

John N. Loughborough Papers

Collection 327

Center for Adventist Research
James White Library
Andrews University
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Processed by Jim Ford

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Scope and Content

John Norton Loughborough (1832 to 1924) is considered one of the pioneer leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He and his family had gone through the 1844 disappointment as believers. From the age of 17, Loughborough was a lay preacher for the First-day Adventists. In 1852 he joined the movement that eventually became known as the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and began preaching. Loughborough joined James and Ellen White in advocating church organization in 1860.

In 1868 he pioneered Seventh-day Adventist work in California along with D. T. Bourdeau. Later he spent five years in England, beginning in 1878, and then served as president of several conferences after returning to the United States. In 1892 Loughborough published the first Seventh-day Adventist history, *The Rise and Progress of Seventh-day Adventists*, later revised and expanded as *The Great Second Advent Movement*. He also published *The Church, Its Organization, Order, and Discipline* in 1907. This book served for 25 years as a church manual until an official manual was adopted in 1932.

Though Loughborough is more often remembered as an administrator and church historian, in his early ministry he was a successful public evangelist and conducted the first evangelistic meetings to use a tent instead of a building. In 1856 he became discouraged and moved to Waukon, Iowa, to farm. James and Ellen White went to Waukon by horse and sleigh to persuade him to return. Their winter trip across the plains and the frozen Mississippi River is a story of God's care. The Whites persuaded Loughborough to return to the ministry, and he never wavered again, though times were difficult in the beginning.

Loughborough saw Ellen White, church pioneer and one God used to give messages of reproof, encouragement, and leadership, in public vision more often than any other person, with the exception of her husband. Late in his life he claimed to have witnessed more than 50 public visions. Often they traveled together in public ministry for the church.

John Loughborough was married to three different women and had a number of children. He died at age 92, in 1924, after more than a half century of service.

The collection is an admixture of documents and other materials collected from various sources—see Provenance below. There are a few personal documents, a goodly run of diaries, a scattering of letters, and a couple of article manuscripts. The diaries form the single most extensive body of materials in this collection. There are 54 diaries each covering a calendar year. They begin in 1856, when John was age 24 and discouraged to the point of leaving the ministry and moving to Iowa to farm. They end

the year before he died. The daily entries are fairly short with no room to develop thoughts or reactions to events in depth. Many for some years are in a form of Pitman shorthand. He is rather faithful in recording something most days. The writings category is generally insignificant. The correspondence also is limited considering his years of service.

Arrangement

The materials are in a type of document arrangement, and within that by date when known. Being an artificially constructed collection there was no original order.

Provenance

The John N. Loughborough Papers Collection described in these pages were pulled together from three different existing collections in the Center for Adventist Research. These collections drew some materials from yet other sources in some cases. The immediate sources were the Advent Source Collection, developed by LeRoy E. Froom, the Ellen G. White Estate White Document Files, and separate holdings elsewhere in the Center for Adventist Research. Some of these documents bear the stamp of the General Conference Archives.

Use

All users of this collection are required to complete the "Application to Use Unpublished Records," and to observe the regulations specified in the "Patron Agreement" and "Researcher's Code of Conduct." All records in this collection are open and available for research. Citation for this collection:

Box___, Folder___, John N. Loughborough Papers (Collection 327), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.

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Personal Items

Documents

- Box 1 Fld 1 Marriage Certificate, John N. Loughborough and Margaret A. Newman, June 12, 1868 [source: ASC]
- Box 1 Fld 2 Oak Hill Cemetery, Right of Burial, Oct 26, 1883 [source: ASC]
- Box 1 Fld 3 10 receipts or financial statements issued to Loughborough. 1899, 1924. The 2 from 1899 are signed by E. J. Waggoner; the 8 receipts or statements from 1924 are from St. Helena Sanitarium and relate to Loughborough's activities and care at that place. Originals. [CAR]
- Box 1 Fld 4 Several documents related to Loughborough making provisions for his finances after his passing. 10 letters or documents directing the publishing houses where to pay any royalties due to him as well as a note regarding depositing some funds at Saint Helena Sanitarium. 1908 to 1924.[source: CAR]
- Box 1 Fld 5 Ministerial Credentials for J. N. Loughborough, Jun 1, 1922, signed by W. A. Spicer, president, and A. G. Daniells, secretary.
- Box 1 Fld 6 Notes regarding some travel. No date. 1 card, 3 small pieces of paper. Original. Appears to list some travel: the card 1885-1890 in California, the pieces of paper relate to events in Europe.
- Box 1 Fld 6a *Facsimile of the Original 1843 Chart*. Reproduced by Lemos Bros, Oakland, Cal. Ca. 1908. This apparently was sent by Loughborough to Hattie Andre at St. Helena, California. It was originally in the Center for Adventist Research Pitcairn Collection, a gift from Mrs. James Cummins, Jul 1976.

Artifacts

- Box 1 Fld 6b Personal wallet. Leather with signs of much wear.

Handwritten notes and clippings in a notebook. There are 5 of these small notebooks. If a title is given the notebook either has that on the cover contains that topic at the front. All notebooks contain other topics as well. All notebooks have lined paper with handwritten notes or clippings are pasted to the pages. No dates are clearly apparent.

Box 1 Fld 7 [Genealogy notebook.] Brown leather with "J. N. Loughborough, Oakland, Cal., Pacific Press" on the front cover. [source: CAR]

Box 1 Fld 8 Funeral Discourse for Eld. James White Brown leather. [source: CAR]

Box 1 Fld 9 Melchisedec. Reddish brown paper cover. [source: CAR]

Box 1 Fld 10 [Talents of Means.] Black leather 2 ring binder. [source: CAR]

Box 1 Fld 11 [Authenticity of Scripture.] Larger format notebook with a hard cover bound in book cloth. Contains 32 lined pages with many pages removed following page 32. [source: ASC]

Diaries [source: ASC]

Diaries are available for the years shown. Entries are handwritten and portions are in Pitman Short Hand, the common short hand for the time. All diaries are originals; some have a photocopy use copy.

Box 1 Fld 12	1856
Box 1 Fld 13	1859 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 14	1867 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 15	1868 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 16	1870 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 17	1871 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 18	1872 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 19	1873 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 20	1874 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 21	1875 + photocopy
Box 1 Fld 22	1876 + photocopy
Box 2 Fld 1	1878 + photocopy
Box 2 Fld 2	1879 + photocopy
Box 2 Fld 3	1880 + photocopy
Box 2 Fld 4	1881 + photocopy
Box 2 Fld 5	1882 + photocopy
Box 2 Fld 6	1883
Box 2 Fld 7	1887
Box 2 Fld 8	1888
Box 2 Fld 9	1889
Box 2 Fld 10	1890

Box 2 Fld 11	1891
Box 2 Fld 12	1892
Box 2 Fld 13	1893
Box 2 Fld 14	1894
Box 2 Fld 15	1895
Box 2 Fld 16	1896
Box 2 Fld 17	1897
Box 2 Fld 18	1898
Box 2 Fld 19	1899
Box 2 Fld 20	1900
Box 2 Fld 21	1901
Box 2 Fld 22	1902
Box 2 Fld 23	1903
Box 2 Fld 24	1904
Box 2 Fld 25	1905
Box 2 Fld 26	1906
Box 3 Fld 1	1907
Box 3 Fld 2	1908
Box 3 Fld 3	1909
Box 3 Fld 4	1910
Box 3 Fld 5	1911
Box 3 Fld 6	1912
Box 3 Fld 7	1913
Box 3 Fld 8	1914
Box 3 Fld 9	1915
Box 3 Fld 10	1916
Box 3 Fld 11	1917
Box 3 Fld 12	1918
Box 3 Fld 13	1919
Box 3 Fld 14	1920
Box 3 Fld 15	1921
Box 3 Fld 16	1922
Box 3 Fld 17	1923

Correspondence

Some letters are originals while most are copies. There are a few with multiple copies. They come from a variety of sources as indicated.

Box 4 Fld 1

J.N. Loughborough, May 21, 1867, to Brother White. 1 page. Original + 2 photocopies. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough and J. N. Andrews, Oct 18, 1867, to Brother Frisbie. 2 pages. Original. [CAR]

- J. N. Loughborough, Dec 5, 1873, to Sister Hall. 1 page. Photocopy.
[CAR/EGW Estate]
- J. N. Loughborough, Dec 15, 1873, to Sister Hall. 1 page. Photocopy.
[CAR/EGW Estate]
- J. N. Loughborough, Dec 18, 1873, to Sister Hall. 2 pages. Photocopy.
[CAR/EGW Estate]
- Ellen G. White, Aug 24, 1874, to Dear Bro. Loughborough. Copy of first
two pages [on one page] along with an explanation from D. E.
Robinson about the remainder of the letter. Photocopy. [WDF 230]
- J. N. Loughborough, Jun 9, 1878, to Brother Smith. 2 pages.
Photocopy. [CAR]
- J. N. and A. M. Loughborough, Dec 12, 1880, to Sister Chapman. 13
pages. Photocopy. John started the letter—first page or pages are
missing—then his wife finished writing. [CAR]
- J. N. and A. M. Loughborough, Mar 16, 1882, to Sister Chapman and
family. 3 pages. Photocopy. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 2

- E. P. Daniels, Jan 14, 1890, to J. N. Loughborough. 2 pages.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]
- J. N. Loughborough, Aug 25, 1891, to Brother Olsen. 3 pages.
Photocopy. [CAR]
- J. N. Loughborough, Dec 12, 1892, to Brother Olsen. 2 pages.
Photocopy. [GC Archives]
- J. N. Loughborough, Dec 28, 1892, to Brother Olsen. 1 page.
Photocopy. [GC Archives]
- J. N. Loughborough, Dec 31, 1892, to Brother Olsen. 1 page.
Photocopy. [GC Archives]
- J. N. Loughborough, April 24, 1893, to Brother Olsen. 2 pages.
Photocopy. [GC Archives]
- J. N. Loughborough, Feb 24, 1894, to Brother Nicola. 2 pages.
Photocopy. [GC Archives]

Box 4 Fld 3

- J. N. Loughborough, Oct 4, 1901, to Sister [Ellen G.] White. 3 pages.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]
- J. N. Loughborough, Jan 15, 1906, to F. M. Bury. 5 pages on 3 pages.
Photocopy. [CAR]
- J. N. Loughborough, Oct 1, 1906, to A. G. Daniels [sic]. 3 pages.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]
- J. N. Loughborough, Nov 5, 1906, to W. B. White. 4 pages on 1 sheet.
Original + 2 page typescript. [CAR]
- J. N. Loughborough, Feb 17, 1907, to Mrs. H. F. Randolph. 2 pages.
Original. [CAR]
- Sara McEnterfer, Mar 26, 1907, to J. N. Loughborough. 1 page.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]

J. N. Loughborough, Apr 21, 1907, to Dear Brother. 1 page. Typescript.
[CAR]

W. W. Prescott, Dec 12, 1907, to J. N. Loughborough. 3 pages.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]

Box 4 Fld 4

J. N. Loughborough, Mar 3, 1912, to M. A. McElhany. 1 page +
envelope. Photocopy. [CAR]

D. E. Robinson, Feb 9, 1912, to J. N. Loughborough. 1 page.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]

S. N. Haskell, Oct 19, 1912, to Brother Loughborough. 9 pages.
Photocopy. [WDF 230]

J. N. Loughborough, Mar 25, 1915, to Luther Warren. 3 pages. Original +
photocopy + envelope. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Jun 5, 1917, to George A. Campbell. 1 page.
Typescript copy—3 copies. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 5

J. N. Loughborough, Mar 25, 1918, to Wilfrid E. Belleau. 3 pages on 2
pages. Photocopy. [WDF 230]

J. N. Loughborough, Apr 7, 1918, to indecipherable. 1 sheet. Original.
Missing part of the page. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Oct 24, 1918, to H. M. Kelley. 2 pages.
Photocopy—2 copies. [Loma Linda University/WDF 230]

J. N. Loughborough, Feb 12, 1919, to Stemple White. 3 pages +
envelope. Photocopy. [Loma Linda University Heritage Room]

J. N. Loughborough, Mar 26, 1919, to Brother May. 4 pages. Original +
Photocopy + Typescript. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Dec 23, 1919, to H. M. Kelley. 2 pages. 2 copies.
Photocopy. [CAR/WDF 230]

Box 4 Fld 6

J. N. Loughborough, May 2, 1920, to C. E. Holmes. 4 pages.
Photocopy. [GC Archives]

J. N. Loughborough, Jul 6, 1920, to E. A. Sutherland. 1 page.
Photocopy. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Jul 20, 1920, to Lida F. Scott. 1 page. Photocopy.
[CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Mar 8, 1921, to Editors of *Youth's Instructor*. 2
pages. Original. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Sep 11, 1923, to Mrs. N. Crane. 2 pages.
Photocopy. [CAR]

J. N. Loughborough, Nov 27, 1922, to F. C. Gilbert. 2 pages.
Typescript. [GC Archives]

J. N. Loughborough, Jan 7, 1923, to F. C. Gilbert. 3 pages. Typescript.
[GC Archives]

J. N. Loughborough, no date, to "My Dear Adopted Grand Daughter."
2 pages. Typescript. Includes a 1 page manuscript, "How Far Is It
To Heaven?" which is referenced in the letter. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 7

List of letters John N. Loughborough received from Ellen G. White.
26 letters listed.

List of letters John N. Loughborough sent to Ellen G. White, her family members, or those associated with her. 137 letters listed.

Writings

By John N. Loughborough

Box 4 Fld 8 Advent Experience, No. 2. 2 photocopies. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 9 Apostolic and Adventist Experience Compared. 70 pages.
Original. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 10 Certification of Election of Trustees, handwritten by John N. Loughborough, in his role as California Conference President, that three men were elected trustees of the Napa, California Seventh-day Adventist Church. 1 page. Original. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 11 "God's Pow[er] and Presence Everywhere." 5 pages.
Original. Typescript. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 12 "Present Truth." 3 page manuscript about *The Present Truth*. Original. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 13 Report to the President of the General Conference by District Superintendent, no. 3. Photocopy of a handwritten 4 page document. [GC Archives]

Box 4 Fld 14 "The Second Advent Movement," number 1 to 17, With Questions and Answers. Original. Has a letter from F. M. Wilcox, Oct 30, 1921, at the back where the *Review and Herald* editor is apologizing for some event associated with Loughborough's writings. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 15 "The Sixth and Seventh Seals." 4 pages. Typescript.
Original. [CAR]

Box 4 Fld 16 "Statement by Elder J. N. Loughborough at Yountville, California, Meeting, September 22, 1874." This is a photocopy of a handwritten recollection by Ernest Lloyd about a statement given by Loughborough. It is presented as a direct quotation by Loughborough. 1 page. Photocopy. [CAR]

By Others

- Box 4 Fld 17 "Elder J. N. Loughborough." Obituary in the *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, Jun 19, 1924. Written by A. G. Daniells. 2 pages. Photocopy.
- Box 4 Fld 18 "General Conference." A series of letters to the editor of the *Review* calling for a "General Conference" to convene. They are all from 1862 and written by various individuals. 9 pages. Typescript. [CAR]
- Box 4 Fld 19 "God's Message to J. N. Loughborough." Written by Ernest Lloyd. 2 pages. Original typescript + photocopy. This is the story of Loughborough's conversion to Seventh-day Adventism. [CAR]
- Box 4 Fld 20 "Noted Adventist Here Tells of Pioneer Days." No author. Articles from the *Oakland Tribune*, Mar 12, 1914. 1 page. Photocopy. [White Estate]
- Box 4 Fld 21 *Replies to Elder Canright's attacks on Seventh-day Adventists*. George I. Butler, [et. al.]. Battle Creek, MI : Review and Herald, 1888. Note written on the front: "Sanitarium, Cal. Sept. 17, 1919. I have just completed a careful reading of this 'Replies to Elder Canright's Attacks on Seventh-day Adventist.' It should settle any mind as the falsity and injustice of his course." Signed: J. N. Loughborough. [Underlining his]
- Box 4 Fld 22 Testimonial for Elder White After His Death By D. M. Canright. 1 page handwritten. Original. [CAR]

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