

Law Day Entry--Murphy Barnett, Alcott Middle School

Thursday, July 20, 1848
Seneca Falls, New York

Dearest Mary,

I am writing to you to tell you about this amazing convention I attended yesterday. It was called the Seneca Falls Convention and it was all about our rights as women. It's a two day convention that women could attend! Men could attend today, July 20th, but the first day was exclusively for women!

It was held at the Wesleyan Church in Seneca Falls, New York, which is not too far from home. There were 300 people at the convention. I have never seen so many people who are passionate about the same thing all in one place! Being around so many women who believe in our rights gave me goosebumps--there has never been another gathering quite like this, so I can't believe I got to be part of it. Did you know that it was organized by women? They did an amazing job and I'm so glad that I got to be here.

We discussed twelve resolutions and a list of grievances called the Declaration of Sentiments and Grievances, which encourages women like you and me to stand up for our rights. It was really interesting to see how passionate these women are and what changes it could make for the future. Some very interesting people spoke on the subjects, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, the planners of the convention. Their speeches were all very empowering. Tomorrow, we will hear from a gentleman named Frederick Douglass, who also believes that we should have the right to vote!

The Declaration of Sentiments is one of our main purposes for being here and has been the topic of some very interesting discussion and debate. Tomorrow, we can choose to sign the document if we would like--and I am going to. We are still trying to decide if men should sign it. I cannot wait to see how many people will come forward to sign our Declaration tomorrow.

This whole thing is so exciting! I feel like this could lead to a whole movement for women's rights! I will send more news after the convention ends, and I can't wait to share what I learn with you. There is talk of an even bigger gathering for women that might take place in a few weeks. Perhaps we could meet there?

*Sincerely,
Your friend,*

Sarah