

GRAPHIC AND THRILLING EXPERIENCE—THE
RESULT OF SENDING NO DELEGATE
TO BRANCH MEETING!

HOW THE B. AUXILIARY WENT TO BRANCH MEETING
BY PROXY!

HAVING missed the Branch meeting, perhaps through want of thought, we would do the next best thing—go to the nearest Auxiliary and get what their delegates had brought home. We planned to have an early dinner and start at once, so that we need not be hurried. It was our purpose to call and see some friends on the way, and for that reason we thought it best that, instead of getting off together, (there were four teams) each should go as soon as ready. As it is my experience that is to be written, I will begin by telling you that I had a very steady horse, away on in her teens, but the friend that went with me has an idea that she has to come to grief through some performance of a horse! And very soon after we started our horse did cut up a few antics which made my friend think that her time had come or would be here before we got home. She was quite sure that I had attempted more than I could carry out, so after this she was on the watch that I should not do her any damage, if looking out for trouble would do any good. We got along all right until within two miles of our destination, when we found that the bridge on the main road was being rebuilt; so we had to make a detour through an alleyway and cross a bridge in connection with a lumbering establishment. My companion suddenly remembered that she had heard that some one had got his horse's leg through this bridge and that there had been almost an accident to life or limb, she scarcely knew which! so out she got and walked awhile, leaving me to get on as best I could, which of course I did, or I would not be here to tell my tale. Crossing safely, I took up my timid friend, and after crooking and turning in a lot of places, new to me, and we came out on the main road in good condition, and in a short time were at our destination. We were in time to do the calling, and then we wended our way to the vestry of the Methodist church, where, in due time, the officers and members of the Auxiliary met and gave us a very kindly welcome. I need not tell you anything of the opening services, for they are common to all, but I marked the sincerity of each one in the performance of these duties. It being the day to elect officers for the coming year it was gone through with in a most orderly way. Then came the time for the delegate to the Branch to tell her story, and we were delighted with the way in which she gave us her impression and her experience there. Then the

delegate from the Mission Band gave us her ideas, impression, etc., in a very interesting way. Altogether the meeting kept us not longer than we wished, for it was a very helpful meeting; but in view of our home coming that evening we began to fidget a little. When we came out of meeting, to our dismay, the sun was getting away down the western slope, and worse than that, it was so cloudy that it seemed very near dark, and two miles away that bridge had to be crossed! Then, with the usual hospitality of the friends, they each wanted all of us to take tea at their homes. We concluded to let each team go with a friend and so divide ourselves around. We had impressed on our hostess that tea must be ready as soon as possible after the services were over, so when we came home all we had to do was to sit down to our tea. In a very short time we were ready to return, but none of our party were in sight. We concluded to start (for hadn't we to cross that bridge before dark) thinking they would overtake us. Acting on our thought, we started, and got over the bridge without getting out or having any trouble. We kept right on, with nothing special to notice, only the *darkness that could almost be felt*, and when we were about five miles from home didn't we overtake a lumber laden waggon! We followed it awhile, then I thought I would ask the driver if he would let us pass. There was no answer to my request, so I waited a little longer and asked, "Which side of the road had I better take to pass?" The answer came back to us, "Whichever side you like," with no effort on his part, that we could see, to give us a chance to pass. So we thought we would follow on and let patience do the rest. Every road that branched from the main we hoped to see that team turn off, but no, it kept ahead of us until we arrived at our own homes! We came to two conclusions—one was that there was a chance to replenish our mite boxes for mercies received, and the other was, the next time we went we would take a lantern to show us the way home. The whole party got home without a mishap.

One who *thinks* she would give more
if she had it to give.

MISSION BAND WORK.

Always send a delegate to the Annual conventions and District conventions. If possible pay their way. If we send a live energetic delegate, it will be money well spent in missionary work, for she will come home nred with zeal for the work, and in nearly all cases with a great deal more missionary education than she went away with. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, as you will find if you try it. A. B. C.,
(To be continued),