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Henry Clay Morrison Letters to Emily

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Asbury Theological Seminary

Special Collections Department

Henry Clay Morrison

Letters to Emily

ARC1977 -001

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Henry Clay Morrison
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Dr. Henry Clay Morrison (1857-1942) founded Asbury Theological Seminary in 1923 and served as its first President from that date until his death in 1942. Dr. Morrison was married three times and had eight children; three by his first marriage and five by his second. Emily was the fourth child and first of the two daughters by Dr. Morrison's second wife, Geneva Pedlar Morrison. Following her mother's death in 1914 when Emily was ten years old, she lived with her Aunt Emma (Dr. Morrison's sister) for several years and then attended Asbury College.

The collection consists primarily of Henry Clay Morrison's letters to Emily and spans a period from 1901 to 1946. There are also several letters from Geneva to Dr. Morrison during his long absences while on preaching tours, as well as letters from Bettie Morrison (Dr. Morrison's third wife) to Emily, and from Dr. Morrison to Helen, Emily's younger sister, and to Douglas Chandler, Emily's husband. In addition, there is a letter from Aunt Emma to Emily, as one from Jay Benton Kenyon, Dean of Men, Asbury College, to Dr. Morrison.

Many of the letters are personal. However, there is also information concerning Dr. Morrison's public life, especially his camp-meeting engagements and revival-preaching activities. Dr. Morrison also discusses the political leaders of the times, such as the actions of labor leader, John Lewis and President Franklin Roosevelt. He makes clear his stand on such issues as dancing and the use of tobacco and alcohol. Dr. Morrison also reports on the progress and growth of Asbury College and Asbury Theological Seminary.

The funeral mementos concern the deaths of both Henry Clay and Bettie Morrison. Included in the memorabilia are early photographs of Asbury College and High Bridge, newspaper clippings, magazine articles, cartoon caricatures of Dr. Morrison and booklets on various subjects.

The collection came to the B. L. Fishe Library in good condition as a gift from Mrs. Emily Morrison Chandler in May 1976 and June 1977. It is small in size, consisting of 15

folders, and is restricted due to the nature of the content. The original order of the collection was maintained. The arrangement is chronological excluding the first four folders which contain funeral mementos and memorabilia, and the last folder which contains miscellaneous letters.

This collection is a complete unit and, therefore, will not have additions in the future.

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Special Collections Department
Manuscript Collection

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Box	Folder	Series	Title	Date
1	1	Memorabilia	H. C. Morrison's Funeral	
	2	Memorabilia	Bettie Morrison's Funeral	
	3-4	Memorabilia	General	
	5	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1920-26
	6	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1927
	7	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1928
	8	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1929-30
	9	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1931-32
	10	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1933-34
	11	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1935-36
	12	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1937
	13	Correspondence	H. C. Morrison to Emily	1938-42
	14	Correspondence	Bettie Morrison to Emily Geneva Morrison to H. C. Morrison	1916-38 1901-08
	15	Correspondence	General	1927-46

