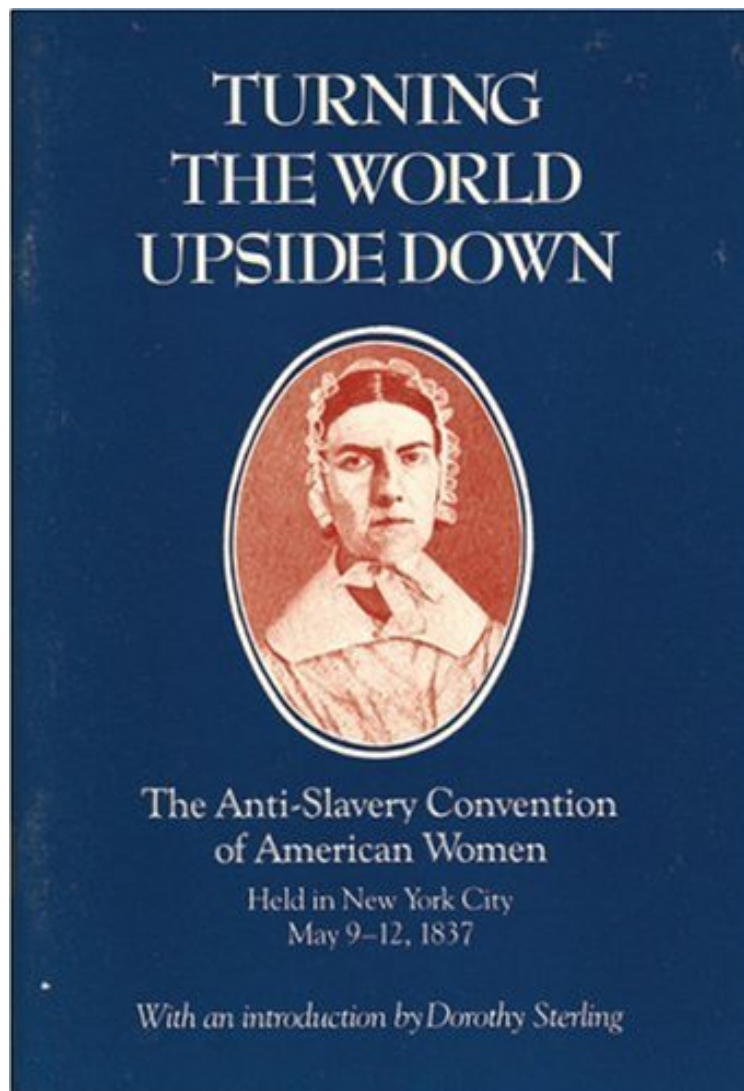


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Turning the World Upside Down: The Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women Held in New York City, May 9-12, 1837

Dorothy Sterling

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When 200 women from nine northern states came together 150 years ago "to constitute the first Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women," as Dorothy Sterling writes, "they were uncomfortably conscious of violating a powerful taboo." The meeting was "not only the first public political meeting of U.S. women. It was also the first interracial gathering of any consequence." This small volume documents that historic meeting, reprinting the actual proceedings of each day of the convention and recording the participation of such now well-known nineteenth-century feminists and abolitionists as Anna Blackwell, Lydia Maria Child, Mary Grew, Angelina Grimk, Sarah Grimk, Abby Kelley, Lucretia Mott, and Ann C. Smith. In addition to Dorothy Sterling's introduction, the book includes excerpts from the convention pamphlet "An Appeal to the Women of the Nominally Free States" outlining the responsibilities of the northern woman - through "her voice, her pen, and her purse" - to influence the overthrow of American Slavery.