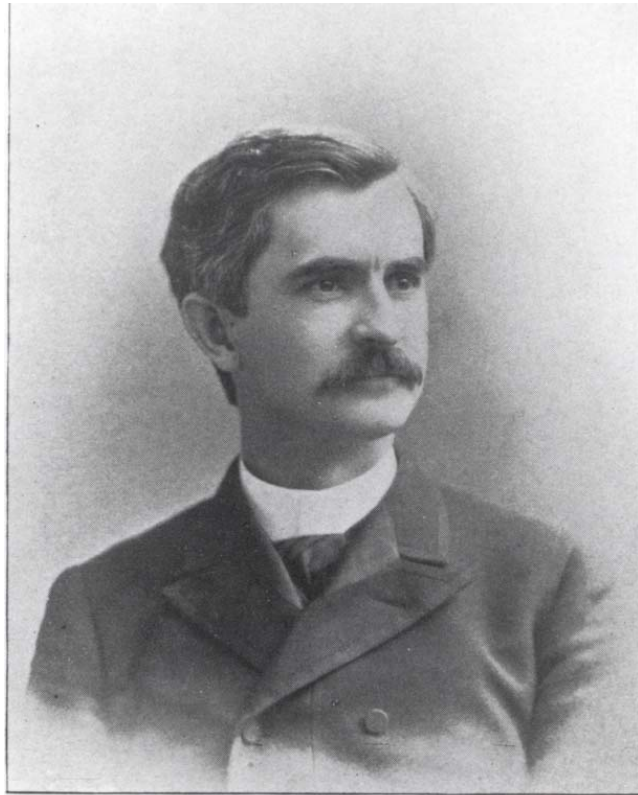


# AMZI CLARENCE DIXON PAPERS

## AR 111



*A. C. Dixon*

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

Original inventory, 1964  
Revised and updated, 2002

Updated March, 2012

# Amzi Clarence Dixon Papers

## AR 111

### Summary

Main Entry: Amzi Clarence Dixon Papers

Date Span: 1870 – 1925

Abstract: A. C. Dixon was a Baptist clergyman and writer. He served as pastor to churches in North Carolina, Maryland, New York, and Massachusetts and as minister to the Moody Church in Chicago and the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, England. The collection includes addresses, articles, biographical material, book manuscripts, booklets, conference programs, correspondence, date books, subject files, 1300 sermons and notes, and scrapbooks.

Size: 15 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 111

### Biographical Sketch

Amzi Clarence Dixon was born July 6, 1854 in Shelby, North Carolina, the son of Rev. Thomas and Amanda Elizabeth (McAfee) Dixon. In 1865, he was converted while his father was preaching and was baptized in 1866 by his father. In his youth he read the sermons of Charles Haddon Spurgeon and, through them, received an inspiration to preach the gospel. In 1869, Dixon entered Wake Forest College and, in 1874, received an A.B. and was ordained to the Baptist ministry. From 1874 – 75, he was pastor of Baptist churches in North Carolina. He continued theological studies at Southern Baptist Seminary, Greenville, S. C. from 1876 – 79 and attended the University of North Carolina while there as pastor.

Dixon married Susan Mary (Mollie) Faison in July, 1880, and the couple had five children: Howard, Mary Faison, Abner Faison, Clara, and Grace. Dixon was pastor of the Baptist church in Asheville, North Carolina from 1879 – 1882, and, from 1882 – 1890, he was pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland. In 1886, he received the Doctor of Divinity from Washington and Lee University (conferred on him over his protest). He was pastor in Brooklyn, New York from 1890 to 1901 and in Boston, Massachusetts from 1901 to 1906.

For years, Dixon was closely associated with Lake Keuka Assembly in mid-western New York State and had association with men like R. A. Torrey, Len Go Broughton, Cornelius Woelfkin, Maltbie Babcock, and W. J. Erdman. In 1905, he attended the first Baptist World Congress held in London, England. From 1906 – 1911, he was pastor of Moody Church in Chicago, Illinois, and from 1911 to 1919, he was pastor at the Metropolitan Tabernacle (Spurgeon's), in London,

England. From 1919 to 1922, Dixon lectured at the Los Angeles Bible Institute, Los Angeles, California, and for missionary conferences in China and Japan.

On August 6, 1922, Mrs. Dixon died in China, while attending a missionary conference with her husband. Dixon later was pastor in Baltimore, Maryland and attended the Baptist World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden. In 1924, Dixon remarried and traveled extensively in England and in the United States. He died June 14, 1925 in Baltimore, Maryland, and was buried in Druid Ridge Cemetery near that city. A. C. Dixon was a clergyman, pastor, and evangelist for more than fifty years, and his life's motto was "To me to live is Christ."

### **Scope and Content Note**

The papers of Amzi Clarence Dixon, numbering approximately 6,100 items, are stored in 30 archival boxes and four scrapbooks. They contain an outstanding collection of sermons, sermon notes, and illustrations. The 130 sermons compose about one-half of the material. The correspondence section was used extensively for research in the writing of his biography, A. C. Dixon, a Romance of Preaching, by Helen C. A. Dixon. The manuscript of this book is also in the collection.

The correspondence is arranged chronologically within these categories: (1) family correspondence, originals and copies, (2) general, (3) letters from all over the world about Dr. Dixon's death in 1925, (4) some correspondence in the folders concerning A. C. Dixon's work in the various churches he pastored, and (5) in the folders of "Author, Lecturer and Traveler." The original family correspondence is well preserved, interesting, and important for its biographical content. There are two very old original letters: one written from La Grange, Tennessee has a canceled 2 cent stamp on the first page (envelopes were not always used at that time). The other letter is dated September 28, 1863, from a Civil War soldier, a cousin. The materials show how widely Dr. Dixon traveled to preach and speak in conferences.

The bulk of the material falls in the period 1870 – 1925. The main subject headings are biographical materials, book manuscript, booklets, church life and polity, conference work, correspondence, evangelism, Hanson Place Church, Immanuel Baptist Church, Los Angeles Bible Institute, Men and Movements, Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England, Moody Church, Chicago, sermons, University' Baptist Church, Baltimore, and World War I.

Among Dixon's correspondents are: Annie Armstrong, Ralph Atkinson of Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Henry W. Battle, Charles A. Blanchard (President of Wheaton College), Charles T. Ball (President of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary), Len G. Broughton, Prince and Princess Bernadotte, N. B. Broughton, George Dana Boardman, Mrs. Wilbur Chapman, John C. Calhoun (a relative of the more well-known one), J. L. Campbell of Carson Newman College, B. H. DeMent, F. H. Ford, J. M. Frost, Bishop C. D. Foss of Philadelphia, A. F. Gaylord, H. H. Hedley, R. G. (Bob) Ingersoll, J. William Jones, Edward Judson of Chicago University (son of Adoniram), F. H. Kerfoot, Melvin G. Kyle, Joseph W. Kemp, Joshua and Eugene Levering, W. C. Loundes, George O. Manning, F. B. Meyer, Charles C. McCabe, Ella W. McGill of London, Mrs. W. R. Nimmo, W. E. Needham, Louie D. Newton, French E. Oliver, Ambrose Pomeroy, Arthur T. Pierson (editor of Missionary Review of the World), J. E. Passmore, P. W. Philpott (pastor of Moody Church), T. H. Pritchard (President of Wake Forest College 1880), A. J. Rowland, Fleming H. Revell, W. B. Riley,

A. T. Robertson, Allan Sutherland (Executive secretary of Pocket Testament League), E. O. Sellers, George Stebbins, J. H. Shakespeare, Ruben Sailens of Paris, France, Thomas Spurgeon of London, England, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Torrey, George W. Truett, T. DeWitt Talmadge, D. B. Towner, R. T. Vann, O.C.S. Wallace, John Wanamaker, George B. Wilmot, and E.Y. Woolley (Dixon's assistant in Moody Church).

A later addition to the collection includes two volumes of handwritten sermons, two scrapbooks, a book of his quotations, and some miscellaneous material. These items were given to the Historical Commission by Mrs. F. H. Richardson in August, 1963.

**Arrangement**

Alphabetically by folder title

**Provenance**

Given to the Historical Commission, now Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, by Mrs. F. H. Richardson, August, 1963

**Preferred Citation**

Amzi Clarence Dixon Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

**Access Restrictions**

None

**Subject Terms**

Armstrong, Annie Walker, 1850 – 1938  
Ball, Charles Thomas, 1866 –  
Boardman, George Dana, 1828 – 1903  
Broughton, Leonard Gaston, 1864 – 1936  
Frost, James Marion, 1849 – 1916  
Kerfoot, Franklin Howard, 1847 – 1901  
Levering Joshua, 1845 – 1935  
Riley, William Bell, 1861 – 1947  
Truett, George Washington, 1867 – 1944  
Metropolitan Tabernacle (London, England)  
Moody church (Chicago, Illinois)  
Christian ethics  
Fundamentalism  
Evangelism  
Sermons, American

**Related Materials**

Priest, Gerald Lee. *An examination of the apologetical ministry of Amzi Clarence Dixon*, 1988.  
Dixon, Helen C.A. *A.C. Dixon, a romance of preaching*, 1931.  
Baptist World Congress *Proceedings*, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, AR 40

## Container List

### Box 1

- 1.1 Addresses: "Infallibility of the Pope," "The Child Jesus," "Higher Christian Education," "Knowledge and Character," "What Baptists Stand For," "The Prohibition War," "The Fruits of Liberalism in New England," "Higher Criticism and Prof. Briggs," "Heads," "Church, College, and Country," etc.
- 1.2 Articles: "What the World Owes to Presbyterianism," "What the World Owes to Congregationalism," "What the World Owes to Baptists," "Funerals," "An Alphabet of Aphorisms," "Jesus, the Church and the Working Man," "Our Brother in Black," "The Baptist Situation in England," and "Scripture Gleanings."
- 1.3 Articles: Articles on Modernism, "City Idolatry," "The History of Baptism," and Two interviews about Dixon's pastorate in England.
- 1.4 Author, Lecturer, Traveler: List of A. C. Dixon's works – "Caring for the Aged," "Religious Conditions in Europe," "The Non-conformity that is worthwhile," "Marriage Ceremony," and "The Historic Claim for Christ."
- 1.5 Author, Lecturer, Traveler: Poems, songs, book reviews. "Baptist Hymnwriter" (an article), "Dr. Dixon on Spurgeon," "The future of the Educated Negro", and Pastoral letters.
- 1.6 Author, Lecturer, Traveler: Ocean travel and war experiences, Visits to Historic places
- 1.7 Autograph Books

### Box 2

- 2.1 Baptist World Alliance, 1923
- 2.2 Bible Study
- 2.3 Biographical Materials: Dr. Angell, Henry Ward Beecher, Harold Begbie, Billy Sunday, Len G. Broughton, Rev. Charles Brown, J. L. Campbell, W. R. Castle, Rev. Elias Dodson, A. J. Gordon, Gypsy Smith, Warren G. Harding, Louis Harms, John Harper, King of Uganda., Sidney Lanier, Abraham Lincoln, James McGranahan, George O. Maning, Henry Martyn, F. B. Meyer, D. L. Moody, E. Y. Mullins, Robert G. Ingersoll, and Charles Darwin.
- 2.4 Biographical Materials: Reuben Saillens, W. T. Stead, Milton and Lyman Stewart, R. A. Torrey, William Tyndale, John Wesley, J. L. White, Dinsdale T. Young, visiting preachers to Metropolitan Tabernacle – Charles M. Alexander, Wilbur J. Chapman, W. R. Lanes, J. W. Moodie, William Graham Scroggie, T. T. Shields, etc.
- 2.5 Biographical Materials: Two indexes to materials in this collection.
- 2.6 Biographical Materials: Dixon Family Personal Ideals.
- 2.7 Biographical Materials: Dixon family.
- 2.8 Biographical Materials: On A. C. Dixon's death.

### Box 3

- 3.1 Biographical Materials on A. C. Dixon's death
- 3.2 Biographical Materials on A. C. Dixon's death
- 3.3 Biographical materials – on A. C. Dixon's death
- 3.4 Book Manuscript: "A. C. Dixon, A romance of preaching" by Helen Alexander Dixon, his wife.

#### **Box 4**

- 4.1 Book Manuscript: "Light Out of Darkness," A. C. Dixon, editor, 1898, regarding experience of God's children in affliction and temptation, and correspondence about the book
- 4.2 Book Manuscript: "Milk and meat – incomplete.
- 4.3 Book Studies (on Christ)
- 4.4 Booklets by A. C. Dixon and others: "The Angelus is Ringing," "The Birth of Jesus," "The Bright Side or Death," "By the Blood of Christ," "How Christian Science contradicts the Bible," "Myths and Moths or Criticism," "The Origin of Life," "Reconstruction," "Speaking with Tongues," "Spiritism," "Two Addresses," "Two Questions," "Victory," "Works of the Devil to be Destroyed," "Why a Christian Cannot be an Evolutionist," etc.
- 4.4a Christian, The, August – November, 1915, January – February, 1916
- 4.5 Church Bulletins – miscellaneous copies  
"Work and Worship," Immanuel Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland, "Metropolitan Tabernacle" London, "University Baptist Church, Baltimore
- 4.6 Church Life and Polity: Church meetings and membership, pew rents
- 4.7 Church Life and Polity: false Religions
- 4.8 Church Life and Polity: Drink traffic, prohibition, temperance

#### **Box 5**

- 5.1 Church Life and Polity: Prayer, Soul-winning, and revival
- 5.2 Church Life and Polity: Theological topics, personal beliefs
- 5.3 Church Life and Polity: Ethics: card-playing, dancing, theatre, tobacco smoking, miscellaneous
- 5.4 College Bulletins: Wake Forest, 1924, 1925
- 5.5 Conferences: Keswick, Bible League, etc.
- 5.6 Conferences: Keuka Lake
- 5.7 Correspondence: Family originals, 1856, 1863
- 5.8 Correspondence: Family originals, 1870 – 1876
- 5.9 Correspondence: Family originals, 1877 – 1878 (two letters from John C. Calhoun)

#### **Box 6**

- 6.1 – 6.11 Correspondence: Family originals, 1879 – 1904, Howard died in 1890, ALS letter from Bob Ingersoll in Folder 9.

#### **Box 7**

- 7.1 – 7.9 Correspondence: Family originals, 1905 – 1928, and Mrs. Dixon dying in 1922.

#### **Box 8**

- 8.1 – 8.11 Correspondence: Family copies, 1843 – 1925.

#### **Box 9**

- 9.1 Correspondence – after Dr. Dixon's death, June, 1925 (A-B), handwritten letter from Princess Bernadette (Ebba) of Sweden.
- 9.2 – 9.6 Correspondence (C-Z).
- 9.7 – 9.11 Correspondence, 1890 – 1920.

**Box 10**

- 10.1 Correspondence – General, 1921 – 1922 (Clippings and correspondence – J. C. Carlile and English Baptism).
- 10.2 – 10.4 Correspondence – General, 1923 – 1930 (Dr. Dixon's death, 1925).
- 10.5 – 10.7 Date Books, 1910 – 1923 (1922 date book has information about Mrs. Dixon's death in China).

**Box 11**

- 11.1 – 11.2 Evangelism: Past and Present.
- 11.3 Federation of Free Churches.
- 11.4 Foreign Countries – China (Mrs. Dixon's death, Dr. Dixon's message at her Funeral).
- 11.5 Foreign Countries – France, Bavaria, Sweden.
- 11.6 The Fundamentals: Religious beliefs circular letter to ministers, "Are You Willing to be Classed Among the Fundamentals?" with replies. Bible League, etc., and the "Down-Grade" Controversy.

**Box 12**

- 12.1 The Fundamentals – religious beliefs: "Higher Criticism," Polychrome, Bible, Evolution, Huxley, Darwin, etc.
- 12.2 "Gospel" 1896, edited by A. C. Dixon, Eleven copies.
- 12.3 Hanson Place Church, Brooklyn, New York.
- 12.4 Illustrations.
- 12.5 Immanuel Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland.
- 12.6 Immanuel Baptist Church, Baltimore, Maryland: London visit, 1889, "Sword and Travel," August, 1889, Paper – World's Second Sunday School Convention.
- 12.7 Los Angeles Bible Institute: Correspondence and Booklets.
- 12.8 Los Angeles Bible Institute visit, December, 1924: Correspondence.

**Box 12A and 12 B**

Illustrations and Stories.

**Box 13**

- 13.1 Men and Movements: Boeke, Mr. C. and Socialism, Campbell, R. J. and "New Thought," Canterbury, Archbishop, and Mission of repentance and Hope, Chalmers, Dr. and the "Great Disruption," Wood Brothers and the "Young Life Campaign," Sir Arthur and Y.M.C.A. and foreign missions.
- 13.2 Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England: Materials regarding call, acceptance, index of sermons, clippings, recognitions services.
- 13.3 Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England: Internal Institutions, Mission Halls, church annual meetings, pastor's anniversaries, Thanks offering, etc.
- 13.4 Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England: Work during pastorate for outside organizations, work and soldiers and their families, air-raid experiences, evangelistic missions, soul-winning campaigns.
- 13.5 Metropolitan Tabernacle: Farwells

- 13.6 Metropolitan Tabernacle: List of sermons on “Glories of the Cross,” Past and present worthies, special occasions, pastors college, Colportage Association, Stockwell Orphanage.
- 13.7 Metropolitan Tabernacle: “Sword and Trowel” scattered copies, 1911 – 1915.

**Box 14**

- 14.1 Metropolitan Tabernacle: “Sword and Trowel” scattered copies, 1916 – 1919.
- 14.2 Miscellaneous.
- 14.3 – 14.4 Moody Church, Chicago, Illinois – letter of acceptance, ALS, Material about his leaving to go to Metropolitan Tabernacle, Moody Church manual – sermons (list) of sermons preached at Moody Church.
- 14.5 Mrs. A. C. (Mollie) Dixon.
- 14.6 Newspaper – The Examiner and Chronicle, Dec. 23, 1875.
- 14.7 Personal – obituary notices about A. C. Dixon, June, 1925, Certificate of membership to Archaeological Institute of America, newspaper clipping "Blacksburg Citizen Owns Valuable Southern Relics," mentions Tom Dixon.
- 14.8 Quotations from Dr. Dixon.
- 14.9 Roman Catholic Lecture Notes.
- 14.10 Ruggles Street Baptist Church, Boston: Souvenir program on pastor's Farewell, correspondence, notes, and clippings, itinerary of London trip, 1905, brochure of Gordon College of Theology and Missions, etc.

**Box 15**

- 15.1 Sermon booklets published in 1903 and 1904.
- 15.2 – 15.5 Sermon notes and outlines: "The Myths of Modernism" and "A Mossback’s Reply to Modernism.”
- 15.6 Sermon notes and outlines.

**Box 16**

- 16.1 – 16.5 Sermon notes.

**Box 17**

- 17.1 – 17.5 Sermon notes.

**Box 18**

- 18.1 – 18.3 Sermon notes: Dated lists 1879 – 1911 in Folder 3.
- 18.4 – 18.7 Sermons – Genesis.

**Box 19**

- 19.1 Sermons – Exodus.
- 19.2 Sermons – Leviticus.
- 19.3 Sermons –Numbers.
- 19.4 Sermons –Deuteronomy.
- 19.5 Sermons –Joshua.
- 19.6 Sermons –Judges.
- 19.7 Sermons – Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel.
- 19.8 Sermons – 1 and 2 Kings.



19.9 Sermons – 1 and 2 Chronicles.

**Box 20**

- 20.1 Sermons – Esther, Ezra, Nehemiah.
- 20.2 Sermons – Job.
- 20.3 Sermons – Psalms.
- 20.4 Sermons – Psalms.
- 20.5 Sermons – Psalms.
- 20.6 Sermons – Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon.

**Box 21**

- 21.1 – 21.2 Sermons – Isaiah.
- 21.3 Sermons – Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel.
- 21.4 Sermons – Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum.
- 21.5 Sermons – Habakuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Malachi
- 21.6 Sermons – Matthew.
- 21.7 Sermons – Matthew.

**Box 22**

- 22.1 – 22.5 Sermons – Matthew.

**Box 23**

- 23.1 – 23.2 Sermons – Mark.
- 23.3 – 23.6 Sermons – Luke.
- 23.7 Sermons – John.

**Box 24**

- 24.1 – 24.4 Sermons – John.
- 24.5 Sermons – Acts.

**Box 25**

- 25.1 – 25.4 Sermons – Acts.
- 25.5 Sermons – Romans.

**Box 26**

- 26.1 – 26.3 Sermons – Romans.
- 26.4 – 26.6 Sermons – 1 Corinthians.

**Box 27**

- 27.1 Sermons – 2 Corinthians.
- 27.2 Sermons – Galatians.
- 27.3 Sermons – Ephesians.
- 27.4 Sermons – Philippians.
- 27.5 Sermons – Colossians.
- 27.6 Sermons – 1 and 2 Thessalonians.

27.7 Sermons –1 Timothy.

**Box 28**

- 28.1 Sermons – 2 Timothy.
- 28.2 Sermons – James.
- 28.3 – 28.6 Sermons – Hebrews.
- 28.7 Sermons –Titus.
- 28.8 Sermons – 1 Peter.

**Box 29**

- 29.1 Sermons – 1 and 2 Peter.
- 29.2 Sermons – 1 John.
- 29.3 – 29.7 Sermons – Revelation.

**Box 29A**

Sermons – manuscript in notebook.

**Box 30**

- 30.1 Sunday School Lessons, 1908.
- 30.1a Sunday School Lessons, 1881 and 1882.
- 30.2 Travel Notes.
- 30.3 – 30.5 University Baptist Church, Baltimore.
- 30.6 Woman's Missionary Society.
- 30.7 – 30.8 World War I.

**ADDENDUM (added Jan. 24, 1964)**

**Box 31**

- 31.1 Miscellaneous.
- 31.2 Sermons – handwritten volume.
- 31.3 Sermons – handwritten volume: Personal hymnbook from Metropolitan Tabernacle Scrapbooks.
  - 1. Printed commentary on 1907 Sunday School lessons by A. C. Dixon from the Home Herald.
  - 2. Clippings of Some of Dr. Dixon's sermons, 1904 and 1905, from the Union News.
  - 3. Three pages from a scrapbook with materials gathered from Metropolitan Tabernacle in London while he was pastor there. Pictures, invitations, programs.

**Addendum (added 11-16-66)**

- 31.4 Family correspondence
- 31.5 Picture of First Baptist Church of Providence, R.I.: Sketch by Spurgeon. A package containing certificates and three papers: The Christian Inquirer, Nov. 19, 1891; The Evangel, May 15, 1895; Christian World, Feb. 21, 1874.

**Box 32**

- 32.1 Biographical information.
- 32.2 Clippings.
- 32.3 Correspondence.
- 32.4 Correspondence – Family.
- 32.5 Correspondence: Messages of condolence after the death of the first Mrs. Dixon in China, in 1922 and about her last illness.
- 32.6 Diary material.
- 32.7 Hanson Place Church.
- 32.8 Metropolitan Tabernacle in London.
- 32.9 Metropolitan Tabernacle in London.
- 32.10 Miscellaneous.
- 32.11 Notes.
- 32.12 Personal.
- 32.13 Pictures – China, 1922 and the Dixons in China.
- 32.14 Sermons.
- 32.15 University Baptist Church, Brooklyn. N. Y.
- 32.16 World War I materials.

In the family correspondence there is interesting details of life in London, England during World War I.

In the miscellaneous folder, the bulk of the material is from Dixon's time in London while he was pastor of Metropolitan Tabernacle. Included are programs, brochures, invitations, etc.

In the University Baptist Church folder is a copy of resolutions made on Dr. Dixon's death.

The messages sent at the time of the first Mrs. Dixon's death in China, in 1922, are of interest.

### **Addenda**

#### **Box 33**

103 items (600 p.) processed Jan., 1970.

- 33.1 Asheville, North Carolina 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church.
- 33.2 Bear Marsh and Mt. Olive, North Carolina churches.
- 33.3 Biographical information. Dixon, Aycock, George W. Truett (his conversion – he was Dixon's spiritual grandson), Charles M. Alexander.
- 33.4 Book – copy at A. C. Dixon's A Romance of Preaching.
- 33.5 Correspondence, several handwritten Letters of A.C. Dixon.
- 33.6 Diary 1876 –77 when in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Also an old tin type photograph of a group golfing.
- 33.7 Miscellaneous, including a copy or Martin Luther's seal at Wittenberg.
- 33.8 Photographs including one of Thomas Dixon.
- 33.9 Sermons and articles – handwritten by Charles H. Spurgeon.