

Antislavery Pamphle Collection

1725-1911

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New England bears the peculiar historical distinction of being both a center of the slave trade and a center of early opposition to it. Beginning fitfully in the seventeenth century, both pro-slavery and antislavery sentiment grew side by side in the region.

The Antislavery Collection contains hundreds of printed pamphlets and books pertaining to slavery and antislavery in New England, 1725-1911. The holdings include speeches, sermons, proceedings and other publications of organizations such as the American Anti-Slavery Society and the American Colonization Society, and a small number of pro-slavery tracts.

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Background

New England bears the peculiar historical distinction of being both a center of the slave trade and a center of early opposition to it. Beginning fitfully in the seventeenth century, both pro-slavery and antislavery sentiment grew side by side in the region. As merchants in ports like Newport and Providence invested increasingly in the Triangular Trade and provided material commercial support for slaveholders in the southern United States and Caribbean, moral resistance to the slave trade, and eventually slavery itself, took root in a number of communities, including the African Americans communities and several communities of faith, including Quakers, Baptists, and Unitarians.

Scope of collection

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Collection inventory

(Digitized titles only)

American Anti-Slavery Society: <i>Declaration of Sentiments of the American Anti-Slavery Society</i>. New York: American Anti-Slavery Society	1833
American Anti-Slavery Society: <i>The Declaration of Sentiments and Constitution of the American Anti-Slavery Society</i>. New York: American Anti-Slavery Society	1835
Anonymous: <i>Christianity Versus Treason and Slavery. Religion Rebuking Sedition</i>. Philadelphia: H. B. Ashmead	1864
Anonymous: <i>Reply to the Reviewer of the Remarks on Dr. Channing's Slavery</i>. Boston: John H. Eastburn	1836
Association for the Religious Instructions of the Negroes in Liberty County, Georgia: <i>Sixth Annual Report</i>. Charleston: Observer Office Press	1841
Austin, Arthur W.: <i>Speech of Arthur W. Austin, of West Roxbury, at Charlestown, Mass., Nov. 1, 1856</i>. Charlestown, Mass.: s.n.	1856
Baker, J. L.: <i>Slavery</i>. Philadelphia: John A. Norton	1860
Barber, John Warner: <i>A History of the Amistad Captives: Being a Circumstantial Account of the Capture of the Spanish Schooner Amistad, by the Africans on Board</i>. . . New Haven: E.L. and J.W. Barber	1840
Bolles, John R.: <i>A Reply to Bishop Hopkins' View of Slavery, and a Review of the Times</i>. Philadelphia: J. W. Daughaday	1865
Boston Mass.. Citizens: <i>A Memorial to the Congress of the United States on the Subject of Restraining the Increase of Slavery in New States to be Admitted Into the Union</i>. Boston: Sewell Phelps	1819
Bushnell, Horace: <i>Crisis of the Church</i>. Hartford: Daniel	1835

Burgess and Co.

Butler, Thomas B.: <i>The Slave Question. Speech of Hon. T. B. Butler, of Connecticut, in the House of Representatives, March 12, 1850.</i> Wahington: Congressional Globe	1850
Chandler, Amariah: <i>The Use of Liberty by the Servant of God: A Discourse, Delivered July 4, 1833, in the North Meeting House, in Greenfield.</i> Greenfield, [Mass.]: Franklin Freeman	1833
Channing, William Ellery: <i>An Address Delivered at Lenox, on the First of August, 1842, the Anniversary of Emancipation in the British West Indies.</i> Lenox, Mass.: J. G. Stanly	1842
Chapman, Maria Weston: <i>What Can I Do To Help Abolish Slavery? Or, Counsels to the Newly Converted.</i> New York: American Anti-Slavery Society	1855
Cheever, Henry T.: <i>A Tract for the Times: On the Question, Is It Right to Withold Fellowship from Churches or from Individuals that Tolerate or Practise Slavery?.</i> New York: John A. Gray	1859
Church Anti-Slavery Society [Worcester, Mass.]: <i>Circular.</i> [Worcester, Mass.]: s.n.	1859
Citizen of New England [Pearl, Cyril]: <i>Remarks on African Colonization and the Abolition of Slavery.</i> Windsor, Vt.: Richards and Tracy	1833
Clark, Rufus W.: <i>Conscience and Law: A Discourse Preached in the North Church, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on Fast Day, April 3, 1851.</i> Boston: Tappan and Whittemore	1851
Clarke, James Freeman: <i>Slavery in the United States. A Sermon Delivered in Amory Hall, on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1842.</i> Boston: Benjamin H. Greene	1843
Clarke, Walter: <i>The American Anti-Slavery Society at War with the Church: A Discourse Delivered Before the First Congregational Church and Society, in Canterbury, Conn., June 30th, 1844.</i> Hartford: Elihu Geer	1844
Colonization Society of Connecticut: <i>An Address to the Public by the Colonization Society of Connecticut, with an Appendix.</i> New Haven: Treadway and Adams	1828
Convention of Ministers of Worcester County on the Subject of Slavery: <i>Proceedings of the Convention of Ministers of Worcester County, on the Subject of Slavery; Held at Worcester, December 5 and 6, 1837, and January 16, 1838.</i> Worcester: Massachusetts Spy	1838
Cooke, Parsons: <i>Moral Machinery Simplified: A Discourse, Delivered at Andover, Massachusetts, July 4, 1839.</i> Andover: William Peirce	1839

Craik, James: <i>Slavery in the South, Or, What is Our Present Duty to the Slaves?.</i> Boston: Prentiss and Deland	1862
Cuffe, Paul: <i>A Brief Account of the Settlement and Present Situation of the Colony of Sierra Leone, in Africa.</i> New York: Samuel Wood	1812
Dana, James: <i>The African Slave Trade: A Discourse Delivered in the City of New-Haven, September 9, 1790, Before the Connecticut Society for the Promotion of Freedom.</i> New Haven: Thomas and Samuel Green	1791
Davis, Charles G.: <i>Report of the proceedings at the examination of Charles G. Davis, Esq., on a charge of aiding and abetting in the rescue of a fugitive slave : held in Boston, in February, 1851..</i> Boston: White and Potter	1851
Dewey, Loring Daniel: <i>Correspondence Relative to the Emigration to Haiti, of the Free People of Colour, in the United States, Together with the Instructions to the Agent Sent Out by President Boyer.</i> New York: Mahlon Day	1824
Dickinson, James Taylor: <i>A Sermon, Delivered in the Second Congregational Church, Norwich, On the Fourth of July, 1834, At the Request of the Anti-Slavery Society of Norwich and Vicinity.</i> Norwich, [Conn.]: Anti-Slavery Society of Norwich and Vicinity	1834
Drisler, Henry: <i>The Bible View of Slavery Reconsidered. A Letter to the Right Rev. Bishop Hopkins, 2d ed..</i> Philadelphia: Henry B. Ashmead	1863
Dwight, Sereno Edwards: <i>Slave representation, by Boreas. Awake! O spirit of the North..</i> S.n.: s.l.	1812
Edwards, Jonathan: <i>The Injustice and Impolicy of the Slave Trade, and of the Slavery of the Africans, Illustrated in a Sermon. . . September 15, 1791, 3d ed..</i> New Haven: New Haven Anti-Slavery Society	1833
Everett, Edward: <i>Speech of Mr. Everett, of Massachusetts, Delivered in the Senate of the United States, Feb. 8, 1854, on the Nebraska and Kansas Territorial Bill.</i> Washington: Congressional Globe	1854
Finley, Robert: <i>Thoughts On the Colonization of Free Blacks.</i> Washington, D.C.: s.n.	1816
Fisher, George E.: <i>The Church, the Ministry, and Slavery: A Discourse, Delivered at Rutland, Mass., July 14, 1850.</i> Worcester: Henry J. Howland	1850
Fitzgerald, W. P. N.: <i>A Scriptural View of Slavery.</i> New Haven : s.n.	1839
Forman, J. G.: <i>The Fugitive Slave Law: A Discourse Delivered in the Congregational Church in West Bridgewater, Mass.,</i>	1850

on Sunday, November 17th, 1850. Boston: William Crosby and H. P. Nichols

Gannett, Ezra S.: <i>Relation of the North to Slavery: A Discourse Preached in the Federal Street Meetinghouse, In Boston, On Sunday, June 11, 1854.</i> Boston: Crosby, Nichols, and Co.	1854
Garrison, William Lloyd: <i>An Address, Delivered Before the Free People of Color, in Philadelphia, New-York, and Other Cities, During the Month of June, 1831.</i> Boston: Stephen Foster	1831
Gillette, Francis: <i>National Slavery and National Responsibility: Speech of Hon. Francis Gillette, of Connecticut, in the Senate of the United States, February 23d, 1855.</i> Washington, D.C.: Buell and Blanchard	1855
Hart, Levi: <i>Liberty Described and Recommended: in a sermon, preached to the corporation of freemen in Farmington, at their meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 1774, and published at their desire.</i> Hartford: E. Watson	1775
Hartford Conn.. Citizens: <i>A Declaration of the Sentiments of the People of Hartford, Regarding the Measures of the Abolitionists.</i> Hartford: s.n.	1835
Hartford Auxiliary Colonization Society: <i>Constitution of the Hartford Auxiliary Colonization Society.</i> Hartford: Lincoln and Stone	1819
Hicks, Elias: <i>Observations on the Slavery of the Africans and Their Descendants, and on the Use of the Produce of Their Labour.</i> New York: Samuel Wood	1814
Holly, James Theodore: <i>A Vindication of the Capacity of the Negro Race For Self-Government, and Civilized Progress, as Demonstrated by Historical Events of the Haytian Revolution.</i> New Haven: Afric-American Printing Co.	1857
Humphrey, Heman: <i>Our Nation: A Discourse Delivered at Pittsfield, Mass., January 4, 1861, On the Day of the National Fast.</i> Pittsfield, Mass.: Henry Chickering	1861
John Brown Fund: <i>Friends of Freedom! Read and Circulate.</i> New Yrok: Wilbur, Hastings, and Co.	1859
Jones, Thomas H.: <i>The Experience of Thomas H. Jones, Who Was a Slave for Forty-Three Years.</i> New Bedford: E. Anthony & Sons	1871
Liberty Party: <i>The Slave Power. Political Tracts, no. 1.</i> Hartford: Christian Freeman	1844
Lincoln, Levi: <i>Speech of Mr. Lincoln, of Massachusetts: Delivered in the House of Representatives of the United States, Feb. 7, 1837, on the Resolution to Censure the</i>	1837

Hon. John Q. Adams, for Inquiring of the Speaker, Whether a Paper Purporting to Come from Slaves. . . . Washington: Gales and Seaton

<i>Lord, Nathan [A Northern Presbyterian]: A Letter of Inquiry to Ministers of the Gospel of all Denominations, on Slavery. Boston: Pettridge and Company</i>	1854
<i>Maine. Governor 1834-1838: Dunlap: Preamble and Resolutions on the Subject of Incendiary Publications. [Augusta, Maine?]: s.n.</i>	1836
<i>Mann, Horace: New Dangers to Freedom, and New Duties for its Defenders: A Letter by the Hon. Horace Mann to his Constituents, May 3, 1850. Boston: Redding and Company</i>	1850
<i>Mann, Horace: Speech of Hon. Horace Mann, of Mass., on the Institution of Slavery, Delivered in the House of Representatives, August 17, 1852. Washington: Congressional Globe</i>	1852
<i>Mars, James: Life of James Mars, a Slave Born and Sold in Connecticut. Hartford: Case, Lockwood, & Co.</i>	1867
<i>May, Samuel J.: A Discourse on Slavery in the United States, Delivered in Brooklyn, July 3, 1831. Boston: Garrison and Knapp</i>	1832
<i>McEwen, Abel: Sermon Preached in the First Congregational Church, New London, Conn., on the Day of Thanksgiving, November 28, 1850. New London: Daniels and Bacon</i>	1851
<i>Minister of the Gospel, in Massachusetts: Slavery in its Relation to God: A Review of Rev. Dr. Lord's Thanksgiving Sermon, In Favor of Domestic Slavery, Entitled The Higher Law, In Its Application to the Fugitive Slave Bill. Buffalo: A.M. Clapp & Co.</i>	1851
<i>Mitchell, William: The Claims of Africa: A Discourse, Delivered at Montpelier, at the Annual Meeting of the Vermont Colonization Society, October 19, 1843. Burlington: Stilman Fletcher</i>	1843
<i>Morse, Jedediah: A Discourse, Delivered at the African Meeting House, in Boston, July 14, 1808, in Grateful Celebration of the Abolition of the African Slave-Trade, by the Governments of the United States, Great Britain and Denmark. Boston: Lincoln and Edmands</i>	1808
<i>New Hampshire Anti-Slavery Society: First Annual Report of the New-Hampshire Anti-Slavery Society. Concord, N.H.: Elbridge G. Chase</i>	1835
<i>O'Connor, Charles: Negro Slavery Not Unjust: Speech of Charles O'Connor, Esq., at the Union Meeting at the Academy of Music, New York City, December 19th, 1859. New York:</i>	1859

Van Evrie, Horton and Co.

Parker, Theodore: <i>A Sermon of Slavery, Delivered Jan. 31, 1841, Repeated June 4, 1843, and Now Published by Request.</i> Boston: Thurston and Torry	1843
Peabody, William Bourn Oliver: <i>An Address, Delivered at Springfield, Before the Hampden Colonization Society, July 4th, 1828.</i> Springfield: S. Bowles	1828
Pennington, James C. W.: <i>Covenants Involving Moral Wrong Are Not Obligatory Upon Man.</i> Hartford: John C. Wells	1842
Perry, Nathaniel: <i>A Dialogue Between a Freesoiler, a Citizen of Boston, and the Prince of This World.</i> Boston: The Author	1853
Phelps, Samuel Shethar: <i>Speech of Mr. Phelps, of Vermont, on the Subject of Slavery, &c., in Senate, January 23, 1850.</i> Washington: Gideon and Co.	1850
Rantoul, Robert: <i>Second Speech of Mr. Rantoul, of Massachusetts, on the Coalition in Massachusetts, Delivered in the House of Representatives of the United States, March 9, 1852, in Reply to Hon. George T. Davis.</i> Washington: Congressional Globe	1852
Rantoul, Robert: <i>Trial of Thomas Sims, on an Issue of Personal Liberty, on the Claim of James Potter, of Georgia, Against Him, as an Alleged Fugitive from Service.</i> Boston: William S. Damrell	1851
Skinner, Otis Ainsworth: <i>Duty to Government and to God: A Sermon, Preached in the Warren Street Church, Boston, on Thanksgiving-Day, November 29, 1850, and Repeated by Request in the Same Church, December 15, 1850.</i> Boston: A. Tompkins	1851
Slade, William: <i>Speech of Mr. Slade, of Vermont, on the Right of Petition; the Power of Congress to Abolish Slavery and the Slave Trade in the District of Columbia; the Implied Faith of the North and the South to Each Other in Forming the Constitution. . .</i> Washington: Gales and Seaton	1840
Smart, Ephraim Knight: <i>Speech of Hon. E. K. Smart, of Maine, in Defence of the North Against the Charge of Aggression Upon the South, Delivered in the House of Representatives, April 23, 1852.</i> Washington: Congressional Globe	1852
Society of Friends. <i>New England Yearly Meeting: Address of the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New-England, Held on Rhode-Island, in the Sixth Month, 1837, to its Own Members, and Those of Other Christian Communities.</i> New Bedford: J. C. Parmenter	1837
Sumner, Charles: <i>Defence of Massachusetts. Speeches of Hon.</i>	1854

Charles Sumner, on the Boston Memorial for the Repeal of the Fugitive Slave Bill. . . . Washington, D.C.: Buell and Blanchard

<i>Sumner, Charles: Freedom National, Slavery Sectional. Speech of Hon. Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts, on His Motion to Repeal the Fugitive Slave Bill, In the Senate of the United States, August 26, 1852. Washington: Buell and Blanchard</i>	1852
<i>Sumner, Charles: No Compromise of Human Rights. No Admission in the Constitution of Inequality of Rights, or Disfranchisement on Account of Color. Speech of Hon. Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts, on the Proposed Amendment of the Constitution. . . . Washington: Congressional Globe</i>	1866
<i>Thacher, George: No Fellowship With Slavery: A Sermon Delivered June 29th, 1856, in the First Congregational Church, Meriden, Conn.. Meriden, Conn.: L. R Webb</i>	1856
<i>Thayer, Eli: Fair Play for Free Labor: Speech of Hon. Eli Thayer, of Mass., Delivered in the House of Representatives Feb. 24, 1859. Washington: Polkinhorn's Steam Printing Office</i>	1859
<i>Toombs, Robert Augustus: A Lecture Delivered in the Tremont Temple, Boston, Massachusetts, on the 24th January, 1856. s.n.: s.l.</i>	1856
<i>Webster, Daniel: Speech of Mr. Webster on Mr. Clay's Resolutions, Delivered in the Senate of the United States, March 7, 1850. Washington: Gideon and Co.</i>	1850
<i>Webster, Daniel: Speech of the Honorable Daniel Webster, on The Compromise Bill, Delivered in the Senate of the United States, on the 17th Day of July, 1850. Washington: Gideon and Co.</i>	1850
<i>Webster, Noah: Effects of Slavery on Morals and Industry. Hartford: Hudson and Goodwin</i>	1793
<i>Weston, George M.: The Poor Whites of the South. Washington: Buell and Blanchard</i>	1856
<i>Weston, George M.: Southern Slavery Reduces Northern Wages: An Address by George M. Weston, of Maine, Delivered in Washington, D.C., March 25, 1856. Washington: s.n.</i>	1856
<i>Wheaton, Josephus: The Equality of Mankind and the Evils of Slavery, Illustrated: A Sermon, Delivered on the Day of the Annual Fast, April 6, 1820. Boston: For Samuel T. Armstrong by Crocker and Brewster</i>	1820
<i>Williams, Peter: An Oration on the Abolition of the Slave Trade: Delivered in the African Church, in the City of</i>	1808

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired variously.

Processing Information

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Search terms

Subjects

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Names

- American Anti-Slavery Society
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