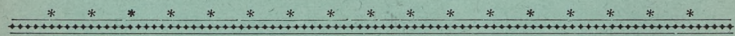


First Annual Report
OF THE
DIOCESAN SECRETARY
OF THE
Woman's Auxiliary
TO THE
BOARD OF MISSIONS,
Diocese of Nebraska.

MAY, 1887.



Omaha Republican Print.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
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OMAHA:
THE REPUBLICAN COMPANY, PRINTERS.

· DIOCESAN OFFICERS

FOR YEAR 1887-88.

President:

MRS. JAMES M. WOOLWORTH, - - - - - Omaha

First Vice-President:

MRS. J. F. BARNARD, - - - - - Lincoln

Second Vice-President:

MRS. MORTIMER OLIVER, - - - - - Hastings

Third Vice-President:

MRS. J. E. SMITH, - - - - - Beatrice

Fourth Vice-President:

MRS. W. H. SUMNER, - - - - - Schuyler

Fifth Vice-President:

MRS. T. J. FOLEY, - - - - - North Platte

Sixth Vice-President:

MRS. L. J. ABBOTT, - - - - - Fremont

Secretary and Treasurer:

MRS. ROBERT R. RINGWALT, - No. 117 South 25th St., Omaha

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIOCESAN SECRETARY OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.

OMAHA, May 19, 1887.

Diocesan Secretary's report to the Bishop, of the first year's work of the Nebraska branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

Missionary boxes have been sent by the following parish branches:

Trinity Cathedral,	box valued.....	\$ 150 00
St. Barnabas,	" "	130 50
St. John's,	" "	50 00
Brownell Hall,	" "	44 00
Holy Trinity, Lincoln,	" "	125 00
St. Stephen's, Ashland,	" "	25 00
St. Mary's, Blair,	" "	23 75
St. Marks, Hastings,	" "	16 00

Total.....	\$ 564 25
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Money contributed by branches:

Trinity Cathedral to St. Philip's Mission, Omaha.	\$ 25 00
To Bible House, general missions.....	8 48
Diocesan missions.....	24 00

Total.....	\$ 57 48
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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This society shall be called the Nebraska branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

ART. II.

The object of this society is four-fold: 1st, to diffuse missionary intelligence; 2nd, to increase missionary activity among the woman of the diocese; 3rd, to unite previously existing societies in a common interest; 4th, to encourage the formation of new societies for missionary work.

ART. III.

Any person may become a member of this association who shall contribute to its treasury annually at least the sum of one dollar, materials or service.

ART. IV.

The officers of this society shall be a president and six vice presidents; a secretary and a treasurer. These officers shall be chosen at the annual meeting.

ART. V.

There shall be a board of managers, consisting of the above named officers, together with the several vice presidents of the parochial organizations represented in the association, whose duty it shall be to regulate the work of the society, and under the supervision of their rectors to further its objects in the parishes to which they respectively belong.

ART. VI.

It shall be the duty of the president, in the absence of the bishop, to preside at all meetings of the association, and of the board of managers; to call special meetings of the same, and countersign all drafts on the treasurer.

ART. VII.

The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the bishop or president.

ART. VIII.

The secretary shall give notice of all meetings, and conduct the correspondence of the society with missionaries, with the secretaries of the associated parishes, and with the general secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary in

New York. She shall keep a record of all meetings, prepare and keep a list of the names of all associated parishes, with their officers, and shall report the same once a year to the bishop of the diocese and the general secretary in New York.

ART. IX.

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and keep account of all moneys and materials contributed to the work of the association; to pay all drafts on the funds when countersigned by the president; and prepare an annual report of the same, to be incorporated in that of the secretary.

ART. X.

A general meeting of this association shall be held annually at the time and place of the Diocesan Council. A semi-annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the president shall direct. A collection shall be taken at the close of each meeting for the general purposes of the association. The officers of each associated branch shall constitute a delegation to the general meetings of the association.

ART. XI.

All parish societies who so desire may become members of this Auxiliary by appointing a vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and notifying the diocesan secretary. The secretaries of the parish branches are required to correspond with the diocesan secretary, who alone corresponds with the general secretary of the Womans' Auxiliary in New York.

ART. XII.

The sum of one dollar annually from each parish branch of the association shall constitute a fund for necessary expenses, stationery, printing, etc.

ART. XIII.

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

ART. XIV.

This society shall provide for the needs of the missionaries in this diocese to the extent of its ability before offering assistance elsewhere.

All Saints, Omaha, for general missions.....	\$ 8 33
“ “ diocesan missions.....	17 75
Total.....	\$ 26 08
Brownell Hall for diocesan missions.....	\$ 14 50
Holy Trinity, Lincoln, for St. Philip's Mission, Omaha.....	10 00
Holy Trinity, Lincoln, for general missions.....	10 00
Holy Trinity, Lincoln, for diocesan missions.....	30 00
Total.....	\$ 50 00
St. Mary's, Blair.....	\$ 5 80
St. Stephens, Ashland, for St. Philip's Mission, Omaha.....	3 50
J. M. S. of Crete, for general missions.....	20 00
Mite Chest, Bishopthorpe, for gen'l missions..	2 66
Acknowledged at Bible House from members Auxiliary for general missions.....	8 60
From lady at St. Barnabas.....	2 00
From two members of Auxiliary for diocesan missions.....	4 00
Parish fees to diocesan branch.....	4 00
Total.....	\$ 198 62
Total value of boxes.....	\$ 564 25
Money.....	198 62
Total.....	\$ 762 87

Respectfully submitted,

KATHRYN A. RINGWALT,
Diocesan Secretary.

Nebraska branch Woman's Auxiliary to Board of
Missions.

OMAHA, Neb., May 19. 1887.

To the Members of the Womans Auxiliary.—It is with
pleasure, I present you, this First Report, of the Dio-

cesan Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary. The amount of money contributed is \$762.87; this includes the valuation on the missionary boxes sent, which in every case was placed at the very lowest estimate. The work of the parish branches was unavoidably retarded, and instead of beginning our work in the autumn, as is customary, the work of our branch has all been accomplished since Lent, consequently I think the sum \$762.87 most encouraging.

Of the missionay boxes sent I would like, did time permit, to say a separate word of commendation, to each branch whose members by their self-denials and labors send such delightful Easter greetings, to the weary hearts and hands which were gladdened by their gifts, but it would take me too long. I can merely say that the thankful letters from the recipients will no doubt prompt each and all who took part in the preparation of these boxes to renewed energy in the same kind of work in the coming year. The secretary wishes to thank the several rectors and the parish officers for the extremely prompt and kindly way they have accepted any work asked of them.

As to the sum, \$198.62, given for general missions, and to the Bishop for his diocesan work, it is not a large amount! but if each of us, who counts herself a member of the Auxiliary can answer to her conscience, "I've done what I could," then in the Lord's sight it is like the widow's mite; but can we answer yes? In my own and other cases, I fear not. We have not been as prayerful, systematic or liberal in our offerings as we might, but I trust, entering upon our second year, we do so with a better understanding of the work and the giving in which we are to engage, and the methods for accomplishing the same. I think our branch has learned in this first year, to become much interested in our diocesan

*NEBRASKA BRANCH OF THE
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.*

ORGANIZED MAY 19, 1886.

By appointment of the Bishop a meeting was held in Trinity Cathedral, Omaha, to organize a Diocesan Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary. Miss Carter, of the Board of Missions, was presented by the Bishop and presided. Miss Carter addressed the women for twenty-five minutes giving a few details of mission experience, and picturing the field without the Gospel. The announcing of the names of the Diocesan Officers, appointed by the Bishop, occurred, each one rising to signify her willingness to serve.

The officers are—Mrs. J. M. Woolworth, President; Mrs. James Van Nostrand, Mrs. J. F. Barnard, Lincoln, Mrs. Dr. Abbott, Fremont, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Nathan Shelton, Treasurer; Mrs. Robert R. Ringwalt, Secretary; Committee on Constitution, Mrs. D. L. Thomas, Mrs. Lyman Richardson, Mrs. Herman Kauntze, Mrs. R. L. Hall, Mrs. Windsor.

As the Diocese is divided into two Convocations, Miss Carter asked the officers to hasten forward, by

correspondence, the forming of Parish Branches in these divisions, and recommended immediate correspondence with Miss Emery, General Secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary in New York.

Miss Carter spoke of entrance fee, and systematic offerings, urging the latter. Besides the Omaha Parishes represented at this meeting, there were delegates from Blair, Beatrice, Lincoln, Ashland, Fremont, Plattsmouth, Hastings, and Grand Island.

Two meetings are to be held annually, one in the Fall, and one in Spring at the time of the Council.

The meeting adjourned until such a time as a regular business meeting should be called by the Diocesan Secretary. Miss Carter organized the following Parish Branches: Trinity Parish Branch, Omaha May, 1886.

Mrs. J. L. Webster, President; Mrs. Nathan Shelton, Vice-President; Miss Nellie Wakely, Secretary; Mrs. Joseph Barton, Treasurer.

St. Mary's Branch Blair, organized May 25, 1886.

Mrs. E. F. Clark, President; Mrs. Frank Haller, Secretary; Mrs. E. C. Jackson, Treasurer.

St. Barnabas Branch, Omaha, organized May 26, 1886.

Mrs. Wm. T. Mount, President; Mrs. Flemon Drake, Vice-President; Mrs. R. C. Moore, Secretary; Mrs. James Stephenson, Treasurer.

St. Luke's Branch, Plattsmouth, organized May 27, 1886.

Mrs. Mary Buttery, President; Mrs. R. R. Livingston, Vice-President; Mrs. George Dovey, Secretary; Mrs. Alfred White, Treasurer.

St. Stephen's Branch, Ashland, organized May 28, 1886.

Mrs. John Hinkley, President; Mrs. L. L. Fales, Vice-President; Mrs. Della Woodbury, Secretary; Miss Leola Carter, Treasurer.

Holy Trinity Branch, Lincoln, organized May 29, 1886, including two chapters.

Mrs. Beebe, President; Mrs. Hellman, Vice-President; Mrs. C. C. Waldo, Secretary; Mrs. Coffroth, Treasurer.

Second chapter. Miss Mary Pickett, President; Miss Lulu Miller, Secretary.

Christ Church Branch, Beatrice, organized May 31, 1886.

Names of officers not reported.

KATHRYN A. RINGWALT,
Dio. Sec'y.

Ch. Guardian

be founded upon the distinction between right and wrong as well as upon trained knowledge. The aim of Brownell Hall by its devout attitude and actual work will be to counteract the drift of opinion which seeks to make a breach between education and religion.

The church recognizes as a fundamental principle that religion is not healthy unless accompanied by intelligence, and that intelligence is no safeguard unless attended by religion. The church in Nebraska is to be congratulated upon this work, as it marks a new era in its history. We are indebted to the unwearied toil and generous gift of one man for our ability to erect such a structure—a man whose name I take great delight in mentioning in this public manner—Herman Kountze. I am not unmindful of the rector of Brownell, to whose careful thought and heartfelt prayers we owe so much. This day marks the independence of the church in Omaha and in the state. We are now doing something for ourselves and need no longer depend on the generosity of the east for assistance. The enterprise and public spirit of our citizens are equal to the occasion, and will secure a building worthy of the school, city and Diocese.

A RETROSPECT.

Bishop Worthington then introduced Chancellor Woolworth, who spoke substantially as follows:

To me and a few others present, this is an occasion of deep emotion. When this building is finished and ready for occupancy, twenty-five years will have passed since Brownell Hall was first established. He was a wise, far-seeing and vigorous man, who carried on the labors of bishop in early days. Now he sleeps, and how few who live in Omaha to-day ever hear his name or know aught of his history. A worthy man was Bishop Talbott, to be the first of a great line of bishops to bless the city and the state. On occasions like this it is a simple duty to recall his name and bless his memory. Can you wonder that one who stood by the side of that bishop and was a companion to those who have gone to the other world is stirred by deep emotions. It is not memory alone, for this day is not only the beginning of one but a great many public institutions to be built in this city by religious men. It is the first, not the last, in a line sure to

What sweeter tone than "hearth and home,"
For each Commencement Day!

CLOSING ANOTHER YEAR.

THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES OF BROWNELL HALL AT BOYD'S OPERA HOUSE.

The Graduates Include the Misses Ida Wigenhorn, Emma Fried, Ada McBride, and Florence Yates. Dr. Locke of Chicago Delivers the Baccalaureate—List of the Prize Winners—The Programme.

[Omaha Herald, June 14, 1886.]

In spite of the heavy shower which sprang up last evening the commencement exercises of Brownell Hall at Boyd's opera house were well attended by the friends of that prosperous institution. Bishop Worthington, the Rev. Mr. Doherty, Dr. Clinton Locke and the teachers of Brownell occupied seats on the right of the stage. The graduating class and the scholars were seated in the centre. All wore white dresses which together with the bright, pretty faces made the scene particularly memorable. The essays showed the result of careful thought and faithful study. They were for the most part read in a manner which showed that elocution had not been overlooked in the school curriculum. The musical selections, both vocal and instrumental, were excellent, and re-

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY TO THE
BOARD OF MISSIONS.

At a meeting of the above society held in the Episcopal rooms, Omaha, on the 8th of February, the following Constitution was adopted :

ARTICLE I.

This society shall be called the Nebraska branch of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

ART. II.

The object of this society is four-fold : 1st, to diffuse missionary intelligence ; 2nd, to increase missionary activity among the women of the diocese ; 3rd, to unite previously existing societies in a common interest ; 4th, to encourage the formation of new societies for missionary work.

ART. III.

Any person may become a member of this association who shall contribute to its treasury annually at least the sum of one dollar, or who shall render in materials and service substantial aid to missions.

ART. IV.

The officers of this society shall be a president and three vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer. These officers shall be chosen at the annual meeting.

ART. V.

There shall be a board of managers, consisting of the above named officers, together with the several vice-presidents of the parochial organizations represented in the association, whose duty it shall be to regulate the work of the society, and under the supervision of their rectors to further its objects in the parishes to which they respectively belong.

ART. VI.

It shall be the duty of the president, in the absence of the bishop, to preside at all meetings of the association, and of the board of managers ; to call special meetings of the same, and countersign all drafts on the treasurer.

ART. VII.

The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the bishop or president.

ART. VIII.

The secretary shall give notice of all meetings, and conduct the correspondence of the society with missionaries, with the secretaries of the associated parishes, and with the general secretary of the Women's Auxiliary, in New York. She shall keep a record of all meetings, prepare and keep a list of the names of all associated parishes, with their officers, and shall report the same once a year to the bishop of the diocese and the general secretary in New York.

ART. IX.

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and keep account of all moneys and materials contributed to the work of the association ; to pay all drafts on the funds when countersigned by the president ; and prepare an annual report of the same, to be incorporated in that of the secretary.

ART. X.

A general meeting of this association shall be held annually at the time and place of the Diocesan Council. A semi-annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the president may direct. A collection shall be taken at the close of each meeting for the general purposes of the association. The officers of each associated branch shall constitute a delegation to the general meetings of the association.

ART. XI.

All parish societies who so desire may become members of this auxiliary by appointing a vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and notifying the diocesan secretary. The secretaries of the parish branches are required to correspond with the diocesan secretary, who alone corresponds with the general secretary of the Women's Auxiliary in New York.

ART. XII.

The sum of one dollar annually from each parish branch of the association shall constitute a fund for necessary expenses, stationery, printing, etc.

ART. XIII.

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

ART. XIV.

This society shall provide for the needs of the missionaries in this diocese to the extent of its ability before offering assistance elsewhere.

ASHLAND, Feb. 3, 1887,

Dear Guardian:

In your last issue you ask what the "Women's Auxiliary" has done in the Cathedral, or any parish in Omaha, or in Lincoln, Beatrice, Hastings, Nebraska City or any other large town in Nebraska. Perhaps it may be some encouragement to know that the branch established in Ashland last June is in excellent working order.

We have most efficient officers and zealous, diligent members. We meet once in two weeks, and although we are a little handfull, our dues are paid regularly and our contribution is to be sent to the Secre-

tary soon. We have sent eight dollars worth of garments to the Child's Hospital, besides doing similar work for the poor at home.

Our parish has been through a terrible ordeal, financially and otherwise, and when I tell you that we have raised about \$1700 during the past year, you will not think we are idle. Four months of that time, too, we have been like a trunk and limbs without any head. The ladies have no fairs or festivals or anything of the kind, but each gives monthly what she can afford, and in this way alone, about \$300 have been raised. We are united in action and devoted to the work, and just as soon as the parish is free from debt we hope to do *much more* for the missionary cause.

ASHLAND.

To the Editor:

I left my home for a missionary tour up the F., E. & M. V. R. R., on the 10th of January, 1887. The first services were held at Neligh, county seat of Antelope County, on Sunday, the 16th, at 11 o'clock A. M. It was a stormy day and but few people were out.

Neligh is a village of about 1200 people, situated on the Elkhorn river, nearly in the center of the county. There is a thriving mission here, began by the present writer in October, 1881, in the public school building, then the only room in the town where public services could be held. The Rev. Mr. Edwards was the first rector of St. Peters, and he was compelled to resign on account of ill health after a pastorate of only a few months. The churchmen of Neligh stand ready to build a chapel as soon as the bishop can find them a resident clergyman. Who will volunteer to take this important work?

Sunday evening, of January 16th, conducted services in the parlor of Mr. P. W. Lane, Ewing, Nebraska. There were twenty-four people present. It was the first service of the Church ever held in the town. I remained here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Lane, and of other kind friends, until Wednesday. Found here eight communicants, four other baptized persons, and about twenty-five others interested in the church and

willing to help support it according to their means. There is a fine graded school here, in a new building just completed. I visited the school and was much pleased with its management. Ewing is 20 miles west of Neligh, just in the edge of Holt County, on the Elkhorn. It has about four hundred people.

Wednesday evening, Jan. 19th, held evening services in the Presbyterian house at O'Neill. There were over two hundred people present. Here I found five communicants, three other baptized persons, and a large number anxious for the services and willing to contribute of their means. O'Neill is the county seat of Holt county. It is situated a short distance from the Elkhorn. There are about one thousand people. They have a fine brick court house and an elegant public school building occupied by a graded school. I stayed here until Friday, the guest of Mrs. Hooker and other friends.

Friday, January 21st, went on a freight train to Atkinson. I had received no response to my letter addressed "To Any Episcopalian." I was only in town two hours between trains. Found five heads of families who are members of the Church, but only two communicants. There are probably many more who would be called out by a service well advertised, as the people are mostly American born. Atkinson is a thriving town of some six hundred people, situated in a rich agricultural district, eighteen miles from O'Neill.

Took the evening train to Stuart, was met in the most cordial manner by Mr. A. Woodward, of the Valley Bank. Held services in the Presbyterian house at 2 o'clock, P. M., on Sunday, January 23d. There was a large congregation. I found here eight communicants and three baptized persons. There are several children to be baptized if another visitation of the missionary may be had. Stuart is a town of over five hundred people. It is ten miles west of Atkinson.

I went to Long Pine on the evening train, but the train was so late that the large congregation which had assembled at the school house,

missions; the diocesan officers are so encouraged with amount given last year, \$100 has been pledged for the new year. Our good general secretary, Miss Emery, in New York, I fear will have a very poor opinion of us however, unless we learn that the Indian and negro of our land, as well as the heathen lands across the seas, need the "good tidings" just as much as the inhabitants of this great state of ours.

Some of the most liberal giving has been done by weak parishes. "This shows tho' the body be weak, the spirit is willing, and we have faith, to believe, a body carrying such a spirit cannot fail to grow strong."

A brilliant preacher has said: "Our Lord's command is 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature;' not 'Go ye into all the parish and make both ends meet. If we could only have faith to obey our Lord's command, we should find the prayers offered, the hearts touched, the interest aroused, would not only accomplish the mission work, but would lift the parish burdens and carry them with an ease before undreamed of." So we earnestly ask the help of every parish in the Diocese, however weak and small. Their aid, together with contributions from branches already formed, will increase our offerings to general missions. To the parish branches organized by Miss Carter I can report but two additional, but the branch at Hastings promises to be such a valuable acquisition we give it a most hearty welcome, as also to the energetic All Saints branch, of Omaha. When Miss Carter visited Beatrice last spring, it was understood a parish branch would be formed; letters have been exchanged on the subject, but no officers of a parish branch have been reported to the secretary. St. Luke's Branch, Plattsmouth, is the only branch which has made no report of work, either to the Diocesan treasurer or secretary. The secretary

has addressed a letter through the medium of the "Guardian" to rectors where there were no parish branches, but as the secretary, in no instance had a reply to this letter written by the Bishop's wish, she concluded the rectors either did not read the official organ, or else had no women in their congregations.

Parishes desiring to become members of the diocesan branch can do so by reading the diocesan constitution and adopting one for parish use, which does not conflict, electing officers, with date of organization, notifying diocesan secretary of same, and she will gladly give any desired information. The parish fee of \$1.00 should be remitted to the diocesan treasurer for expenses of the diocesan branch.

"Many members of the Woman's Auxiliary are away from home during the summer, enjoying the rest and refreshment of a sojourn in the mountains or at the sea shore; others in their homes feel they, too, may take a well earned holiday, and for some weeks, at least, they may do as little as possible and enjoy as much as they can, and yet in these summer months ignorance and sin are in the world. Somewhere there are men and women who cannot rest because of it, but who in summer's heat and winter's cold, must do their faithful work. For the sake of all such, we ask the members of the Auxiliary one thing: Will you not, each one, lay by as God has blessed you, a proportionate amount, however small, in daily remembrance of those who work while you are resting? Let it be an offering of thankfulness for what God has done for you, let it be a gift of love for those whom you daily pray the Lord to bless."

This diocesan branch was represented at the general meeting in Chicago last October by its president, Mrs. Woolworth; first vice president, Mrs. J. F. Barnard, of Lincoln, and the diocesan secretary. There were also a number of Nebraska women present at each meeting,

consequently the enthusiasm there inspired has been fruitful of work in various places, in our diocese where the women belong.

At the adjourned meeting of the diocesan officers, held in Chicago, October 23rd, the subject of a day of intercession for missions was brought forward, introduced by a letter from a member of the Long Island branch. The desire of those present was that such a day be appointed. This wish, we know, has been shared by others of the Auxiliary, and it has given much satisfaction and pleasure to the diocesan branches to learn that the Eve of St. Andrew's, Nov. 29, has been appointed by the authorities of the church.

Each year, as the day of intercession comes, let us pray earnestly for a blessing upon our missions and missionaries, and a great increase of workers of interest and of gifts. United prayer, we may rest assured, will be strong and effective, and will prevail with a loving God.

Lastly, I would suggest a most urgent need, efficient members of the auxiliary to teach in the Sunday schools, and to form young girls guilds for mission work, and for receiving missionary intelligence. The latter has not been tried to any great extent among us, but it is such an important thing to begin early with our girls, upon whom will fall the carrying on of the work we have only started in this diocesan branch when we rest from our labors.

"Let us work while it is day, ere the night cometh! for the field widens, the seed is in our hands, and the promise sure." Promise of

"A glorious harvest of sinners won,
A harvest worth securing
Rest for the toilers—their life work done.
Crowns for the victors, and near the throne—
Peace, joy and life enduring."

KATHRYN A. RINGWALT,
Diocesan Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

I esteem myself happy to welcome in the name of its Diocesan officers the officers and members of the parish branches of the Woman's Auxiliary to the celebration of the first anniversary of its organization in Nebraska. It may not be out of place at this time to speak of the intent and purpose of this society, in which the church at large takes so much pride, and in which she rests so much hope for the future success of her mission work.

The Woman's Auxiliary was organized to aid the Board of Missions,

First, By the increase of its funds.

Second, By the circulation of missionary intelligence.

Third, By the education of missionaries.

Fourth, By making, collecting and distributing articles of clothing to missionaries and their families.

Fifth, By the providing for the education of the children of missionaries.

Under the direction and with the approval of their Bishops, the Auxiliary in several dioceses has been organized on ecclesiastical lines into Diocesan and parochial branches: each responsible only to its own Bishop or Rector. It has at this time forty-four Diocesan branches, eight of which are in missionary jurisdiction, together with three hundred Diocesan officers. The history of the Auxiliary is chiefly to be found in the monthly, called "Church Work," in the Woman's Work Department of the Spirit of Missions, and in the annual reports of its secretaries from 1873 to 1886. Every Diocesan officer should make it her duty to become familiar with these publications, and it would be

well if every parish officer were acquainted with them. Ignorance concerning the matter contained in these publications, especially the Spirit Missions, is undoubtedly the cause of the apathy of so many in regard to the general work of the church.

Of the five ways in which we are expected to aid the Board of Missions in its work, the second, namely, by the circulation of missionary intelligence, is perhaps the one which we most need to make use of. The general work of the board demands from us knowledge and consequent interest, in its two great departments of work, foreign and domestic—the last including not only the formation of parishes and missions in our own Diocese, but also the Indian work, the Mormon work, and missions among the colored people in the South. This last, at present, demands special interest, for now, the church seeing the heathenism lying at her very door, is girding herself for a battle with the ignorance and superstition of this “Africa in America.”

Those who do not read our missionary intelligence have no conception of the heathen immorality pervading a large portion of the millions of the Negro race living in our midst. Bishop Brewer says: “Never before was there so much work to be done. Never before so many calls to be heard; never before were the fields so ripe for the harvest. Negro and Indian to be christianized and educated. North, east, south and west making imperative demands for much needed help.”

The Auxiliary in Nebraska is small in numbers and weak in resources. It is not long since we were as a Diocese the beneficiary of the Board of Missions. Our dear Bishop Clarkson, in his last address, made before the board in 1883, said: “I am happy to be able to report that Nebraska is able henceforth to support her own Bishop, and gives up, that far, her hold upon the Board of Missions, with most loving gratitude for all it has

done for her in the years past." Shall we not in expression of that gratitude help the Board to do for others what it has done for us. It may be years before we can hope to give the \$26,000 given last year by the Massachusetts branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, or the \$18,000 given by the Auxiliary in Connecticut, or the \$14,000 given by Michigan; or even the \$7,000 raised by the small diocese of Northern New Jersey. But we pray that the incense of the sympathizing love, the personal thought and self-denial, the prayers that go out with our small gifts, may rise as a sweet savor before Him, who measures not by a man's standard, and win the praise, 'she hath done what she could.' Who can measure the value and extent of even the smallest gift or service done in the Master's name! Said one (a beneficiary of one of the older Auxiliaries) a missionary in charge of six stations on the frontier, isolated and alone, "all over the country I have brethren who are working for the Master. My mission stations are no longer the boundaries of my world. I cannot protect myself from the north wind with warm clothing, or look at my children at play, or don the vestments of my sacred office without making my horizon wider, until in spirit I grasp the hands of christian workers all over the world. Courage, strength, hope are all given by the compact union of the four thousand clergymen, and I know not how many thousands of such workers as the officers and members of the Woman's Auxiliary."

As we read such expressions of gratitude and learn more and more of the work in the far-off isles of the sea, not only in carrying the bread of life, but in the increase of material comforts wherever the missionary's influence extends; as we read of the building of schools and hospitals and orphanages, the elevation of the condition of woman, the extension of medical intelligence and the improvement in the care of the sick; as we

read of the wonderful work accomplished in Greece, christian though she was, but lying in almost heathen ignorance, and learn the gratitude of her government for the blessing of the civilization brought her by our own American church, our hearts burn within us, and we long to do more and more of the glorious work which enlarges and expands our own hearts while blessing others.

Then it follows, that in order that we may be able to do more, we must study and learn to give systematically. The scripture rule to give one-tenth of our increase is undoubtedly the wisest method of giving. Spasmodic gifts, although occasionally large, do not accomplish the good which follows the regular, methodical giving of the Bible tenth. We do not manage our own business spasmodically, as too many of us try to do the Lord's work. We well know that failure instead of success would be the result of such a course. If we really believe that we are but stewards of our time, strength and resources, and that our Lord has a claim to a fixed portion of all he has given us, and cheerfully give accordingly as he has prospered us, how joyfully shall we see his work go forward. There is too often a feeling that we cannot help in the general work of the church, but must work only for our own parish. We are in danger of becoming intensely selfish and narrow. It is true our own parochial interests must not be allowed to suffer; but neither must we leave other work undone. A generous proportion of our labors must be given to objects outside of our own petty interests; petty when compared to "that great field which is the world." So shall we be blessed in giving.

Miss Carter advises that our offerings should be divided into four parts, giving, the

First, To our own parish.

Second, To work in our own Diocese.

Third, To the domestic work of the Board, Indian, Mormon and colored, and the

Fourth, To the foreign work.

Many have felt that they could not get beyond the first two. Let us hope that another year will show us that in working beyond ourselves we will be really helping *ourselves*, believing that the Lord is no hard taskmaster, but giveth increase four, nay, even twenty fold. Then will we see that the missionary work does not conflict with parish work; that by some mysterious law the one does aid the other. There is hardly time to speak of interesting young girls and children in the general work of missions. Much may be accomplished by cultivating the missionary spirit among them, and such work will do much to break up the natural selfishness of youth, by giving them an object of interest external to themselves.

It is desirable that your reports should be sent to the diocesan secretary more promptly than was done this year. Your secretary was put to much needless trouble and expense in writing and going about to gather the data for her report, which should have been sent to her without solicitation. Many of her letters even now are unanswered.

I wish to say a word to the gifts which are sent by the parochial branches for special objects. It is better that all gifts should be sent through your diocesan treasurer, who can incorporate them in her report to the bishop and the general board. The Bishop nominates and you elect your treasurer. You surely have sufficient confidence in her to entrust her with your gifts, stating what objects you want them devoted to, then she can credit the gifts to their source, and we as a diocese as well as each parish will receive the credit for which we are corporately and individually entitled. This does not nullify the duties of each parochial secretary and treas-

urer, as they keep account and custody of all funds until transmitted for some object outside of their own parish. It simplifies the work of the general secretary, and gives credit where credit is due.

Moneys now in the treasuries of each parochial branch ought to be devoted to the work of the year ending to-day, May 19th, 1887; otherwise you will report moneys in hand this year which will appear again in next year's report. The general board needs, in order to close up its work for the year, all that can be raised before August 20th. To what better purpose can our surplus funds be appropriated than to the aid of the general board in New York, that it may fulfill all its pledges before the end of the fiscal year? Our fall work should be begun by using the new fees paid in as the yearly assessment, or by systematic offerings that will be collected when you resume work again.

You see it is not intended that the Woman's Auxiliary shall be a moneyed corporation, growing rich from funds invested and lying at interest for even so short a time as three summer months.

Our ever beloved Bishop Clarkson once, after his return from one of the annual meetings of the missionary board, stepped to one side of the desk, as was his wont, and closing his manuscript, addressed us *ex tempore* in the way we all loved. He said "I love my people for their good works, and am always ready to praise their generous deeds; but I must tell you this morning that I do not feel that your zeal in behalf of missions 'has eaten you up.'" We all recall his smile, his irresistible gracious manner. Can we not also take to our hearts his zealous plea for the cause of missions and his still greater zealous example, so that he being dead, yet shall speak through our lives and deeds.

ELIZABETH S. WOOLWORTH,
President.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This society shall be called the Nebraska branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

ART. II.

The object of this society is four-fold: 1st, to diffuse missionary intelligence; 2nd, to increase missionary activity among the woman of the diocese; 3rd, to unite previously existing societies in a common interest; 4th, to encourage the formation of new societies for missionary work.

ART. III.

Any person may become a member of this association who shall contribute to its treasury annually at least the sum of one dollar, materials or service.

ART. IV.

The officers of this society shall be a president and six vice presidents; a secretary and a treasurer. These officers shall be chosen at the annual meeting.

ART. V.

There shall be a board of managers, consisting of the above named officers, together with the several vice presidents of the parochial organizations represented in the association, whose duty it shall be to regulate the work of the society, and under the supervision of their rectors to further its objects in the parishes to which they respectively belong.

ART. VI.

It shall be the duty of the president, in the absence of the bishop, to preside at all meetings of the association, and of the board of managers; to call special meetings of the same, and countersign all drafts on the treasurer.

ART. VII.

The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the bishop or president.

ART. VIII.

The secretary shall give notice of all meetings, and conduct the correspondence of the society with missionaries, with the secretaries of the associated parishes, and with the general secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary in

New York. She shall keep a record of all meetings, prepare and keep a list of the names of all associated parishes, with their officers, and shall report the same once a year to the bishop of the diocese and the general secretary in New York.

ART. IX.

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and keep account of all moneys and materials contributed to the work of the association; to pay all drafts on the funds when countersigned by the president; and prepare an annual report of the same, to be incorporated in that of the secretary.

ART. X.

A general meeting of this association shall be held annually at the time and place of the Diocesan Council. A semi-annual meeting shall be held at such time and place as the president shall direct. A collection shall be taken at the close of each meeting for the general purposes of the association. The officers of each associated branch shall constitute a delegation to the general meetings of the association.

ART. XI.

All parish societies who so desire may become members of this Auxiliary by appointing a vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and notifying the diocesan secretary. The secretaries of the parish branches are required to correspond with the diocesan secretary, who alone corresponds with the general secretary of the Womans' Auxiliary in New York.

ART. XII.

The sum of one dollar annually from each parish branch of the association shall constitute a fund for necessary expenses, stationery, printing, etc.

ART. XIII.

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

ART. XIV.

This society shall provide for the needs of the missionaries in this diocese to the extent of its ability before offering assistance elsewhere.

