

Eliza and Nathaniel Barney of Nantucket, Massachusetts

Born: 9 April 1802 to Joseph and Sally Starbuck. Eliza was 48 years old at the 1850 National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Died: 18 March 1889

Married: Nathaniel Barney in May 1820

Children: Joseph and Sarah

Eliza Barney was friends with both Lucretia Mott and Abby Kelley Foster. In 1839, Mrs. Foster and Ms. Barney spoke at the American Anti Slavery Society meeting in support of women's names being added to the membership roles. The delegates voted in favor of admitting the women to membership.

Ms. Barney was on the Nominating Committee and served as chair of the Education Committee for the 1850 National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Ms. Barney was a Quaker who campaigned against racial segregation in the Nantucket school system.

Nathaniel Barney (1792-1869) owned whaling ships and manufactured whale oil products. An early opponent of the Fugitive Slave law, Mr. Barney supported William Lloyd Garrison with a donation of accumulated dividend of the New Bedford Railroad in reparation for the railroad's discrimination against Blacks. He died in Yonkers, NY.

Eliza, Nathaniel, and Lydia Barney signed in as voting members of the 1850 National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester, Massachusetts. According to Stout, Eliza's daughter Sarah also attended.

Sources:

Sterling, Dorothy. *Ahead of Her Time* (83)

Stout, Kate. "Who Was Eliza Barney?" Nantucket Historical Society.

<http://www.nha.org/libbarney3.htm>.

William Lloyd Garrison Letters (III: 272)