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SIXTH

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

MAINE BRANCH

—OF THE—

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

—TO THE—

BOARD OF MISSIONS,

FOR THE YEAR 1883-1884.

PORTLAND:

PRINTED BY B. THURSTON & COMPANY.

1884.

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OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT, MRS. H. A. NEELY, *Portland*.
VICE-PRESIDENT, MISS H. S. MCCOBB, *Portland*.
SECRETARY, MRS. CLARENCE H. CORNING, *Portland*.
TREASURER, MRS. CALEB STEVENS, *Pittston*.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MRS. GEO. S. HILL, *Exeter*.
MISS S. J. BALLARD, *Brunswick*.
MRS. S. M. MUSSEY, *Portland*.

SECRETARIES OF PARISH BRANCHES.

PORTLAND — *S. Luke's Cathedral* — MRS. JOHN M. MITCHELL.
PORTLAND — *S. Paul's* — MISS M. S. MCCOBB.
AUGUSTA — *S. Mark's* — MISS H. P. WEBSTER.
BANGOR — *S. John's* — MRS. HARRIS PLAISTED.
BAR HARBOR — *S. Saviour's* — MISS M. M. LEFFINGWELL.
BATH — *Grace* — MISS H. A. HATCH.
BRUNSWICK — *S. Paul's* — MISS S. J. BALLARD.
DAMARISCOTTA — MRS. R. G. DIXON.
EASTPORT — *Christ* — MISS L. BATES.
EXETER — *Holy Trinity Mission* — MRS. GEO. S. HILL.
GARDINER — *Christ* — MISS H. WILLIAMSON.
HALLOWELL — *S. Matthew's* — MISS J. A. SMITH.
OLDTOWN — *S. James'* — MISS H. V. SEWALL.
SACO — *Trinity* — MISS L. M. CHADWICK.
WISCASSET — *S. Philip's* — MISS INGALLS.
FORT FAIRFIELD — *S. Paul's* — MRS. H. SAWYER.
CALAIS — *S. Anne's* — MISS M. J. THOMAS.
HOULTON — *S. John's* — MISS J. E. PAGE.

MAINE BRANCH.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of the Maine Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary was held in the chapel of S. Luke's Cathedral, Portland, Tuesday, Oct. 5th, at 3 p.m. There was an unusually large attendance of ladies interested in the work, and twenty-two delegates were present, representing the following parishes : S. Luke's Cathedral, Portland; S. Paul's, Portland; S. Matthew's, Hallowell; S. Mark's, Augusta; Trinity, Saco; Holy Trinity Mission, Exeter; Grace Church, Bath; S. Paul's, Brunswick; Christ Church, Gardiner; S. John's, Bangor.

The meeting was opened with prayers by the Bishop, who also made a short address, in which he spoke with much feeling of the very great encouragement he had received in carrying on the mission work of the diocese, from the efficient and valuable assistance given by the Auxiliary.

The Minutes of the last annual meeting were read, and the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, after which the President read a short paper, giving a review of the work of the past year. The Secretary read a letter from Miss Emery, and one from the wife of the Medical Missionary at Shanghai, giving an account of the mission work among the Chinese women who come to the hospital for medical aid. Mrs. Neely then read a paper giving suggestions as to the work for the coming year.

It was voted : That each parish send a certain sum to the Treasurer for necessary expenses, such as printing, freight, etc.

On motion, the meeting proceeded with the election of officers, as follows: For President, Mrs. H. A. Neely; Vice-president, Miss H. S. McCobb; Secretary, Mrs. Clarence H. Corning; Treasurer, Mrs. Caleb Stevens; Executive Committee, Mrs. Geo. S. Hill, Miss Ballard, Mrs. Mussey.

The time and place of the next annual meeting was not decided upon before the meeting adjourned, but due notice of it will be given.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

LADIES:—

The work of the Maine Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary for the present year, proposed at the annual meeting in September, 1883, and begun with enthusiasm, was the partial furnishing of the new school at Presque Isle. But, as is well known, generous hands without this diocese enlarged and supplemented the resources within, so that the societies, after doing what was thought best for the school, still had ample opportunity for other labors. Aid was first given to three of the Maine missionaries, then to a hospital of Bishop Spaulding's, in Denver, Colorado, and finally to the Indian Mission School of Mrs. Swift, South Le Beau, Dakota.

This last was the united and hearty Lenten labor of almost every branch of the Woman's Auxiliary in the diocese, and of several parishes which have not yet joined its ranks. The result was a large box of clothing for both boys and girls, for which liberal donations were made, and toward which almost every contribution was much larger than the amount its donors had promised. One band of children clothed a little Indian girl tastefully and comfortably, and innumerable toys and picture books, found in the various packages, were the gracious gifts of many other little ones.

A striking characteristic of the work of the last twelve months has been the cordial good-will with which it has been done, such as cannot fail to bring nearer and nearer the heart those who have been helped. A large part of the aid has been given to clergymen in our own diocese, and indeed it seems evident that until the Church in Maine is stronger, our first and most vigorous efforts must be here, within our own boundaries, among friends, in whose places we might easily imagine ourselves. This very supposition is the key-note of the service we offer. We are to give as to our own, with discretion and tact and tenderness. We are to give of our best, with the thoughtful care that rejects everything of doubtful usefulness, and chooses fresh and durable articles to fill the anxiously expected boxes.

Our missionaries are not exorbitant in their requests, sending lists of their wants only when asked to do so, and even then with delicacy and modesty. One writes, "First please do what you can for my wife, and then, if possible, consider my needs." "Do not think," writes another, "that I

ask for *all* the articles in the list I send, [a list by no means extravagant] but rather for those you can most easily obtain."

Surely it is a favor to have the power to give aid in cases like these, and a delight to be a member of this Auxiliary, which, like the light-armed and easily-moving Roman troops whence it derives its name, wheels, at any signal of need, to give those that falter new strength and vigor.

H. S. McCOBB,
President M. B. W. A.

"WORK TO BE DONE."

MY DEAR FRIENDS:—We have come together at the close of another year, and at the request of your president I have written this paper in regard to "work to be done," work which we women can do, and ought to do, in order that our missionaries may have the clothing needed for their families, and take their stipends to supply other necessities, such as food, fuel, etc. Having just returned from Aroostook County, I feel that I know more accurately than usual what there is for our branch of the Auxiliary to undertake. We, in our warm, comfortable homes, have little idea what the life is in that northern county. Fancy rising to build your fire with the thermometer 40° below zero. Think of doing all your own work, including the washing, in such an atmosphere, and wonder not that we are asked to send heavy under flannels, thick dresses and cloaks, and even fur coats, when boxes are being prepared. The wife of one of our missionaries told me that she poured out hot dish water into her sink, noticed the pipe seemed to be filling, and ran to the cellar with boiling water, as fast as she could, but before she reached there the pipe had frozen and burst. Life in such intense cold is always hard, and when the larder is nearly empty, and the clergyman not only chops his own wood, but buys and chops all that is used in the church, he has not much money left with which to replenish his stores, and none at all wherewith to get proper apparel for himself and family. This state of things exists at some of our mission stations, and coming fresh from there I would say let us aid by good boxes, and even money if we can raise it, that our laborers may not faint for want of what we all have daily as a matter of course, viz., good food and clothing.

I would suggest that at the beginning of the working year each parish "Branch" should lay by a certain sum to be sent to our general treasurer

for disbursement in the payment of freights, printers' bills, and objects requiring money rather than work. We have been very poor hitherto and depended largely on gifts of materials from some, while others, who had more time than means, gladly converted into garments, and so our boxes have been a real substantial help to those who received them; but we have had to assess the parishes for the money to forward them, and I think where the "penny-a-week" system obtains it would be easy to take a certain proportion and send it to our treasurer, Mrs. Stevens, to be used as I have indicated and to meet pledges made at our annual meetings, such as the one for \$75.00 given Miss Emery last year, of which we only sent \$66.00.* For the year now opening we shall have one or two more calls from the school at Presque Isle. At Houlton the Rev. Mr. Sawyer is about to put up a rectory on a lot owned by the Church, and he intends to finish two of the rooms as a chapel to be used till a church can be built. Can we not in time furnish a room at this new rectory as we did at the one at Ashland? It was a most acceptable feature in our recent travels. To the missionary it is, of course, a great help to receive any furniture for his house; but, if we cannot furnish a room, perhaps we can aid in making the chapel fit for service by giving some part of its outfit, such as a font or lectern. Two or three of our mission churches have no font, and a common glass fruit dish served in its place at several baptisms at which the Bishop officiated during his recent visitation. This was all right, where nothing better could be had, but perhaps *we* may be the means of getting something more suitable. We have four boxes to provide for our own missionaries, and they will keep us busy for some time to come. Should we finish them early, no doubt Miss Emery will have new work for us during Lent, but I think I have said enough to show that we need not be idle, and that there is work enough to keep us busy for many months to come. The needed measures will be ready as soon as wanted by branches beginning work, and I hope we may all feel inspired with new zeal in view of the admirable reports we have heard today. A gratifying increase in the money value of our work shows that it is increasing year by year, and I feel it is not unreasonable to expect that even one year more may bring up our offerings to the round \$1,000, instead of having them among the hundreds. In one of our parishes the children had during Lent an association known as the Twenty Minute Society, which means that they give twenty minutes each day to sew for the Auxiliary. The result was a very valuable contribution to our Indian box sent last spring, and doubtless another result may be found in more unself-

* \$9.00, the balance due Miss Emery, was given before the meeting adjourned.

fish lives and increased love for the "Master" since their effort to serve Him by ministering to His children in the "Far West." Would it not be well to enlist the children elsewhere and in the same manner, and let them *grow* up with a knowledge of the needs around them both at home and abroad, and not wait to become men and women ere they begin to work for the Lord in whose name all that this society attempts is done. Another thing the children could do would be to furnish simple gifts for Christmas trees in mission parishes. Christmas cards, Testaments, toys, candy, and ornaments for the tree are not very expensive and make a merry Christmas in hamlets where there is not much to mark the day. And now with one more suggestion I will close. Our new school, "S. John's," at Presque Isle is a boarding school for boys. As some of our missionaries have sons to educate, are there not generous-hearted people who may afford to provide for one such boy for a year, at least, or may not the children as a band take up that work and surprise themselves by contributing the amount needed to send a boy to school, \$200 if he is under twelve, \$225 if over that age? These are mere suggestions, but they may fall on such good ground as to spring up and bear fruit a hundred-fold. God grant that it may be so.

M. F. NEELY.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

THE members of the Maine Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, and its many friends, will be gratified to learn that the value of boxes prepared during the past year was so much beyond that of the preceding one, and the contributions in money so generous, as to make the result of the year's work very largely in excess of any year since the work of the Auxiliary was undertaken in this diocese, six years ago.

One parish has doubled the amount it gave the year previous, and eight societies have exceeded the last year's sum, six of these having made large gains.

Although no new Parish Branches have been formed during the year, two parishes, which have shown an active interest, give encouragement that they will enlist regularly in the work, and it is hoped they will organize this season.

One Parish Branch, which gave assistance last year, has felt unable to do anything this year, but as another, which fell out of the ranks last year, has

once more taken up the work, the contributions of fifteen Parish Branches can again be reported this year, with the addition of valuable boxes from three parishes (West Dresden, Lewiston, and Waterville), not connected with the Auxiliary, as follows:

	No. of Boxes.	Value.	Cash.
S. Mark's, Augusta.....	2	\$119.85	\$20.00
S. Paul's, Portland.....	2	25.35	12.00
S. Matthew's, Hallowell.....	1	16.00	
S. James', Oldtown.....	2	7.80	
Trinity, Saco.....	3	48.54	
Holy Trinity Mission, Exeter.....	3	22.50	
S. Saviour's, Bar Harbor.....	1	23.00	3.00
S. Philip's, Wiscasset.....	1	10.00	
Damariscotta Branch.....	1	1.60	
Grace Church, Bath.....	2	25.00	
S. Paul's, Fort Fairfield.....	1	21.50	
S. Paul's, Brunswick.....	1	20.00	5.00
Christ Church, Gardiner.....	2	39.38	20.00
S. John's, Bangor.....	1	47.71	25.00
S. Luke's Cathedral, Portland.....	4	215.25	26.00
Total.....	27	\$643.48	\$111.00

GIVEN THROUGH MAINE BRANCH BY PARISHES NOT BELONGING TO IT:

	No. of Boxes.	Value.
S. John's, West Dresden.....	1	\$28.21
Trinity, Lewiston.....	1	7.00
S. Mark's, Waterville.....	1	5.75
Total value.....	3	\$40.96

The principal recipients of the work of the Branch were the following:

Indian School, South Le Beau, Dakota, boxes valued at.....	\$ 309.32
Missionary at Ashland, Me., boxes valued at.....	160.35
Boys' School at Presque Isle, Me., boxes valued at.....	38.00
Missionary at Eastport, Me., boxes valued at.....	101.97
Missionary at Winn, Me., boxes valued at.....	74.95
S. Luke's Hospital, Denver, Col., box valued at.....	20.00

M. K. CORNING,

October 4th, 1884.

Secretary M. B. W. A.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

JULIA A. STEVENS, in account with the *Maine Branch of Woman's Auxiliary.*

1883

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	Cash on hand.....	\$.13
Sept. 3.	Collection at annual meeting in Cathedral.....	10.05
Sept. 4.	From S. Matthew's, Hallowell.....	2.00
1884		
Feb. 10.	S. John's, Bangor.....	5.00
Feb. 15.	S. Paul's, Brunswick.....	3.00
Feb. 16.	Trinity Church, Saco.....	2.00
Feb. 19.	S. Mark's, Augusta....	5.00
Feb. 22.	Christ Church, Gardiner.....	5.00
Feb. 25.	S. Luke's, Portland.....	10.00
Mar. 8.	S. John's, Bangor.....	5.00
Mar. 10.	S. Paul's, Portland.....	5.00
April 8.	Grace Church, Bath.....	2.00
Easter.	Christ Church, Gardiner.....	1.00
Apr. 15.	Holy Trinity, Exeter.....	3.00
May 10.	S. Luke's, Portland.....	3.00
May 26.	S. John's, Bangor.....	17.29
June 9.	Trinity Church, Saco.....	3.00
June 9.	S. Paul's Mission, Fairfield....	2.00
June 14.	Holy Trinity, Exeter.....	2.00
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		\$ 85.47

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Sent to Miss Emery.....	\$ 66.00
Expended for printing and freight.....	13.73
Check to Secretary, for postage and express	3.00
Balance on hand	2.74
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Total	\$ 85.47

JULIA A. STEVENS,

Treasurer M. B. W. A.

Total value of boxes given.....	\$ 684.44
Total cash receipts.....	196.47
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Result of the year's work.....	\$ 880.91

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
MAINE BRANCH OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY TO THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

This organization shall be called the Maine Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

Its object is to unite all of the parishes in this Diocese in the two branches of Mission Work, Domestic and Foreign.

The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of three ladies who shall attend to the different branches of missionary work. This Board shall fill all vacancies that may occur between the annual meetings.

This association shall hold an annual meeting for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, hearing reports of the parish secretaries, electing delegates to the general meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, appointing time and place of the next annual meeting, and transacting such other business as may come before it. Each parish shall send delegates to the annual meeting, also a written report to the Secretary, of the work done during the year.

The President shall preside at all of the meetings, and have a general knowledge of all the work that is in progress.

The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President.

The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the association, send notices of the meetings, keep a record of them, keep an account of the work done by the women of the diocese, as reported by the Parish Secretaries, and report this annually to the Secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary in New York.

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all money sent to her for either branch of missionary work, and for the expenses of the association, and shall present a report at the annual meeting.

Five persons shall form a quorum at all meetings.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the persons present.