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JEREMIAH E. RANKIN COLLECTION

Collection 83-1

Prepared & Revised by:
Wilda D. Logan
June 1980

Scope Note

Jeremiah Eames Rankin was the President of Howard University from 1889-1903. Trained as a minister and talented as a hymn lyricist, he wrote the lyrics to the famous hymn "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

The Jeremiah E. Rankin Collection spans « linear foot and includes a limited amount biographical information, correspondence and some manuscript notes. Two letters of interest are: (1) one from Rankin requesting interpretation of the Proviso on Howard University appropriation from the Secretary of the Interior and (2) one from Rankin to Senators Allison and McMillian regarding the question of color as it pertains to a person

seeking employment as Howard University.

There are numerous addresses and sermons by Rankin in the collection, some holographs, some are typewritten and some are printed. There is a single photograph showing Rankin and his family on one side and the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel on the other.

Included in the Rankin collection are the papers of Charles S. Syphax who worked at Howard University at various levels from 1890 to 1915 ending his term as Dean of the Academy and Professor of Mathematics there. His papers include form letters, applications and correspondence focusing on the operation of the Academy of Howard University.

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Biographical Sketch

- 1828 Jan. 2 Barn in Thornton, New Hampshire, son of Rev. Andrew & Lois Eanies Rankin.
- 1848 Received B.A. degree from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt.
- 1851 Received M.A. degree from the same college.
- 1854 Graduated from Andover Theological Seminary.
- 1854 Married Mary Howell Birge.
- 1854-1856 Pastored Presbyterian Church, Potsdam, N.Y.
- 1856 Left Presbyterian church and became a Congregational preacher
- Accepted the pastorate at Lowell and Charleston, MA.
- 1869 Call to First Congregational Church, Washington, D.C.
- 1869 Alma Mater conferred D.D. degree upon him.
- 1882 Wrote hymn "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."
- 1884 Accepted pastorate of Congregational Church at

Organa Valley, N.J.

- 1889 Elected to presidency of Howard University, 1889-1903.
1903 Resigned presidency of Howard University.
1904 Died in Cleveland, OH.

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Series Description

Series A Jeremiah Rankin

Box 83-1 Includes personal and family biographical data, general correspondence, manuscript notes and poetry, and numerous addresses and sermons, printed materials and a single photograph of Rankin and his family and of the Rankin Memorial Chapel on Howard's campus.

Series B Charles S. Syphax

Box 83-1 Includes correspondence, a memorandum listing his positions at Howard University and printed material which is associated with the operation of the Academy at Howard University and other correspondents which include a letter from William Tunnell to Moorland and Grimke.

Series C Restricted Materials (Do Not Circulate)

Box 83-1 The items in this series have been xeroxed, and the xerox copy is filed within the appropriate folders for research use. The original items filed in this series are fragile and are not generally available for research use.

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Container List

A Jeremiah E. Rankin

Box	Folder
83-1	1 Rankin, Arthur - biography
	2 Rankin, J.E. - Genealogical information

Correspondence

- 3 A - B
- 4 C - G
- 5 H - R
- 6 S - Z

Writings by J.E. Rankin

- 7 Bibliography
 - 8 Notebook (religious notes)
 - 9 Religious notes
 - 10 Poetry
 - 11 Alma Mater (Lyrics)
 - 12 Death and Afterwards by
Sir Edwin Arnold (review)
 - 13 Divinity of the Ballot (sermon)
 - 14 The Genesis of Frederick Douglass (address)
 - 15 God Be With You Till We Meet Again
(news article)
 - 16 Lake Mohonk Conference on Ministerial
Education (news article)
 - 17 Long Live, Long Live America (Lyrics)
 - 18 Moral Gravitation (sermon)/Rest, Statesman,
Rest (poem)
 - 19 The Race Solvent (sermon)
 - 20 The Death of Dr. Shedd (Eulogy)
 - 21 The State and the Citizen of the State
(sermon)
 - 22 The Tuition of Floriculture
 - 23 The voice as a Source of Pulpit Power
(sermon)
 - 24 The Widow and Her Clock
- Pictures
- 25 Rankin Chapel/Dr. Rankin & Family

B Charles S. Syphax

Box	Folder
	Correspondence
83-1	26 A - C
	27 Cook, George W,
	28 D
	29 Durkee, J. Stanley
	30 E - N
	31 Mason, Charles H.
	32 Newman, Stephen M.

- 33 S -Z
- 34 Letters of Application
- 35 Form Letters
- 36 Letter written by a parent to his son
in the Academy (anonymous carbon)
- 37 Letters: Cummings, George J. -.President
and Board of Trustees
- 38 Letters of Recommendation
- 39 Memorandum: Work of Charles S. Syphax
at Howard University 1890-1915
- 40 Plans for proposed chemical laboratory
for the Academy
- 41 Proposal for Commercial College to
become the College of Arts and Sciences

C Restricted Materials

- 42 Fragile Items - Do Not Use
use xerox copies

