Scope and Content

Stephen Nelson Haskell (1833-1922) was an evangelist and administrator. He began preaching for the non-Sabbatarian Adventists in New England in 1853, and later the same year began to observe the Sabbath. In 1850 he married Mary How, who, in 1869 assisted in organizing the first Vigilant Missionary Society. After doing self-supporting work in New England, he was ordained in 1870 and became president of the New England Conference (1870-1876, 1877-1887). In 1870 he organized the first conference Tract and Missionary Society, and subsequently organized similar societies in various parts of the eastern United States. In addition to being president of the New England Conference he was also president of the California Conference (1879-1887) and the Maine Conference (1884-1886), and part of that time was out of the country.

In 1885 he was in charge of a group that was sent to open denominational work in Australia. His preaching in New Zealand was climaxed by forming the first group of Seventh-day Adventists in that country. In 1887 with three Bible instructors he began SDA work in London, England, and organized a church there. He made a world tour on behalf of missionary work in 1889-1890, visiting western Europe, Southern Africa, India, China, Japan, and Australia. In 1918, some 28 years later, in a report to the General Conference, he related that on that world tour he baptized one individual in China and another in Japan, the first in these countries (see Review and Herald 99:17, Dec. 14, 1922). No other reports of these baptisms are extant, nor do later historians on SDA denominational history mention them. He was again president of the California Conference from 1891 to 1894. His first wife died in January of that year. Again in Australia (1896-1899), he engaged in evangelistic work and taught Bible at the Avondale school. While there he married Hetty Hurd in February 1897 whom he subsequently married.

Another of Haskell’s “firsts” was the organization of the first African-American SDA church in New York City (1902). After this, he conducted a series of Bible training schools and evangelistic series in Tennessee and California, and once again served as president of the California Conference (1908-1911).

He led in temperance work in Maine (1911), began printing books for the blind (1912), and assisted in the development of the White Memorial Hospital (1916). Until near the time of his death he attended institutes and camp meetings, and promoted the general work of the denomination. His written works include The Story of Daniel the Prophet, The Story of the Seer of Patmos, and the Cross and Its Shadow.

Extent: 1.46 linear feet.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically. No effort was made to sort the materials by writer or recipient.
Provenance

This collection was held unprocessed by the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office at Andrews University until 2004 when it was incorporated into the manuscript collections of the Center for Adventist Research at the James White Library, Andrews University. It is unknown who selected letters for inclusion.

Use

All users of this collection will complete the “Application to Use Unpublished Records,” and observe the regulation specified in the “Patron’s Agreement” and “Researcher’s Code of Conduct.” All records in this collection are open and available for research. Any form of copying will be limited by the White Estate’s copy policy. Suggested citation for this collection:

Box ___, fld ___, Stephen N. Haskell Collection (Collection 233), Center for Adventist Research, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.
INVENTORY


Box 1 Fld 1   1892
Box 1 Fld 2   1893 and March 9, 1894
Box 1 Fld 3   1895
Box 1 Fld 4   1896
Box 1 Fld 5   1897
Box 1 Fld 6   1898
Box 1 Fld 7   1899
Box 1 Fld 8   1900
Box 2 Fld 1   1901
Box 2 Fld 2   1902
Box 2 Fld 3   1903
Box 2 Fld 4   1904
Box 2 Fld 5   1905
Box 2 Fld 6   1906
Box 2 Fld 7   1907
Box 3 Fld 1   1908

Box 3 Fld 2   1909
Box 3 Fld 3  1910 – January to August
Box 3 Fld 4  1910 – September to December
Box 3 Fld 5  1911 – January to June
Box 4 Fld 1  1911 – July to December

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