



Maine Historical Society  
Coll. 2986

Benjamin Clough family papers  
1788 – 1979 (bulk dates 1788-1951)

**Accession no.:** 2017.168

**Processed by:** Jill Piekut, MHS intern, Spring 2018

**Access:** Unrestricted

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**Size:** 3.5 linear ft. plus two oversize folders (located in O.S. Box 16)

**Dates:** 1788-1947 (bulk dates 1788-1951)

**Biographical note:**

Benjamin Clough came to Monmouth, ME around 1790, where he made a clearing for his house on Norris Hill. He purchased the land in 1794. (For a more detailed history of Monmouth's settlement, see Cochrane's *History of Monmouth and Wales*.) Four generations of the Clough family lived on the homestead: Benjamin Clough, his son Asa, Asa's son George Marston, and George Marston's children, Richard, Mary Elizabeth, and Grace. The family participated in legal, business, municipal, and religious matters in Monmouth, Lewiston, Portland, and Boston, while managing a farm, dairy, and orchard on some of Maine's best agricultural land. The Federal Style Clough family home was sold in 1950 and still stands near the University of Maine's Highmoor Farm experiment station.

More biographical information is as follows.

**Benjamin Clough (1764-1840)** was born in Poplin (now Freemont), NH to Benjamin and Meribah (Ring) Clough. Benjamin is a fifth-generation descendant of the immigrant John Clough. According to Cochrane, Benjamin "was left alone in the world by the death of his parents" at an early age. He joined the army during the Revolution and was appointed sergeant of the 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Second Brigade and eighth Division of the Militia of Massachusetts. He was later given the title of ensign. He was appointed Justice of the Peace for Kennebec County in 1810, 1817, and 1824. As justice of the peace, Benjamin recorded land transactions, performed marriages, wrote summonses and took statements related to petty crimes. Benjamin also performed work on the roads.

He married Mary Marston (1764-1848) in 1791 and they had three children: Simon (1793-1844), Asa (1794-1865), Mehitabel (1796-1840).

**Simon Clough (1793-1844)**, son of Benjamin and Mary (Marston) Clough, was ordained as a Congregational minister in 1817 in Hebron, ME. From 1819 to 1824 and from 1837 to 1839, Simon was the pastor of the First Christian Church of Boston. In the intervening years, he went to New York and organized the First Christian Church there. He later organized several churches

in New Jersey. He wrote for Christian magazines throughout his career and published several books, including an anti-abolitionist text.

Simon's letters to his brother Asa cover the development of the Congregational faith in Maine, Massachusetts, and New York, and its dissemination through newspapers like *The Gospel Luminary*. More information about Simon Clough can be found in *Memoirs of deceased Christian ministers; or, Brief sketches of the lives and labors of 975 ministers, who died between 1793 and 1880* by Rev. E. W. Humphreys.

He married twice. After the death of his first wife, he married Minerva Howell of New York.

**Asa Clough (1794-1865)** was born in Monmouth, ME to Benjamin and Mary (Marston) Clough. He was educated and taught school in Monmouth, and participated in the local militia. According to Cochrane, Asa, "added quite largely to his inherited property" through "diligence and good calculation."

As a young man, Asa assisted his father with legal and business matters. He served as Paymaster of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Infantry, as tax collector, and on the Committee of School District Number 1. He also performed work on the roads.

Three of Asa's 11 children, Asa A., John E., and Elias P., along with two other men, drowned following a boating accident on Cochnewagon Pond on July 8 or 9, 1851. A copy of a newspaper report from the July 17, 1851 issue of the Eastern Times can be found in the research notes for this collection.

Several of Asa's children settled in Boston and Fairhaven, Massachusetts, including David M. Clough and Mary Amerill Clough. Asa's son Benjamin Clough was a whaler out of New Bedford. Benjamin Clough's papers are housed at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

Two of Asa's sons remained in Monmouth. His youngest son, George Marston, lived in the Clough homestead. Simon Clough served in the 28<sup>th</sup> Maine Regiment in the Civil War, worked as a clerk for the Maine Central Railroad and later as a contractor. His biography is included in *Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens of the State of Maine*.

He married Mary Pike Griffin in 1816 and they had 11 children: Henrietta B. (May 1840 - October 1840), William G. (1818-1844), Benjamin (1819-1889), David M. (1822-1841), Mary Amerill (1824-unknown), Asa A. (1826-1851), Jacob (1828-unknown,) Simon (1830-1910), John E. (1832-1851), Elias P. (1835-1851), and George Marston (1837-1923).

**George Marston Clough (1837-1923)** was born in Monmouth, ME to Asa and Mary (Griffin) Clough.

George Marston went to sea as a whaler at 17 and returned to Monmouth after two and a half years, where he made his living as a farmer. His records indicated trade in apples, beef, and dairy. In addition, George Marston milled lumber, served as tax collector, and performed work on the roads. He was a member of the Sons of Temperance, a Master Workman of the Monmouth Lodge A.O.U.W., and a presiding officer of the United Order of the Golden Cross.

He married Elizabeth "Lizzie" Mary Goding in 1861 and they had six children: Emery Augustus (1863-1926), Richard G. (1865-unknown), Georgia Ella (1867-1882), Mary Elizabeth (1868-1949), Ruby L. (1870-1879), and Grace I. (1876-1926).

**Elizabeth “Lizzie” Mary (Goding) Clough (1839-1911)** was born in Acton, ME to Luther and Abigail (Hubbard) Goding.

As a young woman, Lizzie spent several years living with her sister Sarah (Goding) Gilman and brother-in-law George Gilman on their farm in Lawn Ridge, Illinois. She returned to Maine around 1860. She was certified to teach school in Acton while living at the Goding family home, and later in Monmouth while visiting her brother John W. Goding.

Lizzie’s father, Luther Goding, was a justice of the peace, deputy sheriff, tax collector, and veterinary surgeon in Acton, ME. Luther’s letters reference frequent travel around the state. Lizzie received frequent letters from her father and siblings, especially her sisters Sarah (Goding) Gilman and Abbie Goding, and her brothers’ wives, Draxey (Brackett) Goding and Dorcas Jane (Brackett) Goding. Later in life, Lizzie received many letters from her son, Emery Augustus “Gus” Clough, who settled in Tustin, California.

She married George Marston Clough in 1861 and they had six children: Emery Augustus (1863-1926), Richard G. (1865-unknown), Georgia Ella (1867-1882), Mary Elizabeth (1868-1949), Ruby L. (1870-1879), and Grace I. (1876-1926).

**Richard Griffin “R.G.” Clough (1865-unknown)** was born in Monmouth, ME to George Marston Clough and Elizabeth Mary (Goding) Clough.

R. G. made his living as a contractor, mason, and farmer, and held the role of constable and tax collector in Kennebec County. He made extra money by looking after the property of neighbors, the Norris family, and by selling books as an agent for C.A. Nichols & Co. Subscription Book Publishers. As a farmer, R.G. participated in Turner Centre Systems’ cooperative dairy, sold potatoes to Hannaford Brothers, and shipped apples to Liverpool, England through Boston agents. Friends wrote to him about returning home to Monmouth for vacations.

R.G. served as the Secretary of the Republican Caucus in 1897, and was a member of the International Order of Good Templars Grand Lodge of Maine, a temperance organization.

**Mary Elizabeth “Mary Lizzie” Clough (1868-1949)** was born in Monmouth, ME to George Marston Clough and Elizabeth Mary (Goding) Clough. She was educated at Monmouth Academy and lived with her brother R.G. and sister Grace at the Clough family home. Mary Lizzie and her sister Grace kept up lifelong correspondence with family and friends in Maine, Massachusetts, and the Midwest, and with their brother Emery Augustus “Gus” Clough in California.

**Grace Isabel Clough (1876-1926)** was born in Monmouth, ME to George Marston Clough and Elizabeth Mary (Goding) Clough. She was educated at Monmouth Academy and lived with her brother R. G. and sister Mary Elizabeth at the Clough family home. She served as clerk of the Congregational Church in Monmouth, and, with her sister, was active in Monmouth’s religious and intellectual life.

**Benjamin Crocker Clough (1889-1975)** was born in Tisbury, Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts to Benjamin Clough Jr. and Octavia Norris Crocker. He was the grandson of Captain Benjamin Clough and great-grandson of Asa Clough of Monmouth. He served as the administrator of the estates of his mother, Octavia N. Clough, his sister, Emma C. Lord, and his cousin, Mary Elizabeth Clough of Monmouth. He was a professor of English and classics at

Brown University and a genealogist of the Clough family. He was married to Elizabeth Louise Lustig (1898-1968).

**Scope and content note:** These papers include legal and business records, farming and household records, letters, and printed matter related to agriculture, local Monmouth events and social organizations.

**Related collections:**

New Bedford Whaling Museum: whaling log books compiled by Captain Benjamin Clough (1819-1889), who sailed in and out of Massachusetts during his maritime career.

California Historical Society: letters written by Emery Augustus "Gus" Clough to his sisters from California

University of Maine Orono Folger Library Special Collections: The Diary of Grace Clough of Monmouth, Maine

**Series:**

Series I: Clough Family

Series II: Goding Family

Series III: Clough-Goding Family

Series IV: Miscellaneous and oversized folders

**Processing note:** Papers were partially arranged by the donor, and the system of grouping letters by the family member who received them was maintained. Letters between Goding sisters (Lizzie, Sarah, Abbie, Draxey, and Dorcas) are often addressed and signed "Sister," so their arrangement was based on the donor's arrangement and occasionally on the content of the letters. Letters to unidentified recipients were arranged according to who signed them. Undated letters precede dated letters, except when the date was inferred from the letter's content.

Turner Centre Systems envelopes remain sealed, except for a few which were found opened. The open envelopes appear to contain a representative sample of all envelopes' contents.

The papers of Benjamin Crooker Clough make up part of Series IV. These papers were received in labeled file folders, and the original arrangement has been preserved. Folder headings following "Benjamin C. Clough Papers" were transcribed from the original folders.

July 2018 the donor added more materials which can be found in Box 8, Folders 13-35

In 2019 some of the boxes were condensed, for space reasons

**Provenance:** Gift of John W. Clough, a direct descendant of Capt. Benjamin Clough of Monmouth.

## Inventory:

### Series I: Clough Family

(see also Oversize Folder 1)

#### Box 1

1. Benjamin Clough Revolutionary Enlistment Information, n.d.
2. Benjamin Clough Diary, 1811-1816
3. Benjamin Clough Papers, n.d., 1788-1809
4. Benjamin Clough Papers, 1810-1814
5. Benjamin Clough Papers, 1815-1819
6. Benjamin Clough Papers, 1820-1836
7. Simon Clough Papers, n.d, 1822, 1828
8. Asa Clough Accounts, n.d., 1813-1834
9. Asa Clough Accounts, 1835-1853
10. Letters to Asa Clough from Simon Clough, 1813-1834
11. Letters to Asa Clough, 1835-1862
12. William G. Clough Papers, 1837, 1841
13. Capt. Benjamin Clough Accounts, 1854
14. Simon Clough Papers, n.d., 1889
15. Letters to Unidentified Recipients from John Clough, 1861
16. George Marston Clough Accounts, n.d., 1859-1922
17. Letters to George Marston Clough, 1857-1862
18. Letters to George Marston Clough, 1889-1921
19. Letters to George Marston Clough from Goding family members
  - a. Letter from Lizzie (Goding) Clough regarding engagement
  - b. Letter from John Goding regarding family conflict, 1862
  - c. Telegram from R.H. Goding regarding death of Abigail (Hubbard) Goding, 1889

#### Series II: Goding family

20. Letter to John Goding from Luther Goding, n.d.
21. Letters to Children from Luther Goding, 1857-1863
22. Letters to Unidentified Recipients from Luther Goding, 1859, 1868
23. Letters to Unidentified Recipients from R. H. Goding, n.d., 1857, 1858
24. Letter to Unidentified Recipient from Draxey (Brackett) Goding, 1858
25. Letter to Unidentified Recipient from Dorcas (Brackett) Goding, 1863
26. Letters to Unidentified Recipients from Sarah (Goding) Gilman, n.d., 1863-1868
27. Letters to Unidentified Recipients from George Gilman, n.d.
28. Letters to Sarah (Goding) Gilman, 1859-1860

#### Box 2

1. Letters to Unidentified Recipients from Abbie Goding, n.d., 1858, 1863
2. Letters to Abbie Goding, 1860-1887
3. Letters to Dorcas (Brackett) Goding from Lizzie Clough, n.d., 1855-1858
4. Lizzie (Goding) Clough Teaching Certifications

5. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from R. H. Goding, 1853-1861
6. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from John W. Goding, 1854-1859
7. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Luther Goding, 1857, 1863
8. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Abbie Goding, 1857
9. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Abbie Goding, 1858
10. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Abbie Goding, 1859-1861
11. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Abbie Goding, 1862-1869
12. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Sarah Gilman, n.d.
13. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Sarah Gilman, 1860
14. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Sarah Gilman, 1861
15. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Sarah Gilman, 1862-1889
16. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough from Emery Augustus Clough, 1883-1899
17. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough, n.d., 1855-1857
18. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough, 1858-1861
19. Letters to Lizzie (Goding) Clough, 1862-1903

### **No Box 3**

### **Series III: Clough-Goding Family**

(see also Oversize Folder 2)

#### **Box 4**

1. Letter to E. L. Hunton from R. G. Clough, 1896
2. Letters to R. G. Clough from G. M. Norris, 1886-1895
3. Letters to R. G. Clough from G. M. Norris, 1896, 1903
4. Letters to R. G. Clough from G. M. Norris, 1907-1909
5. Letters to R. G. Clough from G. M. Norris, 1910-1913
6. Letters to R. G. Clough from Daniel D. Carothers, 1903-1908
7. Letters to R. G. Clough from William H. Carothers, 1885-1886
8. Letters to R. G. Clough from Mary Elizabeth Clough, 1885, 1886
9. Letters to R. G. Clough, n.d., 1886-1899
10. Letters to R. G. Clough, 1903-1909
11. Letters to R. G. Clough, 1912-1942
12. R. G. Clough Correspondence regarding Norris Hill rental, 1904
13. Letter to Charles L. Andrews from George M. Norris, 1915
14. R. G. Clough Papers, n.d., 1896-1909
15. R. G. Clough Papers, 1910-1942
16. R. G. Clough Papers, Account Books and Notebooks

#### **Box 5**

1. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, n.d., 1891-1911
2. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, 1912-1915
3. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, 1916-1923
4. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, Apples, n.d., 1893-1903
5. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, Apples, 1904-1907

6. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, Apples, 1908-1912
7. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, Dairy, 1906-1923
8. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, Potatoes, 1908-1914
9. R. G. Clough Papers, Agriculture, Wool, 1889-1897
10. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1889-1898
11. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1903-1904
12. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1908-1909
13. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1911-1912
14. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1912
15. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1912-1914
16. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checks, 1914-1916
17. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Checkbooks and Blanks, n.d., 1889-1923
18. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Credits, 1897-1925
19. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Receipts, n.d., 1903, 1909
20. R. G. Clough Papers, Banking, Miscellaneous, 1905-1923
21. R. G. Clough Papers, Constable, 1896-1903 (see also OS 2b)
22. R. G. Clough Papers, Contracting & Masonry, 1893-1907 (see also OS 2d)

#### **Box 6**

1. R. G. Clough Papers, Insurance, 1889-1924
2. R. G. Clough Papers, Republican Party, n.d., 1903-1910
3. R. G. Clough Papers, Tax Collection, 1923
4. R. G. Clough Papers, Yuma, Colorado, 1890, 1896 (see also O.S. folder 2a)
5. R. G. Clough Printed Matter, Agricultural, n.d.
6. R. G. Clough Printed Matter, Fenno Brothers & Childs Weekly Wool Report, June-October 1889
7. R. G. Clough Printed Matter, Miscellaneous, n.d. (see also OS 2c)
8. R. G. Clough Manuscript, "The Adventures of a Lost Dog," n.d.
9. Letters from Mary Elizabeth Clough, 1935, 1942
10. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough from Grace Clough, 1894, 1894
11. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough from Maude Hamilton, 1905-1908
12. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough from Emery Augustus Clough, 1912, 1913
13. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough from Helen Norris Hughes, 1925-1947
14. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough from Lila A. Gardiner, 1926-1942
15. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough from Elvira Carothers Cosman, 1927-1941
16. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough, n.d., 1882-1898
17. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough, 1901-1916
18. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough, 1923-1929
19. Letters to Mary Elizabeth Clough, 1930-1947
20. Letters to Grace Clough from Bessie Gray Pierce Needham, 1895-1899

#### **Box 7**

1. Letters to Grace Clough from Bessie Gray Pierce Needham, 1900-1916
2. Letters to Grace Clough from Rev. Charles Harbutt, 1899-1919
3. Letters to Grace Clough from Lila A Neal Gardiner, n.d., 1895-1922
4. Letters to Grace Clough from Luetta Robinson, 1899-1922

5. Letters to Grace Clough from Luella Rowell, 1900-1911
6. Letters to Grace Clough from Emery Augustus Clough, n.d., 1911-1918
7. Letters to Grace Clough from Elvira Carothers Cosman, 1912-1920
8. Letters to Grace Clough from Bessie F. Crowell, 1919-1920
9. Letters to Grace Clough, n.d. 1893-1915
10. Letters to Grace Clough, 1916-1919
11. Letters to Grace Clough, 1920-1922
12. Letter to James Packard from E. A. McKenzie, 1919
13. Letters to multiple recipients, n.d. 1901-1915
14. Letters to multiple recipients, 1920-1930

#### **Series IV: Miscellaneous**

##### **Box 8**

1. Letter to Dana Marston, n.d.
2. Letters to Unidentified Recipients, n.d.
3. Letters to Unidentified Recipients, 1856-1861
4. Letters to Unidentified Recipients, 1861-1886
5. Unidentified Account Books and Notebooks
6. Ruby L. Clough Autograph Book, 1878
7. Elvira A. Norris poem, "Dreams," 1903
8. Manuscript Material, Miscellaneous, n.d.
9. Printed Matter, Miscellaneous n.d., 1892-1910
10. Recipes, n.d.
11. Photographs, Identified
12. Photographs, Unidentified
13. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Clough Genealogy
14. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Original materials removed from Clough Genealogy (Folder 13)
15. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth: Administrator's 1<sup>st</sup> and final account, as presented to Probate Ct. at Augusta, June 25, 1951 (1 of 3)
16. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth: Administrator's 1<sup>st</sup> and final account, as presented to Probate Ct. at Augusta, June 25, 1951 (2 of 3)
17. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth: Administrator's 1<sup>st</sup> and final account, as presented to Probate Ct. at Augusta, June 25, 1951 (3 of 3)
18. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Dorothy Hill (Cloughs in Monmouth) 1964
19. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Clough Estate (Monmouth, Maine)
20. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Expended by B.C.C.
21. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Probate Court
22. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Electricity: Central Maine Power Co.
23. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, M. Elizabeth Clough Estate – Miscellaneous
24. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Town of: correspondence
25. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth 1862
26. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – State of Maine: correspondence
27. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Mrs. Martha Clough, correspondence with



28. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Schimek, Ward, Althenn: correspondence
29. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Judge Foster’s bill
30. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Inventory and deed to C. J. Schimek
31. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Insurance
32. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Receipts – real and personal estates
33. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Adm. (Monmouth) rough notes, etc.
34. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Monmouth – Judge Foster: correspondence with
35. Benjamin C. Clough Papers, Loose paper – Benjamin C. Clough headstone, 1979

**Oversize Materials** (located in O.S. Box 16)

OS 1. Benjamin Clough Papers

- a. Appointment Certificates, Justice of the Peace, 1810, 1817, 1824
- b. Map, Lots 39 and 40, Monmouth
- c. Map of Land in Monmouth
- d. Legal documents, 1812, 1816
- e. Asa Clough Deed, 1813

OS 2. R.G. Clough Papers

- a. Map of Yuma, CO, 1890
- b. Appointment Certificates, Constable, 1893, 1896
- c. An Act to Incorporate the Monmouth Water and Sewer District, 1921
- d. Letter and Architectural Drawing, 1903