

1893

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

THE UNITED OFFERING.

In October, 1889, the Triennial Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary was held in the city of New York, and the offering made at this meeting was devoted to the building of Christ Church, at Anvik, Alaska, and the sending of a missionary to Japan. The offering amounted to \$2,000, but of this one-half was the gift of one woman.

In October, 1892, at the Triennial Meeting held in Baltimore, the offering amounted to \$20,353.16, and was devoted to the increase of the Enrolment Fund. This offering was made beautiful by its representative character. No large sum was known to be the gift of any one person, but offerings came from many members of the Auxiliary, in Africa, China and Japan, and in nearly every Diocese and Missionary Jurisdiction in our own country.

At the meeting of Diocesan Officers held in Baltimore, on the 8th day of October, 1892, it was resolved to place before the Auxiliary as the object of the United Offering to be made at the Triennial Meeting of 1895, the Endowment of the Episcopate in a Missionary Jurisdiction; subject to the approval of the Board of Missions.

The support of the Episcopate costs the Board annually, in a Domestic Missionary Jurisdiction \$3,300; in a Foreign Jurisdiction \$2,800. To endow the one it will require the

sum of \$66,000, at five per cent.; the other, the sum of \$56,000. We desire, therefore, to gather and bring with us to the Triennial Meeting in October, 1895, the sum of at least \$56,000.

The amounts to be contributed to this object are to be over and above the annual gifts of the branches and members of the Auxiliary. To gather them, we will send to all who ask for them, mite boxes marked for this especial purpose; and we suggest,

1. That each Diocesan Officer take and use one of these boxes herself.

2. That the officers of each Diocesan Branch urge every Parish Officer in the branch to take a box.

3. That every Parish Officer urge the individual members of that branch to do the same.

4. That every person who takes a box find some other person, not already actively interested in the work of the Auxiliary, and persuade her to take and fill a box.

As it is not intended that the United Offering should interfere in any way with the regular work of the Auxiliary, the boxes will generally be used as fragment-gatherers, and may be filled,

1. By the contribution of a cent a day, or its equivalent, up to the time of the meeting.

2. By putting in it all the pennies found in the purse each night.

3. By the gift of a stated sum weekly or monthly.

4. By thank-offerings for special blessings.

One devout Churchwoman, now in her eighty-ninth year, fearing that she may not be with us in 1895, to take part in the United Offering, has already made her contri-

bution, of one thousand dollars, to the Fund. She is not the only woman in the Church able to give so largely, and in speaking of the small sums to be given through the mite boxes, we do not lose sight of those among our members who have been entrusted with great wealth, and who may be moved to make some large contribution to the United Offering. The object of the Offering is one far-reaching in its blessings, giving to some of God's people for all time to come the loving care of a Bishop and shepherd of souls, and saving to the Board of Missions for all time the annual expense of the Bishop's personal support. Such an object may well call for liberal gifts ; and we cannot fail to hope that there are those among us who will give gladly of their abundance, as many of their sisters less blessed with worldly goods are already giving gladly of the little which has been given to them.

The gift of one thousand dollars to which we have referred was the result of the words of one of the Diocesan Officers, who used an opportunity—such an opportunity as will come to every one of us before the time of the meeting in Minneapolis—to interest a woman who did not know about it already, in the United Offering. This gives us our closing suggestion : that we all be on the watch for these God-given opportunities, and so win for a host of women not now active members of the Woman's Auxiliary, a share in the blessing that will be theirs who join in the United Offering of 1895.

Copies of this leaflet may be obtained from the Woman's Auxiliary Room, Church Missions House, New York.