

Prominent Abolitionists in the US: A list compiled by Carolyn VanGorkom, [The Novel Historian](#), 8/28/2020

Name	Date(s)	Church affiliation (or influences)	Contribution(s)		
John Rankin	1793-1886	Presbyterian	<i>Letters on Slavery</i> , 1826 book	Underground RR conductor	
William Lloyd Garrison	1805-1879	(Presbyterian and Quaker)	<i>The Liberator</i> , 1831-1865 newspaper	American Anti-Slavery Society	
Theodore Dwight Weld	1803-1895	(Congregational,) Presbyterian	<i>American Slavery As It Is</i> , 1839 book	Speaker and recruiter	
Henry Ward Beecher	1813-1887	Congregational, (Presbyterian)	Preacher and public speaker on abolition	" Beecher's Bibles " – weapons for Kansas	
Harriet Beecher Stowe	1811-1896	Congregational, (Presbyterian)	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> , 1852 book	(Sister to Henry Ward Beecher)	
Martha Violet Ball	1811-1894	Baptist	Boston Female Anti-Slavery Society		
Maria Weston Chapman	1806-1885	Unitarian	<i>The Liberty Bell</i> , 1839-1858 books	Multiple print efforts; several societies	
Lucretia Mott	1793-1880	Quaker	1837 Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women	1848 Seneca Falls Convention for women's rights	
Mary Grew	1813-1896	(Baptist,) Unitarian	Multiple abolition societies	Multiple women's rights societies	
Charles Turner Torrey	1813-1846	Congregational	First highly-organized line of the Underground RR	Influence on John Brown et al.	
Frederick Douglass	1818-1895	African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church – minister	<i>The North Star</i> , 1847-1851 newspaper	Orator and preacher - widely influential	
Samuel Gridley Howe	1801-1876	Unitarian	Assisted fugitive slaves	1863 Worked for enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation	
Julia Ward Howe	1819-1910 wife of Samuel Howe	(Episcopalian,) Unitarian	Wrote <i>Battle Hymn of the Republic</i>	Worked for women's rights	
Susan B. Anthony	1820-1906	(Quaker, Methodist)	Collected anti-slavery petition signatures at 17.	American Equal Rights Association	

Samuel Sewall	1652-1730	Puritan	<i>The Selling of Joseph</i> , 1700 anti-slavery tract	Repented of involvement in Salem witch trials	
Samuel Edmund Sewall	1799-1888, descended from Samuel Sewall	(<i>Quaker</i> ,) Unitarian	Helped start an anti-slavery society .	Lawyer for Underground RR.	
John Brown	1800-1859	(<i>Congregational</i>)	Violent abolitionist		
Robert Troup	1757-1832	Christian ; wife's family were French Protestants	Cofounded abolition society , 1785		
James Mott	1788-1868, spouse of Lucretia Mott	Quaker	Participated in several anti-slavery societies .		
Francis Daniel Pastorius	1651-1720	(<i>Quaker</i> ,) Lutheran	Drafted the first petition against slavery in the English colonies.	(This was signed by Pastorius and 3 Quakers.)	
John Woolman	1720-1772	Quaker minister	Preached abolition in the colonies as well as in the UK.		
Anthony Benezet	1713-1784	Quaker	Founded one of the first anti-slavery societies .		
David Cooper	1724-1795	Quaker	Pamphleteer		
Levi Coffin	1798-1877	Quaker	Prominent leader of Underground RR.		
John Greenleaf Whittier	1807-1892	Quaker	Poet, pamphleteer, lobbyist for abolition		

The [Quakers](#) are prominent on this list because they were the first to begin agitating for an end to slavery, in both the US and the UK.

I was going to include [Elizabeth Cady Stanton](#) in this list, even though she rejected religion. However, her position on abolition took a decidedly racist slant when the 14th and 15th Amendments were being debated, so I took her off the list of staunch abolitionists. Others on the list might have been racist, too, but their position wasn't highlighted in the encyclopedia like hers was.