

McLean County Museum of History

A.V. Pierson Collection

Processed by
Daphne Pierce
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1902-1916
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History.
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

Arthur Van Dyke (A. V.) Pierson was born in Ohio in 1849 and his family traveled by wagon to McLean County, settling in Lexington Township in 1855. A scientific farmer and stock raiser, Pierson was also a Presbyterian elder, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and a participant in local, state, and national historical societies. Further, he was a correspondent for the Lexington *Unit-Journal* and the Bloomington *Pantagraph*.

Scope

The scope of this collection includes A. V. Pierson's writings concerning life in McLean County with an emphasis on Native Americans and the settlement period. Also included is D. F. Trimmer's memorial tribute to Pierson.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Biographical Information

- 1.1 Obituary, *Pantagraph*, January 25, 1916.
- 1.2 "A Memorial Tribute to A. V. Pierson" by D. F. Trimmer, July 6, [1916], 6 pp., (2 copies).
- 1.3 Letter, A.V. Pierson, Lexington, to E.M. Prince, regarding town of Oneida, 14 Jan 1904, 1 p.

Folder 2: North American Indian

- 2.1 Letter, A. V. Pierson, Lexington, to Mr. [Milo] Custer, concerning manuscript, "North American Indian," 24 Feb 1912, 1 p.
- 2.2 "The North American Indian" by Pierson, handwritten, n.d., 11 pp.
- 2.3 Envelope containing letter and manuscript above.
- 2.4 Typescript of 24 Feb 1912 letter and manuscript above, now titled, "Origin of the North American Indian," 4 pp.

Folder 3: Indians

- 3.1 "Indians," typescript by A.V. Pierson, n.d., 14 pp.

Folder 4: Early Settlement

- 4.1 "Complete History of McLean County[,] Interesting events that occurred here in early days," typescript by A.V. Pierson, Dec. 1910, 4 pp.
- 4.2 "A Famous Old House" (John Patton Cabin, Lexington), typescript of the *Lexington Unit* article, December 15, 1904, 3 pp.
- 4.3 "Early Settlers ... Early Grist & Saw Mills," handwritten by A.V. Pierson, n.d., 5 pp.

Folder 5: Early Settlement—Transportation

- 5.1 “Early Fords and Bridges on the Upper Mackinaw,” handwritten by A.V. Pierson, 1902, 20 pp.
- 5.2 Typescript of manuscript above (5.1.), and transcription of Daily Bulletin article, December 14, 1902, 2 pp.
- 5.3 “The Old Chicago Trail,” handwritten by A.V. Pierson, n.d., 15 pp.
- 5.4 Typescript of manuscript above (5.3), n.d., 3 pp.
- 5.5 Note regarding *Daily Bulletin*, June 6, 1904, and coverage of Pierson’s “Old Chicago Trail” talk, 1 p.

Folder 6: Isaac Smalley

- 5.6 “Isaac Smalley,” handwritten by A.V. Pierson, n.d., 9 pp.
- 5.7 Typescript of manuscript above, 3 pp.