**Frances Dana Barker Gage**

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| **Frances Dana Barker Gage** |
| Frances Dana Barker Gage.jpgEngraving of Frances Gage |
| **Born** | (1808-10-12)October 12, 1808[Marietta](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marietta%2C_Ohio), [Ohio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohio), U.S. |
| **Died** | November 10, 1884(1884-11-10) (aged 76)[Greenwich](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenwich%2C_Connecticut), [Connecticut](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Connecticut), U.S. |
| **Nationality** | American |
| **Occupation** | [Writer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Writer), [poet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poet), [activist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Activist), [abolitionist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abolitionism_in_the_United_States) |
| **Spouse(s)** | James L. Gage (1800-1863) |
| **Parents** | Colonel Joseph Barker (1765-1843)Elizabeth Dana (1771-1835) |





The Colonel Joseph Barker House in April 2010. It is the house in which Gage grew up.

**Frances Dana Barker Gage** (October 12, 1808 – November 10, 1884) was a leading American reformer, [feminist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feminism) and [abolitionist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abolitionism_in_the_United_States). She worked closely with [Susan B. Anthony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_B._Anthony) and [Elizabeth Cady Stanton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Cady_Stanton), along with other leaders of the early [women's rights movement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_rights_movement) in the United States.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances_Dana_Barker_Gage#cite_note-1) She was among the first to champion [voting rights](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suffrage) for all citizens without regard to race or gender and was a particularly outspoken supporter of giving newly freed African American women the franchise during [Reconstruction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reconstruction_era_of_the_United_States), along with African American men who had formerly been [slaves](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavery_in_the_United_States).[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances_Dana_Barker_Gage#cite_note-2)

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**Early life and education[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Frances_Dana_Barker_Gage&action=edit&section=1)**]**

Gage was born in [Marietta, Ohio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marietta%2C_Ohio) on October 12, 1808, the daughter of farmers Elizabeth Dana (1771–1835) and Col. Joseph Barker (1765–1843); [her family's house](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonel_Joseph_Barker_House) is still in existence and has been [designated a historic site](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places).[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances_Dana_Barker_Gage#cite_note-3) In 1788 the Barkers left [New Hampshire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Hampshire) and crossed the [Alleghenies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alleghenies) with [Rufus Putnam](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rufus_Putnam), and were among the first settlers in the United States [Northwest Territory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest_Territory).[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances_Dana_Barker_Gage#cite_note-UUA-4) On January 1, 1829 she married James L. Gage (1800–1863), an abolitionist lawyer from [McConnelsville, Ohio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/McConnelsville%2C_Ohio). He was a [Universalist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universalist) and a friend of the [evangelist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelism) Stephen R. Smith. Traveling Universalist preachers, like George Rogers and Nathaniel Stacy, often stayed in the Gage