

**Sturgis Library Archives**  
**Henry Crocker Kittredge Maritime Collection**

Abner and Abigail Hopkins Family Correspondence, 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 Abner's 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.

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

**Processed by:** Stephen Robert Lovell Farrar, 2005. Recataloged by Lucy Loomis, January 2019.

### **Legal and Financial**

- BOX 1 Fldr 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
- Fldr 2 Hopkins, Chapman, Stover family tree
- Fldr 3 Chronological events as transcribed by Walter Babbitt

### **Original correspondence**

- BOX 1 Fldr 4 Hopkins undated: Abigail Hopkins to beloved son and Abigail to dear brother c/o St. Thomas with envelope with transcription
- Fldr 5 Abigail Hopkins (Boston: Orleans) to Mrs. Abner Hopkins 30 October 1833 with transcription
- Fldr 6 Abigail Hopkins (Orleans) to Sister 22 July 1834 with transcription
- Fldr 7 Abner Hopkins (Havana) to Dear Companion (Mrs. A. Hopkins) 1 August 1834 with transcription
- Fldr 8 Abigail Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 31 December 1834 with transcription

**Original Correspondence (continued)**

- BOX 1 Fldr 9 Abner Hopkins (New York) to Dear Companion 23  
March 1836 with transcription
- Fldr 10 Abigail Hopkins (Cambridgeport) to sister 19  
September 1836 with transcription
- Fldr 11 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 28  
December 1836 with transcription
- Fldr 12 Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion  
18 February 1837 with transcription
- Fldr 13 Abner Hopkins (St. Thomas) to Dear Companion 11  
October 1837 with transcription
- Fldr 14 Abner Hopkins (Norfolk) to Dear Companion  
November 1837 with transcription (cancellation is  
December)
- Fldr 15 Abner Hopkins (Norfolk, VA) to Dear Companion  
17 February 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 16 Abner Hopkins (Puerto Rico) to Dear Companion 2  
April 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 17 Mary Stover (Brookline, ME) to (Mrs.?) Abner  
Hopkins 13 May 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 18 Abner Hopkins (Baltimore) to Dear Companion 22  
May 1838 with transcription

**Original Correspondence (continued)**

- BOX 1 Fldr 19 Abner Hopkins (Charleston) to Dear Companion 6  
September 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 20 Abner Hopkins (Neuvas) to Dear Companion 3  
October 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 21 Abner Hopkins (Charleston) to Dear Companion 28  
October 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 22 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 17  
December 1838 with transcription
- Fldr 23 Sarah Stover (Bangor, ME) to Dear mother and sister  
15 February 1839 with transcription
- Fldr 24 Abner Hopkins (Mobile) to Dear Companion 15  
February 1839 with transcription
- Fldr 25 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 7  
November 1839 with transcription
- Fldr 26 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 8  
November 1839 with transcription
- Fldr 27 Abner Hopkins (New York) to Dear Companion 11  
December 1839 with transcription
- Fldr 28 Abner Hopkins (Elizabeth City, NC) to Dear  
Companion 18 January 1840; 30 January 1840 with  
transcription
- Fldr 29 Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 14  
February 1840 with copy & with transcription

**Original Correspondence (continued)**

- BOX 1   Fldr 30   Abner Hopkins (Boston) to Dear Companion 29  
February 1840 with copy & with transcription
- Fldr 31   Abner Hopkins (Provincetown) to Dear Companion 3  
March 1840 with transcription
- Fldr 32   Margaret M. Delano to Ms. Sarah Stover (East  
Orleans) 22 March 1840(?) with transcription
- Fldr 33   Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion 3  
May 1840(?) to Ms. Sarah Stover (East Orleans) with  
transcription
- Fldr 34   Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion  
18 May 1840 with transcription
- Fldr 35   Abner Hopkins (?) (Boston) to Mrs. Abner Hopkins 4  
June 1840 with transcription
- Fldr 36   Abner Hopkins (Baltimore) to Dear Companion 20  
June 1840 with transcription
- Fldr 37   Abner Hopkins (Baltimore) to Dear Companion 29  
June 1840 with transcription
- Fldr 38   Abner Hopkins (New York) to Dear Companion 15  
September 1840 with transcription
- Fldr 39   Abner Hopkins (New Orleans) to Dear Companion  
31 December 1841 with transcription
- Fldr 40   John S \_\_\_\_ (Kingston) to Mrs. Abner Hopkins 28  
July 1841 (or 1851?) letter informing her of her  
husband's death with transcription

**Original Correspondence (continued)**

- BOX 1 Fldr 41 Nathaniel Hopkins (Melbourne) to parents 31 July 1853 with transcription
- Fldr 42 Nathaniel Snow Hopkins (Savannah) to parents 10 September 1854 with transcription
- Fldr 43 James E. Godfrey, Savannah Hospital (Savannah, GA) to Mr. John Chapman 19 September 1854 informing parents of death of Nathaniel Snow Hopkins, with envelope and with transcription
- Fldr 44 James E. Godfrey (Savannah) to Seth Crowell (E. Dennis) 16 December 1854 with envelope and transcription
- Fldr 45 James E. Godfrey (Philadelphia) to Mr. John Chapman 1 January 1855 with envelope and transcription
- Fldr 46 Hannah F. Jones (Brookville, ME) to aunt (Mrs. Hannah F. Chapman, East Dennis) 7 January 1855, with envelope and poem on newspaper clipping and transcription
- Fldr 47 Thomas Shiverick (Chicago) to Mrs. Chapman 9 December 1860 with transcription
- Fldr 48 Parker Wood (Chicago) to brother and sister, 1 April 1861 with transcription
- Fldr 49 G.S. Hopkins (E. Brewster) to Mrs. Chapman, 1 July 1861 with transcription
- Fldr 50 Thomas Shiverick (Chicago) to Mrs. Chapman, 15 July, 1861 with envelope & transcription

### **Original Correspondence (continued)**

- BOX 1 Fldr 51 Sanford M. Hunt, Jr. (Saint Louis) to Mrs. Chapman, 29 July 1861 with card and envelope (dated) and transcription
- Fldr 52 Charles Tobey (Chicago) to Mrs. John Chapman, 20 October 1861 with transcription
- BOX 2 Fldr 1 William Hopkins (Chicago) to parents, 22 October, 1861 with transcription
- Fldr 2 Telegram, American Telegraph Company (Chicago) to John Chapman, 22 October 1861 with transcription
- Fldr 3 Charles Tobey (Chicago) to Mrs. John Chapman, 31 October 1861, regarding William Hopkins with transcription
- Fldr 4 W.A. Hopkins (Chicago) to parents, 24 November 1861 with transcription
- Fldr 5 W.A. Hopkins to Mrs. John Chapman 28 November 1861, with envelope; regarding Mr. Sanford M. Hunt Jr. and Lady with transcription
- Fldr 6 A. Hopkins (San Francisco) to parents, 8 December 1861 with envelope postmarked Dec. 13, San Francisco and transcription
- Fldr 7 Sarah A. (East Dennis) to brother (William A. Hopkins, Chicago) with envelope marked January 13, 1862 TRANSCRIPTION only – no original

**Original Correspondence (continued)**

- BOX 2 Fldr 8 Sanford M. Hunt, Jr. (Chicago) to W.A. Hopkins, 21 October 1863 with envelope and transcription
- Fldr 9 A. Hopkins (Callao) to parents, 11 October 1863 with transcription
- Fldr 10 A. Hopkins (Calcutta) to parents, 16 January 1865 NO transcription
- Fldr 11 Nancy W. Barn (Brooksville) to Mrs. Hannah Chapman (East Dennis), 23 August 1865 with envelope dated 24 August 1865 with transcription
- Fldr 12 Isaac and Hannah Stover (Bluehill) to brother and sister, January 1866 with transcription
- Fldr 13 A. Hopkins (Oxford, Kansas) to parents, 14 May 1871 with envelope and transcription
- Fldr 14 Everett (Charlestown) to parents, 12 August 1871 with transcription
- Fldr 15 Mrs. Rufus P. Stover (Bluehill) to Aunt Chapman, 9 May 1875 regarding father Stover's death March 14 with transcription
- Fldr 16 H.S. Withrel (South Wellfleet) to sister, 14 November 1875 with transcription



### **Miscellaneous Files**

- BOX 2   Fldr 17   Miscellaneous Hopkins family genealogical forms  
and field notes
- Fldr 18   Unpublished manuscript: "Have you anything to  
teach me? How much of this is me? Now listen to  
me." By Giles F. Hopkins