NAME OF COLLECTION:
Foster, Abigail Kelley, Papers, 1836-1891
“F”

LOCATION(S):
Mss. boxes

SIZE OF COLLECTION:
two manuscript boxes (c. 500 items)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:
See accompanying sheets for additional information.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:
Gift of Hebert E. Kinney, 1950

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:
Abigail Kelley Foster (1811-1887), wife of Stephen Symonds Foster (1809-1881) and noted antislavery partisan and women’s rights advocate, was an active correspondent and lecturer on behalf of reform movements in the middle of the nineteenth century.

This collection of correspondence provides a detailed look at the anti-slavery movement in the period 1837 to 1850, particularly in New York, New England, and Ohio. It also illuminates the role of women in politics and reform movements, as well as that of reformers generally in politics. The collection details Foster’s many lecture tours and activities on behalf of a variety of reforms, and also illustrates her role among and influence upon major figures of the period. Principal correspondents include William Lloyd Garrison, Maria Weston Chapman, Gerrit Smith, Jane Elizabeth Hitchcock Jones, Parker Pillsbury, Sallie Holley, and Wendell Phillips.

The collection has been item-cataloged.

See Contents List.
American Antiquarian Society
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT

ABIGAIL KELLEY FOSTER, PAPERS, 1836-1975
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Box 2, Folder 35: “Letter from Wendell Phillips ... October 30, 1883”
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Box 2, Folder 37: “Fortieth Anniversary of the First Woman’s Rights Convention ...,” [1890 or 1891]
Box 2, Folder 38: Parker Pillsbury obituary, July 7, 1898
Box 2, Folder 40: “Abby Kelley and Stephen S. Foster with quotations from Manuscript in possession of the Worcester Historical Society. Compiled by Historical Records Survey[,] Works Progress Administration, 1938.”
Box 2, Folder 41: “Famous Old Worcester Houses” (re: Liberty Farm), by Esther C. Averill (from the Worcester Telegram, August 15, 1948
Box 2, Folder 42: “When the Tin Horn Sounds in Upton” by James R. Wheeler, from the Worcester Sunday Telegram, June 25, 1960
Box 2, Folder 43: “Bay State People of the Past” by Margaret Parsons (from the Worcester Evening Gazette, June 21, 1961)
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Box 2, Folder 45: Stephen Symonds Foster (includes last will and testament)
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American Antiquarian Society  
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT  
ABIGAIL KELLEY FOSTER, PAPERS, 1836-1975  
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