



Sarah Knox-Goodrich (1825–1903) was a California women's rights activist during the late 19th century. Her first husband, William Knox, was a businessman, banker, and state politician. Her second husband, Levi Goodrich, was an architect in Southern California. Knox-Goodrich used her wealth and social position to influence state campaigns pushing for equal employment, school suffrage, and voting rights.

Clara Foltz, the first female lawyer on the West Coast, said, "Mrs. Knox is a widow of commanding personal appearance, an abundance of bank stock, and a wealth of...common sense, which she displayed at the polls on last Wednesday by protesting against taxation without representation."

In 1869, Sarah organized San Jose's first Women's Suffrage Association, which had 200 members by 1876. In the 1876 4th of July parade, Knox filled her carriage with prominent friends who carried signs that read "We are the disfranchised Class"; "We are taxed without being represented"; and "We are governed without our consent". She had requested a position at the back of the parade, as an illustration of women's legal position, but parade organizers insisted that her carriage be placed at the front.

Sarah L. Knox Goodrich

Knox-Goodrich was an officer in the California Suffrage Constitutional Amendment Campaign Association, formed in 1895 to direct and support the campaign to amend California's constitution and give women the right to vote. Knox-Goodrich hosted Susan B. Anthony at her home and accompanied her to Sacramento as a member of the suffrage delegation for the California Republican convention.

In addition to these activities, Knox-Goodrich donated money toward other women's rights causes. In 1888, she donated money for the founding meeting of the International Council of Women. She also contributed toward travel and expenses of other women working for women's suffrage. In 1889, Knox-Goodrich helped pay for Laura de Force Gordon, a journalist and leader of the California Women's Suffrage Society, to give a series of lectures in the Washington Territory. Knox-Goodrich was also a frequent contributor to *Women's Journal*, the *San Jose Mercury*, and the *New Northwest*.

Sarah Knox-Goodrich died at her home on October 30, 1903, leaving a sizable estate worth more than \$500,000.
