

Mary Jane Austin Agate

Mary Jane Austin Agate was the first Secretary and Treasurer of the Pittsford Political Equality Club. Her notebook of Club meetings shows how Pittsford was connected to the hub of suffrage activity that operated out of the Rochester homes of Susan B. and Mary Anthony.

The second meeting of the Pittsford Club was held on September 13, 1902. Mary Agate wrote: **“Miss Mary Anthony sent us a surprise by coming out on the P. M. train. She sat by silently & modestly, but, apparently keenly alive to the questions of the hour. She was, however frequently referred to & gave helpful & practical advice to every call.”**

“Activism isn’t always marching and making speeches. Sometimes it is keeping records of important activist meetings, events, and even just writing down personal observations and thoughts, like Mary Jane did. Be aware that history is happening right now, all around you! Take some photos, paint a picture, or write a letter to the future, documenting your own everyday life and ideas!”
–Jean Armour Polly, distant cousin by marriage

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