Lucretia Mott

Quaker Abolitionist and Suffragist

January 3, 1793 – November 11, 1880

1: Criticisms of American Society:  
Inferior position of women in society, lack of voting rights for everybody (women, slaves, etc.)

2: Methods:

As an abolitionist, she advocated for the right for former slaves to vote, and attended many conventions such as the world anti-slavery convention. As a Suffragist, she attended the Seneca Falls Convention, she was the first president of the American Equal Rights Association, she published lots of works such as the Declaration of Sentiments, Sermon to the Medical Students, and Discourse on Women.

3: Successes in Promoting Reform:

13th amendment was passed, and while she didn’t live long enough to see women get the right to vote, she was one of the most radical reformers of her day, strongly advocating for equal voting, education, and economic rights for all.

4: What details of the person’s work make them interesting:   
She was a very significant historical figure, and according to Susan Jacoby, "When Mott died in 1880, she was widely judged by her contemporaries... as the greatest American woman of the nineteenth century.".

5: To what extent was the reformer obsessed with achieving an impractical goal through fanatical or impractical means?

As she and many other saw it, women’s rights and the abolition of slavery were fairly practical goals and they did it through protest and assembly, both of which are practicle means.

6: Lasting impact on American Society;

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