

April 4, 2003

Anthony Slide
4118 Rhodes Avenue
Studio City, CA 91604

Dear Anthony,

I hope the work on your Thomas Dixon book is going well. You're right; while he's not politically correct for today he certainly was remarkable. He and his siblings all gained a measure of fame, and for his sisters that was especially noteworthy given the times.

We think that we have located an address for James Zebulon Wright, author of *Thomas Dixon: The Mind of a Southern Apologist*, and it is entirely possible that he is still alive, since he would only be in his early seventies. The 1999 Gardner-Webb University alumni directory, the latest one published, gives the address as: James Zebulon Wright / 1525 Clark Road / Charleston, WV 25314; the phone number listed is 304/342-2715. Good luck with exploring this avenue.

We don't have any photographs of Thomas Dixon which would be useful to you. The only photos at all are photocopies: one of the five Dixon siblings as adults which is a photocopy from a Shelby Star article, and numerous examples of reproductions of the standard AP photo of Dixon. We do have five of the original paintings from which illustrations for several of Dixon's books were done; I understand there were originally either seven or nine in the set, but the others must have sprouted legs before I came to Gardner-Webb University. These might be more useful if you were concentrating on his written output; I'm not sure if they would serve any purpose in your current research.

In the Dixon folder I did locate one item which is interesting, but you have almost certainly seen this elsewhere (and maybe you've seen an original copy; we just have a photocopy). This is a photocopy of the pamphlet entitled "Souvenir / The Birth of a Nation / The Most Stupendous and Fascinating Motion Picture Drama Created in the United States" and published in New York City in 1915 by the Epoch Producing Corporation. Lots in there about the movie and DW Griffith; little about Thomas Dixon.

If there is any other way I can help you, please let me know. I look forward to hearing about your progress on the book.

Sincerely,

Valerie M. Parry, Director of the Library