



**Frederick C. Gilbert Collection, 1855-1950  
(Manuscript Collection 8)**

Rebok Memorial Library Special Collections  
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20901  
Original finding aid created 28 July 2014 by Ashlee Chism  
Revised and updated by Ashlee Chism, 22 March 2022

## **Scope and Content**

This collection contains correspondence, diaries, photographs and photo albums, slides, cloth charts, pamphlets, sermon and article notes, and books created or collected by Frederick C. Gilbert.

## **Arrangement and Quantity**

This collection is 14.5 linear feet. It is organized into three general series of documents, photographs, and cloth charts. Languages found within the collection are English, Hebrew, and Chinese.

## **Custodial History and Immediate Source of Acquisition**

The bulk of the collection was donated by Miriam Tymeson, one of Gilbert's daughters, in several accretions between 1974 and 1984. Additional material was added to the collection in 1975 by Kenneth H. Wood while he was editor of the *Review and Herald*. At the time of its original arrangement, books and pamphlets were transferred out of the collection and into the general archival holdings. Diaries and a photo album, belonging to Gilbert's aunt-in-law, Jennie Thayer, were removed from this collection in 2015 and 2022 and added to the existing Thayer Collection.

## **Conditions Governing Access**

This collection is open for research.

## **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

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## **Preferred Citation**

*For the collection:*

Rebok Memorial Library, Silver Spring, Maryland. Frederick C. Gilbert Collection. MS 8.

*For a specific box in the collection:*

Rebok Memorial Library, Silver Spring, Maryland. Frederick C. Gilbert Collection. MS 8.  
[BOX NUMBER].

## Biographical Information

Frederick Carnes Gilbert was born as Frederick Carnes Cohen on 30 September 1867 in London, England. His parents, Falk and Miriam Cohen, both strict observers of Orthodox Judaism, had settled in England after fleeing religious persecution in Russia and Germany, and they raised Frederick in their faith. After his father's death, Frederick immigrated to the United States, presumably changing his last name upon his arrival. He lived in New York City, New York, and then in Boston, Massachusetts, where he boarded with a Seventh-day Adventist family, the Fiskes. He was baptized as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian on 16 April 1889 by Orville O. Farnsworth.

As a result of his conversion, Gilbert was focused on sharing his new faith with fellow Jewish people. He worked as a literature evangelist and attended South Lancaster Academy (1890-1894) to prepare for this work. In June 1894, Gilbert began his work as a minister in the New England Conference, working among Boston's urban Jewish population. The overall response to his efforts was negative, and Adventist Church leadership assigned Gilbert to work among other populations.

On March 16, 1896, Frederick Gilbert married Ella May Graham (1865-1944), daughter of William H. and Mary (Thayer) Graham. Gilbert was naturalized as a citizen during this time. He and Ella had four children: Ruth Marjorie (Miller, 1897-1979), Miriam Graham (Tymeson, 1902-1984), William Paul (1903-1958), and Louis Benjamin (1910-1967). Gilbert was ordained to the gospel ministry during a camp meeting in West Newton, Massachusetts in June 1898.

Throughout the next decade, he held open air evangelistic series, wrote articles for church periodicals (especially the *Atlantic Union Gleaner*, which Ella's aunt, Jennie Thayer, edited at the time), and published his first book, *Practical Lessons from the Experience of Israel for the Church of To-day*. He began anew his efforts among the Jewish population in Boston, Massachusetts, beginning the Jewish Mission there with Albert E. Place in 1905.

In 1907, Gilbert was appointed the first director of the Central New England Conference's new Jewish Department; he simultaneously was the Jewish Representative for the Atlantic Union Conference. Between 1909 and 1911, he urged the creation of a Jewish Department underneath the North American Foreign Department; when that was organized in 1911, Gilbert was appointed the department's superintendent. That same year, Gilbert released his essentially self-published autobiography, *From Judaism to Christianity and Gospel Work among the Hebrews*.

In 1913, the title of the Jewish Department was changed to the Jewish Department Advisory Committee and then the Jewish Advisory Committee. In 1918, the committee was placed under the General Conference's Bureau of Home Missions and once more was called 'department'.

As a church administrator, Gilbert was sent on numerous trips to conduct and speak at meetings; he also attended meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee and was regularly a delegate to General Conference Sessions. In 1922, he was made one of the Church's first General Conference field secretaries, a position he held until his death in 1946. As part of this role, he took several international trips, including to China and Japan (1923), India (1939), and Central and South

America (1943). During this time, he retained his position as Jewish Department superintendent and produced several more books, including *Messiah in His Sanctuary* (1937).

Gilbert suffered a stroke in 1943, and Ella Gilbert died early in 1944. In the wake of these events, he resigned his position as associate secretary of the Bureau of Home Missions. In January 1946, he suffered a second stroke, which eventually led to his death on 31 August 1946, at his home in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Since Gilbert was the son of Russian Jews and had converted from Judaism in 1889, he unceasingly focused on evangelizing Jewish people, whether that meant starting a paper written in Yiddish or bringing orphans home to live with him and his wife, Ella May (Graham) Gilbert. The various Seventh-day Adventist Church entities that he led—the Central New England Conference Jewish Department, the North American Division’s Jewish Department Advisory Committee, and the General Conference’s Jewish Advisory Committee—all had the specific focus of developing strategies to evangelize Jewish communities and raise funds to support such endeavors.

### **Description Control Element**

Description based on DACS and on the original finding aid, created in Summer 2014 by Ashlee Chism. This finding aid was created in 2022 by Ashlee Chism.

The source for the biographical information is Gilbert’s obituary in the September 26, 1946 issue of *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*. For an in-depth look at Gilbert’s life, please consult the article on him in the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*:  
<https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/article?id=CAUZ>.

### **Related Archival Materials**

RG 11, Incoming Presidential Correspondence  
 RG 21, Incoming Secretariat Correspondence  
 RG 33, Sustentation File for F. C. Gilbert  
 Jennie Thayer Collection  
 Samuel and Irma Kaplan Collection

### Container Listing

<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>
259-260		Silent Witnesses of the Bible
259-260		Palestine and the Zionist Movement
261		Article Drafts and Newspaper Clippings
261		Article Drafts, Extracts, and Radio Script
261	1918-1931	Clippings, pamphlets, lists, and other ephemera, 1918-1931
261	1922-1945	Correspondence, 1922-1945
261	1912	Four Study Typescripts, 1912
261	1938	Jewish Calendar - Correspondence, notes, and drafts, 1938
261	1927-1928	Lecture Notes and Outlines, 1927-1928 - 1
261	1927-1928	Lecture Notes and Outlines, 1927-1928 - 2
261		Palestine - Article Drafts
261		Talk and Sermon Notes, Advertisements, Handbills, and Correspondence
261		Various Typescripts
262		Article and Sermon Typescripts
262		Articles #1-27 on the Jewish Problem
262		Bible Studies and Article Drafts
262	1940-1943	Central America - Correspondence, reports, and financial statements, 1940-1943
262		Four Lesson Studies and Two Drafts
262	1944-1945	Gilbert Affidavit on 1893 Hiscox Statement
262		Images and Photographs Compiled for Publications
262	1923	Japan Earthquake, 1923
262	1902-1915	Laborer's Reports, 1902-1915
262		Letter and Manuscripts
262		Photographs
263	1937-1940	Travel Guides, 1937-1940
263		Mission of the Prophets - Bound Manuscript Draft
263		Mission of the Prophets - Manuscript Draft
263		Mission of the Prophets - Manuscript Draft 2
263		Silent Witnesses of the Bible - Bound Manuscript
263		Silent Witnesses of the Bible - Bound Manuscript - 2
263		Typescript, A Sick World Healed
263		Typescripts of "A Scriptural Exposition of H-T-Mid, The Daily, Daniel 8:11-13"
263		Typescripts of Doctrinal Chapters (6-12)
264		Bible owned by F. C. Gilbert
264	1894-1923	Correspondence and statements, 1894-1923
264		Documents about visit to Kaifeng, China

264		Extracts and Excerpts related to Ellen White
264		Hiscox Statement Materials
264	1896-1918	Ministerial Credentials, 1896-1918
264		Pamphlets, Programs, and Loose Documents
264		Peking Slide List and Script
264	1923	Photographs, 1923
264		Rubbings of tablets erected by Chinese Jewish people
265		Drafts and Notes
265		Fulton, Haskell, Nichols, and Arnold Articles
265		Letters and Manuscripts, Ellen G. White
265		Loughborough Articles - 1
265		Loughborough Articles - 2
265	1931-1933	Mimeographs, 1931-1933
266	1922-1923	Photographs: China
266	1922-1923	Photographs: China, Middle East
266	1922-1923	Photographs: Europe and Middle East
266	1922-1923	Photographs: Europe, Middle East, China
266	1922-1923	Photographs: Korea, China, Middle East
266	1922-1923	Photographs: Lamas and Buza Dance, Yonghegong, Beijing, China
266	1922-1923	Photographs: Lecture on Europe
267	1922-1923	Photographs: Middle East - 1
267	1922-1923	Photographs: Middle East - 2
267	1922-1923	Photographs: Shanghai, China, and other scenes in China
267	1922-1923	Photographs: Temple of Heaven, Beijing, China
267		Slides: Adventist History
275-301	1895	Field Laborers' Daily Record, 1895
275-301	1896	Field Laborers' Daily Record, 1896
275-301	1900	Field Laborers' Daily Record, 1900
275-301	1903	Diary, 1903
275-301	1944	Diary, 1944
275-301	1933	Travel appointments book, 1933
275-301	1902	Diary, 1902
275-301	1937	Diary, 1937
275-301	1938	Diary, 1938
275-301	1939	Diary, 1939
275-301	1861	English version of Polyglott Bible
275-301	1875	Scripture in Hebrew
275-301	1855	Home Here and Home in Heaven, With Other Poems / Annie R Smith
275-301	1936	Humphrey's manual on the care and treatment of every illness safe to treat at home

303		Photo album
304		Photo album
305		Photo album
306-307	1938	Cloth chart, depicting sanctuary service
306-307		Cloth chart, depicting 2300-year-day prophecy
308-312		Cloth chart, depicting the millennium, 4x6 1/2'
308-312		Cloth chart, depicting provinces of China, 4x4 1/2'
308-312		Cloth chart, depicting Revelation 13:18
308-312		Cloth chart, depicting the Ten Commandments
308-312		Cloth chart, depicting the sanctuary service: table of shewbread
313-317		Cloth chart, depicting the sanctuary service: altar of burnt offering
313-317		Cloth chart, depicting the sanctuary service: day of atonement
313-317		Cloth chart, depicting the sanctuary service: sanctuary interior
313-317		Cloth chart, depicting the sanctuary service: the laver
313-317		Cloth chart, depicting the sanctuary service: altar of incense
318-324		Cloth chart, depicting sanctuary service: ark of covenant
318-324		Cloth chart, depicting sanctuary service: tabernacle exterior
318-324		Cloth chart, depicting sanctuary service: priest and candlestick
318-324		Cloth chart, depicting sanctuary service: casting lots
318-324	1905	Photograph of an unidentified child
318-324		Photograph of H. H. (Heber H.) Votaw
318-324		Photograph of Thayer family

### Books and pamphlets transferred to the Library holdings

The following materials were originally part of the collection but were transferred to the Rebok Memorial Library's holdings. These are typically accessible via the location provided, but in the cases of fragile materials, a digital copy is available in the General Conference's [online archives](#).

#### *Books*

Title	Date	Author	Location
Judaism and Christianity: The Two Outstanding Religions	1942	Gilbert, F. C. (Fred Carnes), 1867-1946.	BM535 .G54 1942
Practical Lessons from the Experience of Israel for Today	1902	Gilbert, F. C. (Fred Carnes), 1867-1946.	BM535 .G55 1902
Divine Predictions of Mrs Ellen G. White Fulfilled	1922	Gilbert, F. C. (Fred Carnes), 1867-1946, compiler.	BX6149 .G5 1922
His Messenger	1939	Wheeler, Ruth Lellah Carr, 1899-1997.	BX6111 .W45 1939
Sister White: A Life of Ellen G. White for Primary Children	1950	Spalding, Arthur Whitefield, 1877-1953.	BX6193 .W5 S6 1950

Sabbath Readings for the Home Circle, Vol 1	1877		BV4515 .S3 1877
Saints and Sinners	1951	Andreasen, M. L. (Milian Lauritz), 1876-1962.	BS571 .A6
The Jewish Problem	1940	Gilbert, F. C. (Fred Carnes), 1867-1946.	DS141 .G45 1940
Certainties of the Advent Movement	1929	Spicer, William Ambrose, 1865-1952.	BX6151 .S6 C4 1929
Thrilling and instructive developments: an experience of fifteen years as Roman Catholic clergyman and priest	1862	Czechowski, M. B. (Michael Belina), 1818-1876.	BX1765 .C985 1862
Founders of the Message	1938	Dick, Everett (Everett Newfon), 1898-1989.	BX6191 .D5
A Brief History of William Miller: The Great Pioneer in Adventual Faith	1915	Advent Christian Publication Society.	BX6193 .M5 B7 1915
The Atoning Work of Christ	1934	Watson, C. H. (Charles Henry), 1876-1962.	BT265 .W3
Practical Lessons from the Experience of Israel, 2d ed, rev	1914	Gilbert, F. C. (Fred Carnes), 1867-1946.	BM535 .G5 1914
Alone with God: Fitting for Service	1917	Andross, Anna Matilda Erickson, 1880-1957.	BV210 .A63

### *Pamphlets*

<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Location</b>
The Book of Books	1944	Snider, John David, 1889-1976.	LF 1266
Blessed Be Drudgery		Gannett, William C. (William Channing), 1840-1923.	LF 1267
Down Lilac Lanes	1937	Keeler, Caroline Eells, 1900-1978.	LF 1268
Under the Juniper Tree		March, Daniel, 1816-1909.	LF 1269
Quiet Thoughts for Meditation		Quinn, Lottie Estella (Durland), 1878-1969.	LF 1270
The Gateway to the Kingdom	1942	Froom, L. E. (Le Roy Edwin), 1890-1974.	LF 1271
Our Father's House	1941	March, Daniel, 1816-1909.	LF 1272
Learn of Me: Homily on Matthew 11:28-30	1939	MacGuire, Meade, 1875-1967.	LF 1273
Straightening Out Mrs. Perkins	1922	Greene, Reuben Alonzo, 1885-1933.	LF 1274
The Candle in the Kitchen	1944	Keeler, Caroline Eells, 1900-1978.	LF 1275
The Testimony of the Flowers	1937	Lloyd, Beluah Mary (Baker), 1884-1973.	LF 1276
Victory in Christ		Prescott, William Warren, 1855-1944.	LF 1277
Homespun	1941	Keeler, Caroline Eells, 1900-1978.	LF 1278
David Dare	1933	Rowell, Earle Albert, 1881-1962.	LF 1279



The Mark of the Beast		Everson, Charles Theodore, 1874-1956.	LF 1280
Pen Pictures of the Face of Jesus	1914	Pearce, William P. (William Peter), 1867-	LF 1281
The Lord is My Shepherd		Smith, Roy L.	LF 1282
A Cup of Cold Water		Gannett, William C. (William Channing), 1840-1923.	LF 1283
Memory Book for Birthdays and Other Dates	1942	Hoskin, George Clarence, 1876-1971.	LF 1284
The Testimony of the Birds	1947	Lloyd, Beluah Mary (Baker), 1884-1973.	LF 1285
When Your Knight Comes Riding		Boutwell, Elizabeth	LF 1286
The Man of the Other Mile	1948	Spear, L. M. (Leonard Martin), 1871-1963.	LF 1287
The Testimony of the Trees	1948	Lloyd, Beluah Mary (Baker), 1884-1973.	LF 1288
Which Day of the Week Did Christ Sanctify, Bless, and Keep?		Everson, Charles Theodore, 1874-1956.	LF 1289
The Supremacy of Love		Froom, L. E. (Le Roy Edwin), 1890-1974.	LF 1290
What is A Gentleman?; Shams; How to Be Insignificant		Atkins, Frederick A.	LF 1291
Think It Over	1942	Holley, Ruth Olivia (Nerlund), 1911-1942.	LF 1292
Wheel-Chair Reveries	1948	Clegg, Celia Varner, 1893-1949.	LF 1293
I Shall Be Satisfied	1947	Moore, Mary Hunter, 1889-1975.	LF 1294
Rich Man, Poor Man	1948	Keeler, Caroline Eells, 1900-1978.	LF 1295
Celestial Visitors	1938	Bellah, C. G. (Charles Greeley), 1873-1964.	LF 1296
Seven Times [#7 in Golden Grains series]			LF 1297
A Brief Sketch of the Life and Teachings of Ellen G White	1933	White, Ellen G	LF 1298
Crucifixion of Christ: Was It on Wednesday or Friday?		Sharp, F. L. (Frederick Lacey), 1864-1953.	LF 1299
Antiochus or Rome?: Defence of Bible Doctrine of 2300 Days		Sharp, F. L. (Frederick Lacey), 1864-1953.	LF 1300
Divine Revelation: The Prophetic Gift		Wilcox, F. M. (Francis McClellan), 1865-1951.	LF 1301
The Life of Victory	1924	MacGuire, Meade, 1875-1967.	LF 1302
World's Fair Album of Chicago, 1893	1893		LF 1303
New Co-ordinated Bible School of Evangelism	1940		LF 1304
Programs for SDA Elementary Schools		GC Education Department	LF 1305

