The above is an eastern view of the central part of Lowell as seen from the elevated ground on the Dracut or northern side of Merrimac river. The entrance of Concord river into the Merrimac is seen on the left.
Middlesex Mills (ca. 1835); from a painting by Fitzhugh Lane,
Image Courtesy of the Lowell Historical Society
Textile Workers by Sex
Lowell’s Textile Workers, 1837-1883
(Source: Scranton, Proprietary Capitalism, p. 29)
Worcester’s Population, 1830-1865

Lowell’s Population, 1836-1866
Lowell's Population: 
Age Range, 1860

Concord's Population: 
Age Range, 1860
Lowell's Population: Foreign Born, 1836-1865
William Lloyd Garrison
Oil on panel, 1833
National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution
The Liberator, July 5, 1834

Lowell Anti-Slavery Society.

The Lowell Anti-Slavery Society was formed in March last, with about 60 members, to whom a few have since been added. A previous attempt to organize had been defeated, by the intrusion upon the meeting of some opponents of abolition; since that time, the Society has met with no opposition. Owing to providential hindrances, the Society has had but two public meetings for the diffusion of light; and their success has not yet been great. There are, however, many minds in Lowell which are deeply engaged in the cause, and which will not suffer it to rest till their numbers be multiplied and the community aroused.
Lowell, 2d December, 1834.

Rev. Dr. Thompson,—Dear Sir,

I as a friend beg leave to inform you that there is a plot in agitation to immerse you in a vat of Indellible Ink, and I recommend you to take your departure from this part of the country as soon as possible or it will be surely carried into operation, and that to before you see the light of another son.

Very respectfully yours,
A citizen of these United States of America.”
Tuesday Morn. Dec. 2, 1834.

CITIZENS OF LOWELL,
Arise! Look well to your interests!
Will you suffer a question to be agitated in Lowell, which will endanger the safety of the Union?
A question which we have not, by our Constitution, any right to meddle with. Fellow Citizens—Shall Lowell be the first place to suffer an Englishman to disturb the peace and harmony of our country? Do you wish instruction from an Englishman? If you are the free born sons of America, meet, one and all, at the Town Hall, THIS EVENING, at half past 7 o’clock, and convince your Southern brethren that we will not interfere with their rights.
B. C. SARGEANT,
Bookseller & Stationer,
CITY HALL, BUILDING, LOWELL.

BLANK BOOKS made to order: PAPER RULED to any pattern: ENGLISH AND AMERICAN DRAWING-PAPER: COUNTING-HOUSE STATIONERY, of every description
PUBLIC MEETING.

The undersigned inhabitants of Lowell, are impressed with a belief, that the rash doings of those who advocate the immediate abolition of Slavery result in much mischief to our common country. We believe that sectional jealousies are thereby engendered, which threaten to disturb the harmony of our political system, and which will effectually prevent the attainment of the object proposed, except through evils far worse than slavery itself. We believe, also, that the great mass of this people are disposed to maintain the Constitution unimpaired, and to leave, where our Federal compact left it, the difficult question of slavery to be adjusted by the states for themselves, without other interference or control.

Under these impressions, we invite the inhabitants of Lowell to assemble in the Town Hall, on Saturday Evening, August 22d, at 8 o'clock, to consult together and to declare their convictions upon this important subject, to the end, that our fellow citizens at the South may be solemnly assured, that the body of our people will not countenance any infraction of their rights, or domestic relations; nor any violation of the peace of the community, or of the constitution and laws of the land.


THE REV. THEODORE EDSON, D. D.
From a portrait by Alexander, 1839
• Lowell Anti-Slavery Society (1834) 168
• Lowell Female Anti-Slavery Society (1834) 50
• Young Men’s Anti-Slavery Society (1836) 110

• Middlesex County Anti-Slavery Society (1834)

• Total No. of Societies in Middlesex Co. (in 1838) 36
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ANTI-SLAVERY FAIR.

This Fair will be held at LOWELL, on THURSDAY, Nov. 14, at the CITY HALL, and continue THREE DAYS. Quantities of beautiful and useful goods will be on sale from various towns in the county, particularly Groton, Cambridgeport, Concord & Stoneham. Efficient assistance is also anticipated from Boston. The proceeds of the sale will be wholly appropriated to sustain the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, and the Managers therefore confidently ask for aid from any part of the State.

LIST OF ARTICLES ON SALE.


Mary B. Hayward,
Caroline D. Brooks,
Mary A. Johnson,
Lydia Maria Child,
Mary E. Farnsworth,
Mary Willey,
Mary M. Brooks,
Managers,

Mrs. J. Fox,
Mrs. H. Cowdry,
Mrs. B. Hall,
Mrs. S. Rockwood,
Mrs. A. Ragge,
and Mrs. L. Boueille.
Voice of Industry, Dec. 26, 1845

A MILE OF GIRLS.—It will be seen, says the Free State Rally, that the women of Lowell, God bless them, who have signed the remonstrance against the extension of slavery, if they were to join hand in hand, would stretch more than a mile. Probably not a few of them are the young women, called “white slaves” at the South, who work in the factories. They have signed the remonstrance from no selfish calculation, but from pure, heaven-inspired sympathy for the oppressed slave.—Stratford Transcript.

Yes, “God bless” the factory girls of Lowell—they are a class for whom we entertain no small share of sympathy and esteem, and we rejoice to see them enlisted in the great and good cause of emancipating the oppressed slaves of the South.

But while they come up in such a noble phalanx and enter their protest against the nefarious traffic of black slavery, we are led into a train of thought no individuals who are free to think can shake off, or refrain from expressing if free to speak his honest sentiments.—How comes it that the Lowell factory girls are so free to enter their names against the annexation of Texas? The question is easily answered. In the process of party strife and contention, the annexation question became a party measure,—the Whigs hoping to enlist the Abolition party in their favor, and thereby secure the election of Henry Clay,
Manstealers in Lowell!

We understand that one or more persons were in this city yesterday for the purpose of capturing Mr. Booth, the barber, who has a shop near the Washington House, a very respectable man, who has been in the city for some years. Mr. Booth was formerly a slave in Virginia. He is now in Montreal, and his friends yesterday telegraphed to him that he had better remain there for the present. We hope, however, he will return to the city, for we think there are men enough in Lowell who believe in the "higher law," to protect him against all the efforts of the manstealers. In the meanwhile we recommend to all persons who come to Massachusetts on that business, a perusal of the account of Haynau's excursion to the London Brewery.
A KNOW-NOTHING DEMONSTRATION.

The meeting of which we give an illustration, was held in front of the City-hall, New York, three weeks ago, and is described by the New York Herald as "one of the largest mass meetings ever held in this city." The following placard, calling the citizens to attend, will show what the object of the meeting was:

AMERICANS TO THE PARK!—A mass meeting of the electors of the city and county of New York, opposed to the present administration of the general government, to the efforts of fanatical fusionists to destroy the union of the States, and to the reckless expenditure of over $5,000,000 for the support of the Municipal Government; and all who are in favor of the election of the American ticket at the ensuing election to effect a thorough reform are invited to assemble in the park this (Wednesday) evening, at seven o'clock. Distinguished speakers will address the meeting, and a torch-light procession will be formed after adjournment.

The chief speakers were Colonel May, Colonel Bryce, Messrs. S. B. Cushing, George Briggs, L. C. Levin, and S. V. B. Mallory. The meeting appears to have been a large one, no less than 20,000 persons having been present; but we should hardly deem ourselves warranted in the "Old Dominion," in calling such a crowd "a tremendous demonstration," as the Herald terms it.
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