

DES MOINES, IOWA.

*To the Parish Branches of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions in the Diocese of Iowa.*

DEAR FRIENDS:—In the recent gathering of women from over the Diocese to report progress, work and offerings and to receive inspiration, suggestion and counsel, we all must feel that a new impetus has been given us. Those whose privilege it was to attend the meetings, listen to our Bishop, hear the Rev. Mr. Roots tell of his work in China and exchange our parish reports, would bear to you who missed these inspiring opportunities, something of the message that we heard.

Our President reminded us then and we repeat her admonition, "There are three things to be remembered as the work of this Auxiliary—*prayers, interest, gifts*," and they are to be emphasized in the order of their mention. May we not ask your co-operation in these three means for making the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

We believe it is a great work to build temples to our God, a noble thing to organize associations for helping the poor, relieving the sick, rescuing the fallen, resting the aged, saving little children; this is Christ's work in our midst. It is such work as filled His Own Life of Mercy on earth. It soothes and saves, it promotes His cause. And because we have felt this touch with Him in these works we would reach farther and do more, even as He bade us do when—as He was about to ascend, His earthly mission closed—He commissioned His chosen "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." The message is to you and to me, to us is the command, we must have a part in spreading the gospel or fall short of our "High calling in Christ Jesus."

We must ask ourselves "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe on Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?" (Rom. 10:14-15.)

You and I have a two-fold privilege. While ministering to the needy at our door, the children at our hand, the aged and the sick we may send others to more distant fields to lend a hand there, to redeem the women, rescue the children, succor the wretched, heal the sick, and give sight to the spiritually blind. We can bless these ambassadors with our prayers, encourage them by our interest.

To aid in this will you not accept and use our blue mite box? As you have it at hand to remind you of those whose lot is less enlightened than your own, may it call forth the daily *prayer* at noon, "Thy Kingdom Come!" May it arouse an *interest* in hearing of the peoples who belong to us by the brotherhood of a common creation, by the call of humanity and may it inspire our gifts for the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

Will you drop in the box as a birthday thank-offering the amount of your years? Or will you give a penny a day or five cents a week or a penny a week? Will you help us to collect in this small way by the 15th of September enough mites to swell our united offering that Iowa may lay upon the altar at the Boston Triennial in October the one thousand dollars asked by our President, Miss Weare?

And beyond any other object, dear friends, let us make it an offering to Him. We would give to Africa's darkness, to the ignorance of India, to China's idolatry, to the heathendom of Japan, to our brothers' need everywhere. We would answer the cry "Come over into Macedonia and help us," but above all that we should give to our Lord Himself—in thanksgiving for His untold benefits to us and His saving gift revealed to our larger enlightenment.

We should give to Him ourselves, our *prayers*, our *interest*, our offerings, and say "Lord what will Thou have me to do?" Take, O Lord, these offerings of prayer and interest and mites, enlarge them as Thou didst the five loaves and three fishes and make soon, with us as Thy chosen vessels, "The heathen Thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth Thy possession."

"He comes again—O Zion, ere thou meet Him,  
    Make known to every heart His saving grace,  
Let none whom He has ransomed fail to greet Him,  
    Through Thy neglect, unfit to see His face."

*Sincerely yours,*  
*Sarah C. Casady,*  
*Treas<sup>er</sup> & United Offering for Iowa.*

*June 18. '04.*

# IOWA BRANCH OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.

Report of ..... Branch for  
year ending May 1st, 19.....

No. of Members .....

Time of Regular Meeting .....

Average Attendance .....

There has been contributed to Missions during the year in

MONEYS.	DATE OF SENDING.	AMOUNT.
		DOLLARS.      CENTS.
United Offering, - - -		
Babcock Fund, - - -		
Bishop's Fund, - - -		
General Missions Fund, - - -		
Perry Room, - - -		
Diocesan Expenses, - - -		
Other Objects, (Itemize each.) - - -		
Total Moneys, - - -		
IN BOXES.	DATE OF SENDING.	VALUE.
		DOLLARS.      CENTS.
To whom sent (Give full address):		
Total Value of Boxes, - - -		
Total Value of Branch, - - -		

Signed

Original document located in The Archives of the Episcopal Church.

Sec'y.