

**SOUTHERN FLORIDA**

**Woman's Auxiliary**



**Eighth Annual Report.**

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**January, 1900, to January, 1901.**







EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING  
—OF THE—  
Southern Florida Branch  
—OF THE—  
WOMANS AUXILIARY  
TO THE  
Board of Missions.

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January 1, 1900, to January 1, 1901.

SENTINEL-REPORTER PRINT, ORLANDO, FLA.



## Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

### OFFICERS 1901.

#### PRESIDENT;

Mrs. Wm. C. Gray ..... Orlando.

#### VICE-PRESIDENT:

Mrs. Louis C. Massey ..... Orlando.

#### TREASURER:

Mrs. E. F. Sperry ..... Orlando.

#### ASSISTANT TREASURER.

Mrs. A. Haden ..... Orlando.

#### SECRETARY.

Miss Harriet R. Parkhill ..... Sanford.

#### ASSOCIATE SECRETARY.

Miss Elizabeth H. Rand ..... Longwood.

#### CORRESPONDENT OF CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB.

Mrs. J. H. Weddell ..... Thonotosassa.

### JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

#### SECRETARY-TREASURER JUNIOR BRANCH.

Mrs. Louis C. Massey ..... Orlando.

#### SECRETARY-TREASURER BABIES' BRANCH.

Miss Hattie Hudson ..... Orlando.

The Ninth Annual Meeting will be held at Tampa, 1902.



EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

—OF THE—

# Southern Florida Auxiliary.

The meeting was held in St. Peter's church, St. Petersburg on January 24th, 1901.

At 9:00 a. m. there was a celebration of the Holy Communion, the Bishop being celebrant, the rector, Rev. T. I. Perdue, assisting. The Bishop at this time appointed the Diocesan officers for the ensuing year, and delivered his annual address to the women.

## The Bishop's Address.

Dear Members of the Woman's Auxiliary. I am pleased once more to have the opportunity of speaking to you. I am always glad to meet you. But I have no new thing to say this morning with reference to yourselves and your work. It is the old, old story always, the old story that is ever new. The possibility of reaching out a helping hand to others; the access to the throne of Grace which is always open; the appeal for help to the arm of God which is never shortened that it cannot save all who call upon Him in faith: the appeal to the ear of God that is never closed even to the humblest and most unworthy of his children. I commend to your consideration two abiding sources of successful christian effort, Prayer and Work: Prayer, which is always commended in Holy Scripture, as the necessary element in every true and useful life devoted to Christ and religion. In the great and far-reaching influence of that life which has just been brought to a close, the life of the Queen of England, we see this fact beautifully illustrated. That life with all its wonderful complica-



tions and burdens of responsibility, began with prayer. When as a girl, Victoria was called to the throne, she, on being formally notified of the exalted honour placed upon her, knelt, we are told, upon her knees and asked God to be with her, to help her to do the right, and be wise in all she did. She prayed for her people that they might be a Christian nation. Her influence was always on the side of truth and righteousness and peace: and the missionaries from her land went with her warmest sympathy into all lands where the gospel was preached with such success, that christian churches were planted in every quarter of the globe, and nations were born in a day, as some of the results of the influence of its praying Queen. Here also in Southern Florida, in spite of the overwhelming calamity of a few years ago, when the possibilities of a livelihood for the great majority of our people were for the time swept away. You, dear friends, have prayed and worked in this same spirit of loyalty to the great principles of Christian practice and efficient effort. You have kept up the average of work: in fact have put forth new strength and covered new areas of labor, and your contributions to the funds of the Church have shown no diminution. Our statistics show a truly marvelous growth in the Church of Southern Florida and an advance of Christian faith and living, which is most gratifying to me, and which is due in a large measure to the prayerful labors of the Woman's Auxiliary of this jurisdiction. Keep your hearts as in the presence of your Divine Lord, ever seeking refreshment and fresh courage from the light and joy of His countenance. Carry His presence with you in all your plans, and do, pray and work.

Few can realize the power, the real power, of devotion when directed by love. He is ever more ready to hear than we to pray and to give us more than either we desire or deserve. He opens impossible ways for those that trust him; He leads the way for those who follow His lead faithfully and humbly.

To Cornelius it was said: "Thy prayers and thine alms are come up as a memorial before God." To you who work in less prominent and less promising fields, in small missions



where the membership is limited, and your work is ever more or less subject to interference, and even to suspension, at times for the lack of power and workers, where your income for Church purposes is represented only, it may be, by a few pennies; where you are so far removed from others that you cannot even feel the warmth and cheer of sympathy, to you I say there remains this power of prayer. You can pray when you can do nothing else, and by prayer you move, be it remembered, the arm that moves the universe.

Do not then neglect this primary duty, this joyous exercise of the Godly, this strength of the saints, this source and stream and fountain of spiritual power to the Church in all ages and under all conditions. Be faithful in this that you diligently and frequently make known your wants unto God. Be faithful to the call of your association. Labor on and faint not. The blessing shall be yours in due time, when the Dear Lord will, if not in this life, then in the future in that new and glorious and never ending life, which we pray for, which we are taught to desire and which will be "for better." May God in His love and mercy bless you and have you in His holy keeping always for Jesus Christ's sake. AMEN.





## MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

The business meeting was held in the Guild Hall and called to order by the President at 10:15 a.m.

Miss Gray and Mrs. Gillett were appointed a committee on credentials.

Miss Gray, chairman of the committee, reported twenty-four delegates present from twelve parishes.

The roll was called with thirty-five women present, twenty-four of whom were delegates.

The President read her annual address.

The report of the treasurer, Mrs. E. F. Sperry, was adopted.

The report of the associate secretary, Miss Elizabeth Rand, was adopted.

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Junior Branch was adopted.

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Babies Branch was adopted.

The boxes for the Babies Branch were then distributed.

Mrs. Gray explained about the Junior and Babies Branches, also the Church-Home and Hospital.

The report of Mrs. Weddell, the correspondent of the Church Periodical Club was adopted. Mrs. Weddell asked to have the report of the Orlando Branch of the Church Periodical Club, which Mrs. Massey then read.

Miss Rand read the letter about the Easter Box, and St. Luke's Branch, Orlando, offered to pack it.

Pledges for the Easter Box were as follows: St. John's, Brooksville, \$1.50; Christ Church, Longwood, \$.50; St. James', Leesburg, \$2.00; St. Luke's, Orlando, \$10.00; Good Shepherd, Punta Gorda, \$5.00; Holy Cross, Sanford, \$1.00, household articles and 1 table cloth; St. Andrew's Branch, Tampa, \$10.00; St. Mary's, Port Tampa City, \$1.00; Trinity,



Thonotosassa, \$.50 and 12 towels; All Saints' Lakeland, \$1.00 and 2 summer night shirts; St. Peter's, St. Petersburg, \$1.00; St. Barnabas', DeLand, \$2.50; St. Paul's, Key West, will supply box for the oldest boy.

Mrs. Gray read "A Plea for Medical Work for Women in China."

On motion it was decided to send the Annual Foreign Offering, \$25.00, to the Women's Hospital in Shanghai.

Mrs. Sperry then spoke of the Contingent Fund.

Pledges for the Contingent Fund were as follows: St. Barnabas', DeLand, \$2.50; Christ, Longwood, \$1.00; St. James', Leesburg, \$1.00; St. Luke's, Orlando, \$8.00; St. Andrew's, Thonotosassa, \$.75; Good Shepherd, Punta Gorda, \$1.00; Holy Cross, Sanford, \$2.00; St. Mary's, Daytona, \$1.00. St. Andrew's, Tampa, \$5.00. This Branch will pack the Advent Box. Miss Rand read the letter from Miss Patton, of North Carolina, about this box.

At 12 o'clock a pause was made for Mid-day Prayers; which were read by the President.

Mrs. Sperry read an article about the United Offering.

Mrs. Gray read a letter from Miss Parkhill, asking for contributions for the Deaconess House in Philadelphia.

An invitation from the managers of the Fruit Fair was extended to the ladies for the afternoon, and was accepted.

It was moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the ladies of the Branch of St. Peter's Church for the cordial reception and hospitality tendered the Auxiliary Branches of Southern Florida. This was carried by a rising vote.

The minutes were read and approved.

All joined in singing the Doxology, and the President declared the meeting adjourned.

ELIZABETH H. RAND,  
Associate Secretary.

HATTIE HUDSON,  
Secretary of the Meeting.



### Address of the President.

In this picturesque and rapidly growing town of St. Petersburg, where most of us have had the pleasure of taking part in the Consecration of the beautiful new St. Peter's Church; in the beginning of the new year and the dawn of a new century, it is our present privilege, dear Women of the Auxiliary, to find ourselves assembled in our annual meeting.

We had anticipated the great pleasure of having with us Mrs. Foster, so long our inspiration and guide, as head of the Woman's Auxiliary of Southern Florida, but I am sorry to say her illness prevents her being with us. Our only other regret, on this auspicious occasion, is the absence of our beloved Secretary, Miss Parkhill, and her associate, Miss Rand, together with the other members of this meeting, who by reason of the long distance or some other cause, are unable to be with us. But among so much that is new and interesting, it behooves us, dear friends, to remember that it is still the "Old, old, story, of Jesus and His love," which binds us together as a society, and which we are to help to send on down the ages, till time shall be no more. To this end then, let us bend all our energies. Let us try to realize that though so weak and small we are "laborers together with God." And "if God be for us who can be against us." It is He who "hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise and the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty," and if God has given us a work to do we must not think it does not amount to much, but set about it with a spirit of prayer and self sacrifice, gladly do what we can, in just the way in which He points out.

This year, as in the others, we have to strive to increase our offerings—the Systematic, the United, the Foreign, the Contingent, and to do our best with the Missionary boxes. The same old story, which love for Christ and the Church makes ever new. The fields are white for the harvest, waiting for the reapers, and it is our prayers and our gifts which must do their share in helping to send and sustain these laborers,



Let us then strive for greater deeds ourselves, and so far as we can to interest every baptized woman to join us.

In looking over the work of the last year, though the Auxiliary has lost, chiefly by removal, many of its most active workers, and the Systematic Offerings have not quite reached the amount of former years, yet I think both in the Woman's and the Junior Department there has been a deepening of interest on the spiritual side of the work, and we may well thank God and take courage. May the Lord direct us in all our doings with His most gracious favor, and further us with His continued help.

Faithfully yours,

FANNIE C. GRAY, President.





**Report of the Treasurer,***From January 1, 1900, to January 1, 1901.*

BRANCHES.	Special.	Systematic Offerings.	Contingent Fund.	United Offering.	Boxes.	Church Home and Hospital.	Total in Money and Boxes.
Auburndale, St. Alban's.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$ 1 00	.....	\$ 1 00
Avon Park, Redeemer.....	.....	\$ 7 89	75	.....	2 00	.....	10 64
Bartow, Holy Trinity.....	.....	17 00	1 75	1 25	1 00	10 00	37 00
Brooksville, St. John's.....	.....	10 16	75	.....	5 50	.....	16 35
Cassia, St. Luke's.....	.....	4 18	1 00	.....	75	.....	5 93
Cocoa, Emily Johnson Memorial.....	.....	6 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 00
Conway, Holy Trinity.....	.....	.....	2 00	76	9 10	.....	11 86
Courtenay, St. Luke's.....	.....	85	.....	37	3 70	.....	4 92
Daytona, St. Mary's.....	.....	28 65	4 01	4 00	44 88	.....	81 54
DeLand, St. Barnabas.....	2 00	35 35	3 16	2 70	10 10	5 00	58 31
Eustis, St. Thomas.....	.....	8 16	2 00	1 68	16 50	.....	28 34
Ft. Meade, Christ.....	.....	9 45	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 45
Key West, St. Paul's.....	.....	138 65	6 80	10 00	24 00	20 70	200 15
Lake Mary, St. Mary's.....	.....	4 00	.....	.....	25	.....	4 25
Leesburg, St. James.....	.....	16 95	2 55	4 58	2 00	.....	26 08
Longwood, Christ.....	.....	11 04	1 00	1 25	31 05	.....	44 34
Maitland, Good Shepherd.....	16 10	12 91	1 25	.....	13 54	11 50	55 30
Manatee River, Christ.....	.....	9 25	.....	.....	17 00	.....	26 25
Melbourne, Holy Trinity.....	.....	3 55	.....	3 03	.....	.....	6 58
Merritt, Grace.....	.....	5 00	25	3 00	13 37	4 50	26 12
Mvers, St. Luke's.....	.....	3 40	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 40
Narcoossee, St. Peters.....	5 00	12 90	.....	7 26	.....	15 07	40 23
Ocala, Grace.....	.....	54 25	2 00	.....	24 00	.....	80 25
Ocoee, Grace.....	.....	.....	.....	1 30	.....	.....	1 30
Orlando, St. Luke's.....	6 00	92 42	6 80	13 28	67 00	.....	185 50
Palm Beach, Bethesda-by-the-Sea.....	16 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 00
Punta Gorda, Good Shepherd.....	.....	4 40	.....	.....	24 00	.....	28 40
Sanford, Holy Cross.....	.....	40 95	2 70	3 99	3 26	.....	50 90
St. Petersburg, St. Peter's.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 25	.....	4 25
Tampa, St. Andrew's.....	.....	52 40	10 50	7 91	18 60	.....	89 41
Thonotosassa, Trinity.....	50	3 00	50	1 77	1 65	50	7 92
Titusville, St. Gabriel's.....	.....	20 56	1 50	.....	3 85	5 00	30 91
Winter Park, All Saints.....	.....	4 75	1 00	.....	4 30	.....	10 05
Zellwood, St. James.....	.....	11 00	2 00	2 50	8 00	1 50	25 00
Mrs. W. C. Comstock.....	.....	5 00	10 00	.....	.....	.....	15 00
Mrs. A. B. Hopkins.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	5 00
Miss H. R. Parkhill.....	.....	.....	75	2 62	.....	.....	3 37
Mrs. Pell-Clarke.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	5 00
Mrs. J. W. Savery.....	.....	1 00	.....	.....	.....	3 50	4 50
A Friend, through Mrs. Foster.....	2 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 50	5 00
An Aux. Member, thank off'g.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00
Cash.....	15	.....	88 25	.....	.....	.....	88 40
Total.....	\$53 25	\$635 01	\$158 27	\$ 73 25	\$361 40	\$ 84 02	\$1365 20
Junior Department.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 300 97
Grand Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1666 17

**RECEIPTS**

Balance, January 1, 1900.....	\$ 57 94
Systematic Offerings.....	635 01
Contingent Fund.....	158 27
United Offering.....	73 25
Church Home and Hospital.....	84 02
Specials.....	53 25
Total.....	\$1061 74



## DISBURSEMENTS.

For Missionary Work in Jurisdiction.....	\$ 612 00
For Church at Sendai.....	32 00
For Famine Sufferers in India.....	5 00
For Bishop's Special Fund.....	47 10
For Church Home and Hospital .....	84 02
For Printing and Other Expenses.....	163 69
On Deposit for United Offering.....	73 25
Balance, December 31, 1900.....	44 68

Total..... \$1061 74

MARY W. SPERRY, Treasurer.

## Report of the Associate Secretary.

RIGHT REVEREND FATHER :

We would respectfully report the work of the Woman's Auxiliary in Southern Florida for the past year as follows :

The total of offerings in money and boxes as by the Treasurer's report appended is.....\$1,365 20

Junior Department.....	206 45
Babies' Branch.....	94 52

Total .....\$1,666 17

In January last, the branch of the Auxiliary at Auburn-dale was abandoned, and, we regret to say, has not so far been reorganized. Branches have been organized at Palm Beach and West Palm Beach ; that at Palm Beach is at present dis-organized, but purposes to resume work in the spring. The Branch at St. Petersburg has been reorganized, and promises active service ; while that at Lake Mary, which lapsed temporarily on account of the removal of its members, is again at work.

We are able to report thirty-two branches, which have joined in active service during the past twelve months ; of these many are small and feeble, often struggling against obstacles, which at times were almost unsurmountable, but in all these are the faithful few, who work bravely on and as bravely hope for an increase of laborers and the consequent results. It is, however, as it was a year ago, a cause of great distress and discouragement that so small a number of women are grasping the opportunity offered them by the methods of



the Auxiliary, to join actively in the work of the Church. The meetings where they might learn of the work in which their aid is so much needed and whence their prayers might go up for its success, are attended by a mere handful ; and though, by the power of God, these little ones may go forth as the mighty, how truly great might be the result, if the women of the twentieth century could be aroused to their privileges, and like those faithful women of the first, would accept with eager joy and devotion the opportunities which are offered them to serve their Lord and Master.

The Systematic Offering is smaller than last year, which fact we regret ; but the value of the boxes and other contributions makes the total value slightly larger. The contributions of the Contingent Fund show a slight increase, as does the collection for the United Offering over that of the preceding year. The offering which is made at each Annual Meeting to the foreign work of the Church was devoted, the past year, to the fund for the building of a Church in Sendai, Japan.

Two boxes have, as usual, been sent from Southern Florida to Missionaries in other parts of the country. The Easter box consisted of two parts, that for one member of the family to which it was sent being provided by Key West, while the larger portion was packed by the Holy Cross Branch, Sanford, and was composed of contributions from twenty Branches and two individuals. The Advent box, which was packed by St. Mary's Branch, Daytona, was a large and valuable one, seventeen Branches contributing most generously to its contents.

The PALM BRANCH has been issued with unfailing regularity the first of each month ; it meets with a warm and ready welcome, and we feel even more deeply than a year ago (since which time it has become your official organ) the importance and necessity of the PALM BRANCH, not only as a means of communication between the scattered Branches of the Auxiliary, but also as making known your work in Southern Florida among the people of our own jurisdiction and in other parts of the field.

While the work of the Auxiliary for the past year has



been by no means what it might be, if the women of the Church in Southern Florida, and as a whole, be awakened to a realization of their opportunities and duties ; still we feel that the result of the year's labors is one for which we may be heartily thankful, and we pray most earnestly that with the dawning of a new century, and with a new year before us, we may the more faithfully strive to follow the teaching of the watch-word, which you, Right Reverend Father, gave to us a year ago ; and forgetting the discouragements and disappointments which have beset us in the past twelve months, may prove more faithful in pressing toward the mark for the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH H. RAND, Associate Secretary.

Wellesly Hills, Mass., Jan. 1, 1901.

## JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

### The Seventh Annual Report of Junior Branches.

The working force of the Junior Auxiliary continues about the same this year as last, viz: Eight well organized Branches, although there has been some falling off in the amount of offerings. This, however, seems to be owing rather to local causes, than to any diminution of interest in the work. At the special request of the Bishop, the undesignated cash part of all the Junior offerings amounting to \$68.95, has been donated to the building fund of the tower, at Christ's Church, Immokalee. This tower is now finished and a fine bell, the gift of Mrs. Brush, of Connecticut, has been satisfactorily hung.

In addition to this, the Juniors have given \$50, the proceeds of their annual sale of Christmas and fancy articles, held in December at Bishopstead, as a united offering from all the Branches to the Church Home and Hospital, to which has been added several small specials, amounting to \$13.16 more.



Two Christmas boxes have been sent to Lehigh, Indian Territory, one by the Juniors, of Key West, and the other, by the seven branches on the main land, each box valued at \$30.

Praying God for greater zeal in our work for Him and that He will help us in our efforts to help others.

### TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JUNIOR BRANCHES.

*From January, 1900, to January, 1901.*

	Systematic Offering.	Boxes.	Total in Money and Boxes.
DeLand, St. Barnabas' Branch.....	\$ 1 00		\$ 1 00
Key West St. Paul's Branch.....	39 00	\$ 30 00	69 00
Longwood, Christ Church Branch.....	3 05	2 00	5 05
Ocala, Grace Church Branch.....	1 20	4 65	5 85
Orlando, St. Luke's Branch.....	21 00	4 00	25 00
Punta Gorda, Good Shepherd Branch.....	1 88	5 00	6 88
Sanford, Holy Cross Branch.....		1 35	1 35
Tampa, St. Andrew's Branch.....	4 00	5 00	9 00
Zellwood, St. James' Branch.....	1 00		1 00
Chetwynd, Ministering Children's League.....	6 32		6 32
Pittsburg, Pa., Miss Bylesby's Class.....	3 00		3 00
Special Gifts.....	10 00	8 00	18 00
Christmas Offering to Church Home and Hospital.....	50 00		50 00
Chicago, Ill., Epiphany Branch.....	5 00		5 00
Total .....	\$146 45	\$ 60 00	\$206 45

### DISBURSEMENTS.

SPECIAL—St. Andrew's Br., Tampa:

Rectory Fund.....\$ 4 00

SPECIAL—St. Paul's, Key West:

Parish Fund.....10 00

SPECIALS—For Church Home and Hospital:

St. Paul's Br., Key West.....5 00

Christ Church Br., Longwood.....2 00

St. Luke's Br., Orlando.....3 00

Ministering Children's League, Chetwynd.....3 16

Junior Christmas Offering.....50 00

Offering for Church Tower, Seminole Mission.....68 95

Postage.....34

\$146 45

CHRISTMAS BOXES:

St. Paul's Br., Key West, 1 box, value.....30 00

Mainland Branches, 1 box, value.....30 00

\$ 60 00

Total in Money and Boxes .....\$206 45

Respectfully submitted,

FANNIE C. GRAY,

Secretary-Treasurer *pro tem*.



### Fourth Annual Report of the Babies' Branch.

During the past year the Babies' Branch has increased, but not as much as the preceding year. Many of the children have gone into Junior work and many have moved away from Florida. It is hoped the coming year will see more people in this State.

This year we have had no report of any of the Little Helpers being called from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant.

There are two hundred names on the roll, but many of these will have to be dropped the coming year. For the year "the first gift of five cents" from each new member amounting to \$2.05, has been sent to the Orphanage in Shanghai.

The systematic offering from the boxes, sums up to \$92.47, which, less the expenses, has been divided as usual. One-third to the Seminole mission to finish building the tower for the new bell. One-third, Domestic, undesignated by Miss Emery's special request, and one-third, Foreign, to the Hospital at Shanghai, children's ward.

"God bless all the missionaries all over the world and all the Little Helpers, for Jesus sake."

#### FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF BABIES' BRANCH,

*From January, 1900, to January, 1901.*

Members enrolled, 200 ; members reporting, 95.

##### RECEIPTS.

First Gifts.....	\$ 2 05
Systematic Offerings from Boxes.....	92 47
Total raised.....	\$94 52

##### EXPENSES.

Red Boxes, one hundred.....	\$ 2 75
Expressage.....	1 30
Postage.....	4 50
Total.....	\$ 8 55
Total, less Expenses.....	\$85 97



## DISBURSEMENTS.

Chinese Orphanage, Shanghai, "First Gift".....	\$ 2 05
Diocesan Seminole Mission, to finish tower.....	27 98
Domestic Undesignated, by special request of Miss Emery	27 97
Foreign, to Hospital at Shanghai, Children's Ward.....	27 97
Total.....	\$85 97

HATTIE HUDSON,

Secretary-Treasurer.

## Report of the Church Periodical Club.

It is with thankfulness that I am able to report an increase in the work of the Church Periodical Club over previous years, which means an increase in the happiness bestowed and the resultant good. It would seem that the work needs but to be known to insure willingness on the part of all who subscribe for periodicals to pass them on when read to others less fortunate. The work has been kept up in Orlando, Winter Park, Longwood, Maitland, Sanford, Eustis, Paisley, Narcoossee, Tampa, Merritt, Garys, Thonotosassa and Haines City. This last, through the death of the clergyman and the removal of the librarian, has now lapsed. These have sent out 149 regulars, 109 books, 6 testaments, 2 hymnals with music, 114 Christmas and Easter cards, 17 calendars, and 2,365 old numbers. So far we have failed to secure active interest in the other parishes and missions. In some cases the response is that local work absorbs all, in others there is no response. We have aided the post Library at Fort Dade, Egmont Key, by books and files of valuable magazines and have received for it a few regulars to which we hope soon to add.

Great is the power of little. Could we but receive the five cents per year asked for from communicants and other interested persons, there would be enough and to spare, instead of the deficit to be made up otherwise. Is it too much to hope that this New Year of the New Century will see this want supplied? In this hope we rest.

Respectfully submitted,

L. W. WEDELL, Correspondent



Letter From Miss Parkhill.

CHURCH TRAINING AND DEACONESS HOUSE,  
708 SPRUCE ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
JANUARY, 1901.

MY DEAR FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS :

A year ago I expected certainly to be with you at this meeting, but God, in His providence has ordered otherwise. You know that I entered this school expecting to stay only one year—taking a selected course of study.

As, however, the year was drawing to a close, I felt more and more what an advantage those would have who could complete the course, which is laid out for *two* years, not for only one. The Bishop also thought it best that I should return for the second year, which will end with the month of May next.

Because I realize the value of this Institution so vividly, and feel so deeply the magnitude of the privilege of being one of its students and a member of its household—because I see what a power it is in the Church now and its strength increasing and its sphere widening month by month—I want to bring it to your notice and tell you something of its history and aims.

In its first Annual Report I find recorded: "The need of trained workers in the Church having always been keenly felt, the subject was brought before the Bishop of the Diocese [Pennsylvania] in July, 1889, and a plan suggested to enable women who desire to avail themselves of it, to receive thorough instruction and systematic training in the various branches of christian work. The idea met with hearty sympathy from the Bishop, but the adoption of the Canon on Deaconesses by the General Convention in October, 1889, led to an extension of the plan."

It was a group of holy women in this city—themselves engaged in earnest work for the Master, who made this beginning and who have so wisely carried it on under the authority and direction of the Bishop.

In the ten years that have passed since that first suggestion, twenty-five Deaconesses have been sent out and many



missionaries to both home and foreign fields—one hundred in all. Besides this, ladies living in the city become day scholars to fit themselves to be more able teachers in Sunday School and Bible classes.

Instruction is given "in the Bible, Prayer Book, Church History, Theology, Social Science, Hygiene and Home Sanitation, Nursing, Methods of Teaching, Missions, Cooking, Housekeeping, Needlework, and whatever else may be needed to qualify those whom the School may send out, to be true helpers of the parochial clergy in their missionary and benevolent work.

"One of the results hoped for from bringing students into a home, under one roof, and subject to the direction of a judicious and competent housemother, is that each may learn to work without friction with her fellow-workers, not asserting herself, but realizing the end in view to be one, to be willing to be directed by others as to the part she shall perform." [First Annual Report.]

We have this year twenty students from almost as many Dioceses, scattered from Massachusetts to California and Southern Florida, and even from the City of Mexico. Of course many different kinds of conditions, customs and environment have formed their present characters, yet the spirit of the household is one of forbearance, love and peace. The quiet but powerful influence of the wise, much-beloved and trusted House Mother, is largely the cause of this, under the providence of our Divine Master.

Everything is so adjusted as to round and make complete the life of each student, so that she shall be fitted to serve her God with, not only every talent, but also with every affection and earthly tie that He has given her.

There is a judicious blending of seriousness with cheerfulness and even mirth in their daily life within the House, and of practical work in various branches outside. The course of study is similar to that of the students in the Theological Seminary, and some of their professors are ours also. The managers are kind and thoughtful of the students, among their many kindness, providing pleasant entertainments now and



then as a break in the severe routine. It is a happy household, loyal to its head, where spirit and soul and body are cared for, where all have but one aim, to serve the Master day by day—and day by day striving to fit themselves to render better service and praying that He will “prepare them for the work prepared.” All who have gone out from the House, love it, looking back to the time spent within its walls as a time of special blessing and enjoyment. Visitors of only a few days come under the spell of its influence and feel how good it is to be there.

Students are received from any other Diocese on the same terms as those from its own, and yet the fees are put at so low a figure that it is impossible that the House should ever be self-supporting. Year after year that same group of devoted women who “put their hands to the plow” in the beginning—with some added helpers—make up the deficit, thus rendering the whole Church the beneficiary of this one noble Diocese. God is blessing the work in a very marked manner as we see by its steady growth, so that its first home was outgrown last year and the next house had to be added to make room for the increased number of students.

I had hoped that our Southern Florida Auxiliary might have the privilege and honor of helping to pay for that house, but I believe the purchase money has been about made up. There is however much needed to make the house suitable to its present uses, and the expense of the institution is of course much increased by doubling its size—*so the opportunity is still ours*, of having a part in this great work and in its blessing.

Do you not think that every Diocese and Missionary District in the American Church ought to aid in the building up and support of this nursery of missionaries and deaconesses? So many of them have sent students here, so many of them have received workers from here, that the whole Church is aided in her duty to furnish foreign as well as home missionaries, by having this place for their training.

There is a continually increasing call for women as missionaries to foreign fields and for various kinds of work in the



Church at home—but the call is for specially educated and trained women who can do skilled work in these various fields.

Is it written anywhere in the Four Gospels that a woman rejected our Lord? or refused to minister to Him? Shall *we* then—women of the twentieth century—be less ready to serve Him, less ready to respond to any call He may make?

Our brave little Southern Florida Auxiliary—"whose praise is in the churches" I find, 'everywhere—has always tried to do and give somewhat for every cause that her officers have ever presented [although in its weakness and poverty it could never give large sums] and I have confidence in its favorable response now, to this call.

I trust that besides the gift of money, some one, at least, of its members will give her own life to Jesus Christ, or else give to Him a daughter or a son.

In that Last Day when He will come in His glory, how will we feel about these things standing face to face with *Him*, the Judge of all the earth?

Look up into His blessed face day by day *now*, dear Sisters, and ask your hearts this question.

May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts and guide you in this meeting, going home with each one that she may rouse renewed enthusiasm and zeal in her own Parochial Branch. Enthusiasm is a feeling, see that it only cools into *zeal* which is a principle.

Your Loving Friend and Secretary.

HARRIET R. PARKHILL.









