

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
OF THE
Woman's Auxiliary
IN THE
EASTERN AND BLACK HILLS DEANERIES

For the Year Ending May 31, 1897.

The first word of this report of the work done by the Women's Guilds in the Eastern and Black Hills Deaneries must be one of thankfulness for the greatly increased interest in the cause of missions, more particularly the increased interest in the mission work of the Niobrara Deanery, which has marked the year. Those who have longed for such an awakening may well rejoice and with renewed zeal press on toward the ideal—"Every Church Woman A Church Worker."

Necessarily the major portion of the time and strength of our Guilds must be given to the support of their own congregations, and throughout the Deaneries the women have in no way fallen behind the noble record of past years in this respect; but some have become conscious that such efforts are not all of Christian duty, that they can by no means fill the measure of personal responsibility of the baptized. Nothing shows this larger conception of our duty and privilege better than our record of boxes.

RECORD OF BOXES.

Guild.	Destination of Box.	Value.
Arlington	Niobrara Deanery.	\$ 5 00
Brookings, St. Paul's.....	Niobrara Deanery.	25 00
Dell Rapids, Ch. of Living Water	Niobrara Deanery.	16 00
DeSmet, St. Helena's Guild	Niobrara Deanery.	5 00
Elk Point, Ch. of the Saviour	Niobrara Deanery.	6 50
Howard, Trinity	Niobrara Deanery.	16 00
Sioux Falls, Industrial Chapter	Niobrara Deanery.	70 00
Sioux Falls, Industrial Chapter	Missouri	25 00
Sioux Falls, Industrial Chapter	Miscellaneous	40 00
Sioux Falls, Nativity Chapter	5 00
Sioux Falls, Epiphany Chapter	3 50
Sioux Falls, Ever Ready, All Saints Sch'l	Niobrara Deanery.	16 63
Springfield, Ascension	Niobrara Deanery.	22 50
Vermillion, St. Paul's	Niobrara Deanery.	10 40
Watertown, Trinity	Niobrara Deanery.	35 00
Watertown, Trinity	Alaska	75 00
Watertown, Trinity	North Dakota	35 00
Gettysburg!	South Dakota	2 00
No. of boxes.....	18	\$ 413 93

A box prepared by the Industrial Chapter, Canton, belongs properly to next year's report.

A comparison of the above list with the six boxes prepared last year, valued at \$50 will show what a step we have taken. No one will be more surprised than the faithful women whose donations seemed to them so small, though coming from such willing hearts. When the enthusiasm of the few becomes contagious, what shall we not accomplish!

CASH OFFERING.

The Secretary has endeavored to impress upon all Guilds which she has had the privilege of addressing the importance of remembering the various charities of the Church, and the falseness of the pride which prefers *no* offering to a small one. Doubtless a large part of the offerings taken in church for various purposes has come from women. Offerings through the Auxiliary have been small, Diocesan Missions, \$3.80; Domestic Missions, \$10.50; Foreign Missions, \$7.18.

Under this head should be placed the sums on deposit

for the United Offering of 1898. Credits to this fund now stand as follows:

Arlington	\$ 4 70
Brookings, St. Paul's	II 14
Crow Creek, White	8 79
Crow Creek, Indian	32 12
DeSmet, St. Helena's	5 50
Deadwood, St. John's	5 00
Flandreau, Church of Redeemer	4 90
Flandreau, St. Mary's	4 11
Gettysburg	65
Howard, Trinity	12 75
Iroquois	5 50
Lead City, Christ Church	5 00
Madison	1 45
Pierre	1 00
Sioux Falls, Industrial Chapter	9 40
Sioux Falls, Junior	1 97
Sioux Falls, All Saints School	II 12
Standing Rock, St. Elizabeth's	9 11
Vermillion, St. Paul's	4 65
Interest	04
Total	\$138 85

\$89.85 of this amount is bearing interest at 3 per cent.

A DEFICIT.

In the fall of 1895, at the Triennial Meeting in St. Paul, in behalf of the Auxiliary of the whole Diocese, I made a pledge of \$25 towards the erection of a school in Africa. By carefully watching the Spirit of Missions I have been able to keep track of the redemption of this pledge. Including two specials from the Niobrara Deanery "for beds at Cape Mount" amounting to \$5.20, we still lack \$3.25 of completing the \$25.* The Guilds in Eastern Deanery and the White field have given \$8.75, the women of the Niobrara Deanery the rest. Though we have been so slow in redeeming this pledge, I am not sorry that it was made. Others have learned the value of uniting forces, we need to learn it. It would be a great gain if the Guilds in our White Deaneries could be induced to unite in raising any specified sum for any object designated by the Bishop. Some have expressed a willingness to unite in the support of a Ministering Woman.

*NOTE.—The Industrial Chapter, Sioux Falls, has, since this report was presented, sent \$2.25 to wipe out this balance.
November 18, 1897.

ANOTHER DEFICIT.

There is a great lack of Missionary information amongst us. Four Guilds only report that the Spirit of Missions is taken by the Guild or members of it. Two only report the receipt of other mission literature. Two only are provided with the Auxiliary Handbook. Two only attempted any study of Missions during the past year. Cannot some means be devised whereby every Guild in the state shall receive The Quarterly Message? It is but ten cents a year. Will not our Guilds read it if it is sent them? If they read it, will not the interest in Missions grow?

SECRETARY'S VISITS.

The Secretary has had the great privilege during the past year of meeting and addressing the Churchwomen of the following towns: Madison, Howard, Brookings, (including ladies from Arlington, Volga, DeSmet and Elkton), Watertown, Elk Point, Vermillion, Canton. She also made informal addresses to the Sunday School and Daughters of the King at Watertown, the congregation of the Church of the Ascension, Springfield, and the Santee Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, numbering sixty Indian women. How great was the opportunity! Would that some one more persuasive and convincing might have had it. But surely some good must come merely from thus meeting together to discuss our duty to the cause of the spread of Christ's Kingdom.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Towards the expense of printing and postage during the past year, the annual due of twenty-five cents was received from three Sioux Falls branches. Toward the expenses of the coming year the twenty-five cents due has been received from the following: Aberdeen, Canton, Dell Rapids, Ever Ready of All Saints School, Rapid City, \$1.25 in all.

All expenses of the year ending May 31, 1897, have been paid.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY B. PEABODY,

Secretary for Eastern and Black Hills Deaneries.