met _____ (her husband was a delegate to convention)
- Both tried to attend, told women could not actively participate
- Both upset, planned their own convention on women's rights
 - 1848- Seneca Falls, NY-

 - Attended by over 300 men and women

Seneca Falls Convention

- Declaration of Sentiments
 - “We hold these truths to be self evident: that all men and women are created equal...”
 - Listed injustices- lack of education and job equality
 - Demanded

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Seneca Falls Convention

- Call for Suffrage
 - Women's suffrage
(_____) in Dec. of Sent.
By Stanton
 - Not everyone agreed:
 - Frederick Douglass all for it, Lucretia Mott not
 - Afraid it would be too controversial and would hurt cause
 - Voted and narrowly passed at convention
 - Launched the women's rights movement in America

New Opportunities for Women

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became close ally to Stanton

- Anthony, unmarried, could travel and devote herself to cause
- Stanton had brood of children, wrote speeches and worked from home
- Together founded

_____ in 1869

- Slow start- 1860- NY allowed women to own property, some other states allowed them to keep wages

New Opportunities

- Education for Women
 - Most schools did not offer much math and science to girls
 - 1821- _____ - Troy
Female Seminary in Troy, NY
 - Grew quickly, became very prestigious
 - 1837- _____ - Mount
Holyoke Female Seminary in MA
 - First [unofficial] women's college
 - Taught Latin, chemistry, geometry

New Careers

- First professional career widely accepted for women:

- Margaret Fuller- journalist, scholar, literary critic
 - Paid for public speeches (illegal)
 - *Women in the Nineteenth Century*
 - Called for equal rights to men
- Elizabeth Blackwell- Geneva Medical College, first in her class in 1849
 - First women to graduate from American med school
- Maria Mitchell- astronomer- 1st professor hired at Vassar College
 - First women in American Academy of Arts and Sciences