

Sturgis Library Archives

Henry Crocker Kittredge Maritime Collection

Abner and Abigail Hopkins Family Correspondence,
bulk, 1833-1860

MS. 25

Extent: 2 boxes

Biographical note: Abner Hopkins and his wife Abigail lived in Orleans, Massachusetts. From the material in the collection, it would appear that Abner was a descendent of Stephen Hopkins, a member of Plymouth Colony. Although not much is known about the life of Abner and Abigail on Cape Cod, Abner was ship captain and corresponded regularly with his wife. This endearing collection of letters, from the 1800's, was posted back and forth from various ports of call around the world. The letters speak of sailing conditions, family matters and the politics of the day. In one letter he complains that northern abolitionists were upsetting the southerners and making them hard to deal with. Sadly, included with these letters was notification of Abners untimely death at sea.

Scope and Contents note: Collection consists mainly of handwritten correspondence between Abner Hopkins and his wife Abigail. There is correspondence between other members of the Hopkins family as well. Collection also contains genealogical publications on the Hopkins family.

Acquisition: Gift of Walter E. Babbitt, 1989.

Access: Unrestricted. Credit Sturgis Library Archives for publication purposes.

Processed by: Stephen Robert Lovell Farrar 2005.

Box # Folder #

Legal and Financial

- 1 1 Mount Ida, Arkansas: Court papers. Court to Abner Hopkins regarding
2 mining claim locations, with envelope, St. Louis, MO
Mining claims 1-6 May 1880 – D – page 336
1-6 May 1880 – D – page 336

Original correspondence

- 2 Correspondence transcribed: to and from Abner Hopkins to
family, c. 1833-1838
- 3 Correspondence transcribed: 1839-1854
- 4 Correspondence transcribed: 1855-1878
- 5 Chronological events as transcribed by Walter Babbitt
- 6 Hopkins undated: Abigail Hopkins to beloved son and Abigail to dear
brother c/o St. Thomas with envelope
- 7 Abigail Hopkins (Boston: Orleans) to Mrs. Abner Hopkins 30 October
1833 with transcription
- 8 Abigail Hopkins (Orleans) to Sister 22 July 1834 with transcription
- 9 Abner Hopkins (Havana) to Dear Companion (Mrs. A. Hopkins)
1 August 1834
- 10 Abigail Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 31 December 1834
with transcription
- 11 Abner Hopkins (New York) to Dear Companion 23 March 1836
with transcription
- 12 Abigail Hopkins (Cambridgeport) to sister 19 September 1836
- 13 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 28 December 1836 with
transcription
- 14 Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion 18 February 1837
- 15 Abner Hopkins (St. Thomas) to Dear Companion 11 October 1837
with transcription
- 16 Abner Hopkins (Norfolk) to Dear Companion November 1837 with
transcription (cancellation is December)
- 17 Abner Hopkins (Norfolk, VA) to Dear Companion 17 February 1838
- 18 Abner Hopkins (Puerto Rico) to Dear Companion 2 April 1838 with
transcription
- 19 Mary Stover (Brookline, ME) to (Mrs.?) Abner Hopkins 13 May 1838
- 20 Abner Hopkins (Baltimore) to Dear Companion 22 May 1838
with transcription
- 21 Abner Hopkins (Charleston) to Dear Companion 6 September 1838 with
transcription

Box # Folder #

- 22 Abner Hopkins (Neuvidas) to Dear Companion 3 October 1838 with transcription
- 23 Abner Hopkins (Charleston) to Dear Companion 28 October 1838 with transcription
- 24 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 17 December 1838
- 25 Sarah Stover (Bangor, ME) to Dear mother and sister 15 February 1839
- 26 Abner Hopkins (Mobile) to Dear Companion 15 February 1839
- 27 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 7 November 1839
- 28 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 8 November 1839
- 29 Abner Hopkins (New York) to Dear Companion 11 December 1839
- 30 Abner Hopkins (Elizabeth City, NC) to Dear Companion 18 January 1840; 30 January 1840
- 31 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 14 February 1840 with copy
- 32 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 29 February 1840 with copy
- 33 Abner Hopkins (Provincetown) to Dear Companion 3 March 1840 with transcription
- 34 Margaret M. Delano to Ms. Sarah Stover (East Orleans) 22 March 1840(?)
- 35 Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion 3 May 1840(?) to Ms. Sarah Stover (East Orleans)
- 36 Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion 18 May 1840 with transcription
- 37 Abner Hopkins (?) (Boston) to Mrs. Abner Hopkins 4 June 1840
- 38 Abner Hopkins (Baltimore) to Dear Companion 20 June 1840
- 39 Abner Hopkins (Baltimore) to Dear Companion 29 June 1840
- 40 Abner Hopkins (New York) to Dear Companion 15 September 1840
- 41 Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion 31 December 1841
- 42 John S ___ (Kingston) to Mrs Abner Hopkins 28 July 1841 (or 1851?) letter informing her of her husband's death
- 43 Nathaniel Hopkins (Melbourne) to parents 31 July 1853
- 44 Nathaniel Snow Hopkins (Savannah) to parents 10 September 1854
- 45 James E. Godfrey, Savannah Hospital (Savannah, GA) to Mr. John Chapman 19 September 1854 informing parents of death of Nathaniel Snow Hopkins, with envelope
- 46 James E. Godfrey (Savannah) to Seth Crowell (E. Dennis) 16 December 1854 with envelope
- 47 James E. Godfrey (Philadelphia) to Mr. John Chapman 1 January 1855 with envelope
- 48 Hannah F. Jones (Brookville, ME) to aunt (Mrs. Hannah F. Chapman, East Dennis) 7 January 1855, with envelope and poem on newspaper clipping
- 49 Thomas Shiverick (Chicago) to Mrs. Chapman 9 December 1860

Box # Folder #

- 50 Parker Wood (Chicago) to brother and sister, 1 April 1861
- 51 G.S. Hopkins (E. Brewster) to Mrs. Chapman, 1 July 1861
- 52 Thomas Shiverick (Chicago) to Mrs. Chapman, 15 July, 1861 with envelope
- 53 Sanford M. Hunt, Jr. (Saint Louis) to Mrs. Chapman, 29 July 1861 with card and envelope (dated)
- 54 Charles Tobey (Chicago) to Mrs. John Chapman, 20 October 1861
- 55 William Hopkins (Chicago) to parents, 22 October, 1861
- 56 Telegram, American Telegraph Company (Chicago) to John Chapman, 22 October 1861
- 57 Charles Tobey (Chicago) to Mrs. John Chapman, 31 October 1861, regarding William Hopkins
- 58 W.A. Hopkins (Chicago) to parents, 24 November 1861
- 59 W.A. Hopkins to Mrs. John Chapman 28 November 1861, with envelope; regarding Mr. Sanford M. Hunt Jr. and Lady
- 60 A. Hopkins (San Francisco) to parents, 8 December 1861 with envelope postmarked Dec. 13, San Francisco
- 61 Sarah A. (East Dennis) to brother (William A. Hopkins, Chicago) with envelope marked January 13, 1862
- 62 Sanford M. Hunt, Jr. (Chicago) to W.A. Hopkins, 21 October 1863 with envelope
- 63 Sarah_ (E. Dennis) to Dear Brother (William Hopkins, Chicago) 12 January 1862
- 64 A. Hopkins (Callao) to parents, 11 October 1863
- 65 A. Hopkins (Calcutta) to parents, 16 January 1865
- 66 Nancy W. Barn (Brooksville) to Mrs. Hannah Chapman (East Dennis), 23 August 1865 with envelope dated 24 August 1865
- 67 Isaac and Hannah Stover (Bluehill) to brother and sister, January 1866
- 68 A. Hopkins (Oxford, Kansas) to parents, 14 May 1871 with envelope
- 69 Everett (Charlestown) to parents, 12 August 1871
- 70 Mrs. Rufus P. Stover (Bluehill) to Aunt Chapman, 12 August 1871 regarding father Stover's death March 14
- 71 H.S. Withrel (South Wellfleet) to sister, 14 November 1875

Genealogical notes

- 72 Blue, Edwards and Lois, genealogical information and obituaries
- 73 Captain Zenos Phinney: A Sketch of the Life of Capt. Z. Phinney, my grandfather, taken from his own handwriting
- 75 Cape Cod Times article on Joseph C. Lincoln house June 15, 1980 section B. page 13

Box # Folder #

- 76 Correspondence with Harold Arnold regarding General Benjamin Lincoln lineage; research notes and family records of same
- 77 Edward, King of England, undated, program guide from Book Digest
- 78 Eastham, Early Settler of, No. 32 Library of Cape Cod History and Genealogy with Index
- 79 Genealogy notes on brown paper from Stephen Hopkins (Mayflower) to 1974
- 80 Library of Cape Cod History and Genealogy, listing of Booklets
- 81 Hopkins Genealogy – handwritten notes draft foreword for “The Hopkins Papers”
- 82 Hopkins genealogy to 1976
- 83 Isaac C. Foster (Spartanburg, SC) correspondence
- 84 Misc. postal envelopes, Chapman genealogy
- 85 Warren family – Grace Warren reproduction

Unpublished Manuscripts

- 86 Unpublished manuscript: “Have you anything to teach me?
How much of this is me? Now listen to me.”
By Giles F. Hopkins
- 87 Hopkins and Higgins genealogy history from 1503-1829
- 88 Pratt family: Rev. Enoch, author; History of Eastham