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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MAINE BRANCH

OF THE

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

TO THE

BOARD OF MISSIONS,

FOR THE YEAR 1884-1885.

PORTLAND:

PRINTED BY B. THURSTON & COMPANY.

1885.

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MAINE BRANCH.

THE Seventh Annual Meeting of the Maine Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary was held at S. Mark's Church, Augusta, on Wednesday, Sept. 23d. The church was open for divine service at 10.30 A.M., when an earnest and solemn sermon was preached by the Bishop, and the Holy Communion was celebrated. A collection was also made for the benefit of the Auxiliary.

A meeting for business was held in the church at 3 P.M., and was well attended, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather. The following parishes were represented by their delegates: S. Mark's, Augusta; S. Paul's, Brunswick; Christ Church, Gardiner; S. Matthew's, Hallowell; S. Paul's, Portland; S. Luke's Cathedral, Portland; S. John's, Houlton. After prayers had been read by the Bishop, the audience listened with deep attention to an address by Mrs. Twing on the various branches of woman's labor in the church. Mrs. Twing's experience, heightened by her recent journey from Maine to California, could not fail to give a strong interest, both to her words and her work.

In the absence of the President, who was detained at home by illness, the necessary business was conducted by the Vice-President. The annual reports of the Treasurer and Secretary were presented, and a paper written and sent by the President was read, containing suggestions for work in the coming year. A letter was read also from Miss Emery, proposing additional plans.

The election of officers for 1885-6 followed, and after much discussion of the amount to be raised from the several parishes and sent to Miss Emery for general expenses, the meeting adjourned informally to S. Mark's Home, where tea had been kindly prepared for the members and friends of the Auxiliary, and where an hour or two of social intercourse made a pleasant ending to the annual gathering.

Due notice will be given of the time and place of the next annual meeting.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

LADIES:—

Another year has passed and finds us once more together, our officers and delegates all here, and nearly all the same members present that were at our last meeting. Our Secretary's Report sums up the work accomplished, and the results show that we are still gaining ground, and that our Auxiliary has added almost \$1,000 to the missionary contributions in Maine, by means of boxes and money raised by its endeavors, for Mission work both in our own Diocese and for that in other fields. This is well, but I cannot but hope that still larger results will be obtained in the next twelve months. After listening to Miss Carter's stirring words last spring, a broader view was taken of the work we women have to do, by many, who, for the first time, realized what was needed at the South and at the West, and no doubt the fruits of her visit will appear during the present year. Of course, our first efforts must be directed toward aiding and strengthening the hands of our own missionaries, but that being done, we must not neglect to care for the stranger *without* our gates.

We have much need in some of our new Rectories for furniture and carpets to make them habitable. At Ashland is a Rectory, whose only furniture at present, is that given by the Auxiliary, for the "Bishop's room" so called. The carpet was given by two members of St. Luke's and St. Paul's parishes. Both have been taken from us by death, and in every way our Auxiliary will feel their loss. All the more must we who are living strive to do all that we can, that the work shall not suffer, because they are no more with us. Can we not before separating arrange for the addition of other carpets, and more furniture, that the Bishop may be enabled to keep his missionary at Ashland, where, just now, the way seems open for fresh impulse and a new start to the work of the Church. No clergyman can go there and live unless his house is provided for him, and that has been done. Now a missionary is found who is already popular with the people, and if we can furnish the Rectory, it is hoped he will return there and live and build up a strong parish, in a place where we alone have any church and so have peculiar opportunities to gather in the people. We shall have several boxes to provide for in the early winter, and it would be a welcome addition to them if the children in the various parishes where we have branches,

would send contributions for Christmas trees at some of the missions, toys, candles, and ornaments for the tree, or almost any small gift being acceptable for this purpose. Another thing which I hope you will feel disposed to aid in, is the Washburn scholarship, which requires \$200, to send a boy to S. John's school, Presque Isle, for one year.

This scholarship was started last year by one of our number, who has promised to contribute a further amount this fall, and I am personally responsible for the sum above named, having felt so sure that I should obtain the required amount. I have sent a boy there, a promising lad, whose mother is a widow, and unable to send him in any other way. Surely we may do something as a Society, and then the remainder I shall seek from friends who are ever ready to help in time of need.

These are the leading objects before us, to be attended to in the near future, and now I wish to make such explanation as is possible in regard to the way in which our contribution, intended for the colored children at Mobile, was appropriated to the use of the whites at the Orphanage.

MOBILE, May 7, 1885.

DEAR MADAM:—I presume that Sister Mary acknowledged the barrels, etc., of clothing which you were so kind as to send. They reached me without other charge than drayage, and were sent to the Home as soon as I ascertained what your wishes most probably were. The orphans at the Home are all white children, and as your letter seemed to confine the gifts to colored children, my first impression was that the Home could not have the benefit of them. But after consultation with the Bishop, and especially with my wife, I determined to give them to the Home, for this reason which I was sure would be satisfactory to you.

Sister Mary has no very poor children (negroes) under her charge. In beginning the Good Shepherd *Day School*, we thought it best to charge a small tuition. Our funds were small, and there was danger of a collapse if we attempted to make the school wholly one of charity. The highest charge is only one dollar per month, but small as the tuition charge is, it keeps out of the school all of the very poor colored children. Thus Sister Mary has no very poor children under her care except the orphans at the Church Home, who are all white. The colored Sunday-school is different in this respect, *but none of the sisters teach there*. Under ordinary circumstances I would know the very poor belonging to this school, but as we have been expecting a clergyman to take charge of the Mission work I have not kept informed as I otherwise would. I have a very large Parish of my own, and have long been obliged to neglect much of my own proper

work for the sake of the Mission. Thus when the Bishop began the negotiation for a rector for the Mission, I was thankful to lessen my visiting among the negroes. Now it does not do to give clothing to negroes indiscriminately, nor does it do to give upon the recommendation of other negroes; so the only plan seemed to be to hold back your gifts until the Missionary should arrive. But here my wife's advice came in, to the effect that summer was rapidly coming, warm weather having already set in, so that very soon a large part of your gifts would not be of service until next November, and she would have to pack away the woolen goods, and moths were already numerous. Thus your gifts would not be immediately available for the Good Shepherd, while they would be of the greatest service to the Church Home, where the sisters had great difficulty in clothing the orphans, and, as she knew, were at this very moment in tribulation as to where certain necessary clothing was to come from.

Under these circumstances I sent all your gifts to the Church Home, with the sanction of the Bishop, telling Sister Harriet to use them at her discretion. To her they were of the greatest value, as I presume she instructed Sister Mary to write you.

Since then the Rev. A. W. Pierce, a son of the Bishop of Arkansas, has taken charge of the Good Shepherd, and is preparing to occupy the Rectory. Just at present he is living with me. By the time cold weather begins in the fall, he will know all about the colored people under his charge, and be able to distribute charity understandingly.

We have here two separate and distinct charities; the Church Home for white orphans, and the Mission of the Good Shepherd for negroes. They are in different parts of the city, and until a few months ago, had no connection of any sort with each other. The only connection they have now is that last fall I told the Bishop that our funds were running low, and was doubtful about our ability to pay a teacher for the Good Shepherd Day School through the winter, and asked him if possible to detail one of the Diocesan Deaconesses to teach, the Church Home to receive her salary, if we should be able to pay any. He consented, and Sister Mary was directed to report to me for duty. The plan has succeeded so well that I presume the sisters will take the colored day school under their charge permanently.

Mr. Pierce is beginning his work admirably. Already he has begun to teach a boy choir, and he proposes to have as ornate a service as possible, a thing which will undoubtedly please the negroes.

Illustrated papers and magazines are especially useful in the Sunday-school, and books for prizes are good for both schools. Clothing is more useful at the Church Home than at the Good Shepherd. The sisters are

often in real trouble how to clothe the white orphans in their charge. The three city parishes provide for the support of the Home as far as they can, but often there is not enough to make the orphans or the sisters comfortable.

The main need of the Good Shepherd is money to support the Missionary, Mr. Pierce. By and by, the Bishop hopes to build an "Old Folks Home" for aged and forsaken old negroes. There are a great many of them here, in a most pitiable state of destitution. After that we hope to build an Orphans Home, and to establish a Colored Sisterhood to take charge of the two Homes. All that is necessarily far in the future, as it will require several thousand dollars.

With renewed thanks for your kindness I am,

Sincerely Yours,

MRS. M. F. NEELY,

Portland, Me.

J. L. TUCKER.

In conclusion let me ask that officers and members of each Auxiliary Branch will bear in mind that we can never hope to do *all* that is possible, unless they undertake this work with a hearty determination to give their time, their money, and their prayers, freely and without stint. We need earnestness in such work, a spirit of love for it, that will make us willing to put off our own work, and our pleasures, whenever this demands our time. It is not easy I know, but only so can we ever expect to do well the work it is our blessed privilege to undertake. We have had the great pleasure of listening once more to Mrs. Twing. She has traveled extensively since she last addressed us, and is always ready to give much valuable information in regard to what she has seen, as well as her own extensive work.

MARY F. NEELY,

President M. B. W. A.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

In looking over the seven years of our existence as a Diocesan Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, your attention is called to a fact which is full of comfort and encouragement, and that is, our constant and steady growth. One parish branch, S. John's, Houlton, has been added to our number since the last annual meeting; and while the annual reports of the parish branches may vary, owing to different causes, the record of our work, as a whole, shows a gratifying increase from year to year. Several parishes not connected with us have given very valuable assistance for two and three years past, and it is a matter of great regret that, although they have been strongly urged to join the Auxiliary, the way does not yet seem plain to them to do so. In the words of another, "those parishes which stand aside because they seem to be able to do but little, or because they wish to be independent, fail to realize how essential they are to the growth and prosperity of the entire work."

During Lent many parish branches were favored by a visit from Miss Carter, and all who had the privilege of hearing her, must have been deeply moved by her touching accounts of the sufferings of those poor, degraded, and misguided women in Utah, and her earnest appeal for assistance in that portion of the western field of mission work. Certainly, every such appeal as this must incite each and every member of the Auxiliary not only to renewed efforts herself in this work for extending the Gospel of our dear Lord, but also to lovingly and prayerfully strive to enlist others in the work, and to instruct some one less interested than herself into the privilege and knowledge she possesses.

During the early part of last year the contributions of our Branch were given to our own Diocesan missionaries, whose needs we always feel it our pleasure to supply first; but, later, valuable boxes were sent to other missions, as the following report will show.

	No. of Boxes.	Value.	Cash.
S. Mark's, Augusta.....	4	\$96.63	\$10.00
Holy Trinity Mission, Exeter.....	1	20.00	7.00
S. John's, Bangor.....	4	59.56	20.00
S. Paul's, Portland.....	2	14.36	
S. Paul's, Brunswick.....	2	57.10	
Christ Church, Eastport.....	1	10.00	
S. Matthew's, Hallowell.....	1	16.00	

	No. of Boxes.	Value.	Cash.
Grace Church, Bath	4	\$35.00	
Trinity Church, Saco	1	14.90	
S. James', Oldtown	1	6.50	
S. Saviour's, Bar Harbor	1	28.00	
S. Philip's, Wiscasset	1	20.00	
S. Paul's, Fort Fairfield			\$50.00
Christ Church, Gardiner	4	64.31	
S. Luke's Cathedral, Portland	5	211.89	33.87
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Total	32	\$654.25	\$120.87

GIVEN THROUGH MAINE BRANCH BY PARISHES NOT BELONGING TO IT.

	No. of Boxes.	Value.	Cash.
Trinity Church, Lewiston	1	\$20.00	
S. Mark's, Waterville	1	15.50	\$19.87
S. John's, Dresden	3	43.48	
Mission, Richmond	1	6.05	
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Total	6	\$85.03	\$19.87

The recipients of the contributions are the following:

Church Home for White Orphans, Mobile, Alabama, boxes valued at	\$280.99
Missionary at Houlton, Maine, boxes valued at	151.14
Missionary at Winn, Maine, boxes valued at	79.36
Missionary at Fort Fairfield, Maine, boxes valued at	24.81
Missionary at Wiscasset, Maine, boxes valued at	105.54
Traveling missionary, Maine, boxes valued at	40.00
Rev. Mr. Gilfillan, at White Earth Reservation, Minnesota	8.00
Rev. Giles Cook, Petersburg, Virginia	7.25
Jewish missions	4.10
S. Paul's Mission, Fort Fairfield	50.00
S. Philip's Church, Wiscasset, Maine	20.00
Total value of boxes given	\$739.28
Total cash receipts	245.12
	<hr/>
	\$984.40
Gain over last year	\$103 49

M. K. CORNING,

September 19, 1885.

Secretary M. B. W. A.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

1884	DR.	
Oct. 7.	For cash on hand.....	\$ 4.74
	" rec'd from collection at annual meeting, Portland.....	29.64
	" from Mrs. G. S. Hill.....	5.00
Dec. 4.	" " S. Paul's Church, Brunswick.....	6.00
1885		
Feb. 16.	" " S. John's Church, Bangor.	10.00
Apr. 16.	" " Grace Church, Bath.	5.00
May 29.	" " S. Luke's Cathedral, Portland.....	12.00
30.	" " Christ Church, Gardiner.....	5.00
June 6.	" " S. John's Church, Houlton.....	3.00
10.	" " S. Matthew's Church, Hallowell.....	2.00
12.	" " Holy Trinity Church, Exeter.....	5.00
17.	" " S. Mark's Church, Augusta.....	10.00
18.	" " Trinity Church, Saco.....	2.00
Sept. 23.	" " S. Paul's Church, Portland.....	5.00
		\$104.38
1884	CR.	
Oct. 9.	By paid Mrs. Neely for Presque Isle School	\$18.52
1885		
Jan. 2.	" " B. Thurston for printing annual report.....	14.50
Apr. 6.	" " for printing and stationery.....	11.77
June 20.	" " for freight to Rev. H. Swift.....	10.00
	" " Miss Emery for general expenses	40.00
July 18.	" " toward suit for missionary.....	4.19
	" cash on hand.....	5.40
		\$104.38

JULIA A. STEVENS,

Treasurer M. B. W. A.

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.

