

# Louise Achey Kennedy

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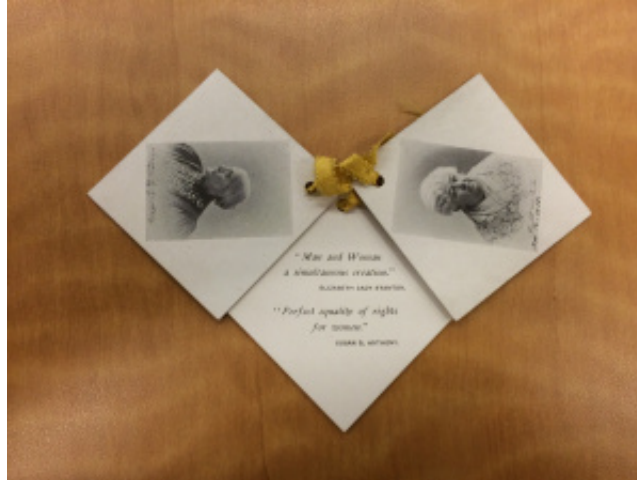


<https://womensuffragemovementindayton.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/louise-achey-kennedy1.jpg>

## A Social Matron and Suffragette

She, like her daughter Katharine Kennedy Brown, was involved in the Women's Suffrage Movement and was active for many years in the social and political sphere (especially after the death of her child and husband). Brown also worked with her daughter's mother-in-law Martha McClellan Brown, a well know advocate for Anti-Slavery, Temperance and Women's Suffrage. There is not much documentation on the level of Kennedy's involvement, but the fact that she was so close to two women who were prominent in the movement, along with some of the memorabilia in her collection, show she too was a suffrage supporter. For example, her collection contains a cabinet card with pictures of and quotes from Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. The cabinet card is attributed to belonging to her daughter's mother-in-law Martha McClellan Brown; however, the accuracy of this is unclear (MS-281, 6). An unsigned typed list of her attributes, describes her as possessing, "Straightforwardness, dependability, brusqueness, boldness, honesty, frankness, outspoken and truthful nature . . ." (MS-404, 6). She most likely would have

attended lectures on the subject with her daughter and daughter's mother-in-law, and there were advertisements and pamphlets on lectures in Martha McClellan Brown's collection, which support this idea (MS-147, 9). It is also likely that she attended the first Woman's Suffrage Parade in Dayton held on October 24, 1914 due to her levels of activity within multiple Woman's Suffrage movements in the Dayton, Ohio area.



<https://womensuffragemovementindayton.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/elizabeth-cady-stanton-and-susan-b-anthony-cabinet-card-with-quotation.jpg>

## Her Life



<https://womensuffragemovementindayton.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/4-generations-louise-achey-kennedy-mary-sherwood-katharine-kennedy-brown-and-frances-sherwood-achey-c-1892-95.jpg>

Louise Achey Kennedy was a social matron and activist in the Dayton Suffrage Movement. She was born in Dayton, Ohio in 1860 to John Jacob Achey and Frances "Fanny" Sherwood Achey. She later married Grafton Claggett Kennedy, a prominent Dayton attorney. They had two children: Katharine Kennedy (Brown)

born in 1891, who would become an advocate for women's suffrage in her own right and Graften Sherwood "Duke" Kennedy born in 1893 (MS-281 Finding Aid, 3). Within her collection, there are items relating to the Women's Suffrage Movement such as a cabinet card of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, among other items indicating her involvement in other political and social organizations (MS-281 Finding Aid, 6). She was also involved with other groups in Dayton, such as the Jonathan Dayton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); she was a genealogical researcher both as a hobby and for the DAR (MS-281 Finding Aid, 3). Three of the other seven women were also involved in the DAR with Louise – including her daughter Katharine, Charlotte Reeve Conover and Jesse Leech Davisson (MS-244 Finding Aid, 2-3). Her daughter, Katharine Kennedy Brown, returned to live with her at the family's Duncarrick Mansion after the tragic death of her only child in infancy and shortly thereafter her husband as well. Louise Achey Kennedy's own mother lived with her after the death of her husband (MS-281 Finding Aid, 3).



<https://womensuffragemovementindayton.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/dar-page-26th-continental-congressional-1917-ribbon.jpg>



<https://womensuffragemovementindayton.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/dar-page-27th-continental-congress-1918-ribbon.jpg>

**Photo 1 Citation:** Louise Achey Kennedy, n.d. (WSU Special Collections and Archives).

**Photo 2 Citation:** Cabinet Card of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony with quotation card reading "Man and Woman a simultaneous creation." – Elizabeth Cady Stanton – "Perfect equality of rights for women." – Susan B. Anthony," n.d. (WSU Special Collections and Archives).

**Photo 3 Citation:** Louise Achey Kennedy (Left), Mary Sherwood (Front), Katharine Kennedy Brown (Back) and Frances Sherwood Achey (Right), c. 1892-95 (WSU Special Collections and Archives).

**Photo 4 Citation:** DAR PAGE 26th Continental Congress Sash, c. 1917 (WSU Special Collections and Archives).

**Photo 5 Citation:** DAR PAGE 27th Continental Congress Sash, c. 1918 (WSU Special Collections and Archives).

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