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VOING RIGHTS

United States v. Susan B. Anthony

STANDING TOGETHER WOMEN SHALL TAKE THEIR LIVES IN THEIR OWN KEEPING "Prisoner tried and convicted"

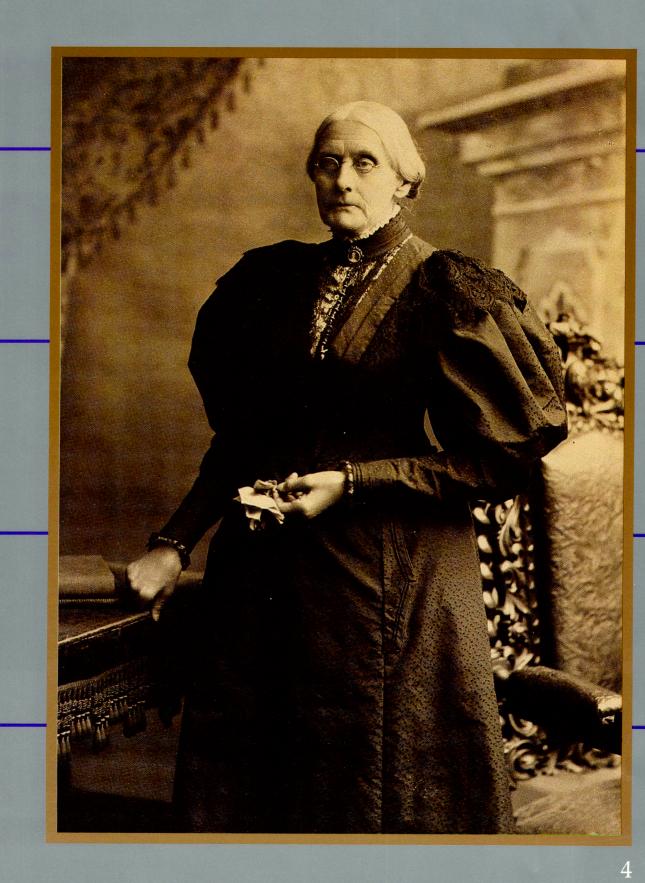
Indictment, January 24, 1873

The Bresident of the United States of America, to

GREETING:

WE COMMAND YOU, That you and every one of you be and appear in your proper persons before the Judges of the Circuit Court of the United States of America, for the Northern District of New York, in the Second Circuit, at a session of the said Court, appointed by law to be held at Connection in the said Northern District of New York, on the Famel Famel

3



Muited States district Court,
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

The United States of America

on.

Justin 13. Authory

INDICTMENT FOR ILLEGAL VOTING.

Jun 24/3. Please and guidg Richard Crowley
U. S. Attorney.

A TRUE BILL.

Draw and Market Foreign.

Original June 2. 187

ntil 1920 the laws of most states, including New York, prohibited women from voting. Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906), abolitionist, social reformer, and champion of woman suffrage, cast her ballot in New York in the 1872 national election, and thereby violated a federal law that required citizens to obey state voting regulations.

Her crime was part of a well-planned strategy to draw

Her crime was part of a well-planned strategy to draw attention to women's disfranchisement. In her federal trial, the court found the outspoken suffrage leader, "a person of the female sex," guilty of violating the law. The court denied her defense, that the new Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which prohibited states from abridging the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, made the New York State law invalid.

Although Susan B. Anthony lived for 86 years, she did not live long enough to see the fight for woman suffrage won. She died in 1906. It was not until 1920 that the Nineteenth Amendment, giving women the vote, became part of the U.S. Constitution.

Unless credited otherwise, documents are from the National Archives,

Records of District Courts of the United States.

1. "Indictment for Illegal Voting," January 24, 1873.

2. National Woman's Party suffrage banner, ca. 1917.

Division of Political History, Smithsonian Institution 3. Subpoena to witnesses, June 21, 1873.

4. Susan B. Anthony, 1898.

The National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution 5. "Record of Conviction," June 28, 1873.

6. Suffrage parade, New York City, ca. 1912.

National Archives, Records of the Office of War Information (208-PR-14M-1)

