

Ohio University
Robert E. and Jean R. Mahn Center for
Archives & Special Collections

Franklin Foster Letters

MSS# 170

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Author: Franklin Foster

Title: Franklin Foster letters

Date: 1841/1857

Abstract: This collection consists of letters of Frank E. Foster from his friends, relatives and associates.

Quantity: .3 cu.ft.

BIOGRAPHY OF

Franklin Foster was a citizen of Circleville, OH.

He was a son of Hull Foster, which letters we can find in the collection.

Fosters family was one of the fist families who settled in Athens. Zadoc Foster (Frank's grandfather), a native of Massachusetts, moved with his family to Athens in 1809. Mr. Foster kept public house in Athens till his death in 1814. His widow, Mrs. Sarah Foster, continued to keep the tavern a few years after his death. She then began to teach a school for young children till her dearth 1849. In the letters Frank's younger brother, James Foster, mentioned about this school (Pratt's School – one of the first schools in Athens) and about Sarah Foster – Grandma.

Frank's father - Hull Foster, only surviving son of Zadoc Foster, was born in Sudbury, Rutland county, Vermont, January 23, 1796, and came to the northwestern territory, with his father's family, when a few months old. When about seventeen, Mr. Foster took up the trade of shoemaking—to use his own expression, “just as a cow does kicking—in her own head.” In 1821 he returned to Athens, resumed his trade, and built the house where Mr. Abner Cooley now lives. Soon after he married his first wife, a daughter of Mr. Ira Carpenter. Since then he has steadily adhered to his trade, at which he has worked for more than fifty years, and still works some, though under no necessity to do so. There is one family in the county for whom he has made

shoes for five generations. He has been twice married—his second wife was a daughter of Mr. William Brown, of Lee township— and is now a widower. A man of strong sense, strict integrity, and marked force of character, his life and virtues are known and read of all his neighbors.

Unfortunately, there is no enough information about Frank Foster, but you can find more general information about Foster's family on website:

<http://www.progenealogists.com/athens/athenstownship.htm>

from memories of Maria Brown (Foster) on website: <http://iagenweb.org/history/gb/gbc2.htm>

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

This collection consists of letters of Frank E. Foster from his friends and relatives, and associates. The time period covers years 1841-1857.

Some letters are from Frank Foster's relatives: his father - Hull Foster, his brother - James Foster, his brother in law - D. Brown., etc.

Other letters are from Frank Foster friends: C Carpenter, M. Atkinson, J. Auch and E. Stewart. In overall there are 43 sub-folders with the names of 42 persons - authors of the letters to Frank Foster and one letter written by Frank Foster.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION

These records are organized into the following series:

N/A

Abbreviations with in content list:

N/A

RELATED MATERIALS **FAMILY PAPERS**

William T. Bingham Collection (#109) [Bingham genealogy]

Boyd Family (#15) [Athens County: OU 1st woman grad]

Broadwell – Hatch – Frost Family (#6) [Athens Co.]
Brown Family (#18) [Athens County: Civil War]
Brown, Henry T. – Journal (#238)
Burson, Gladys – Scrapbooks
John B. Calhoun Notebooks
Eve D. Chubb Diaries (#198) [wife of Edwin Chubb]
John Cornwell Journal (#149)
John William Corrington Collection (#161)
Benjamin Corp Diary [contractor -- Cutler Hall]
Cox Family (#7) [Vinton County]
Andrew J. Crawford Collection (#19) [Athens Co mining doctor]
Manasseh Cutler Collection (#9) [co-founder of Ohio University]
Dana Family (#5) [Washington Co]
John B. Downing & William A. Thomas Manuscript (#249)
Dow Finsterwald Collection (#288) [professional golfer]
Hull Foster Ledgers (#141)
Franklin Foster Letters (#170)
Charles Grosvenor Collection (#150) [Athens Civil War & politician]
Hatch – Frost – Broadwell Family (#6) [Athens Co]
Jean R. Mahn Collection (#252)
O’Bleness Family Collection (#151) [Athens]
Louis Philip De Steiguer Recollections (#248)
Colonel John Stone Collection (#140) [Belpre pioneer & abolitionist]
William A. Thomas & John B. Downing Manuscript (#249)
John Van Cleve Correspondence (#233)
Robert Willis Scrapbooks (#219)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- Restrictions:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Ohio University Libraries.
- Preferred Citation:** Researchers are requested to cite the collection name, collection number, and the Ohio University Libraries, in all footnotes and bibliographical references.
- Provenance:** The Ohio University Archives received the collection on unknown date.
- Property Rights:** Ohio University retains all property rights to the collection.

Copyrights: Ohio University retains all copyrights unless retained by the donor, other correspondents, or other artists.

Photoduplication: Ohio University will entertain requests to photocopy reasonable amounts of material from the collection for the convenience of individual researchers.

Processing: Anna Gabritchidze

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

CONTAINER LIST

Box/Folder Description

This collection consists of letters of Frank E. Foster from his friends and relatives, and associates. The time period covers years 1841-1857.

Some letters are from Frank Foster's relatives: his father - Hull Foster, his brother - James Foster, his brother in law - D. Brown., etc.

Other letters are from Frank Foster friends: C Carpenter, M. Atkinson, J. Auch and E. Stewart.

In overall there are 43 sub-folders with the names of 42 persons - authors of the letters to Frank Foster and one letter written by Frank Foster.