

regular service ! Occasions for gratitude are among our unreckoned assets. Were the Lord of the treasury to sit over against it, and to ask, while we make our deposits, "Daughter, wherefore art thou thankful?" who would have answer ready? Where could we begin to make reply? Without enumerating *your* reasons for this gift, let me implore every one to bring as *God hath prospered*, remembering that, in the divine economy, prosperity consisteth not in *abundance* of things possessed, but in the spirit with which wealth is held or dispensed. Grateful Siamese give a buffalo or an elephant as a special token. Japanese measure their gratitude by the number of eggs they can spare. Very inconvenient these gifts. Yet we might emulate the spirit with which they are given, and bring each her very best. That is all; but that is enough. What for? Chiefly to send out new missionaries, for which much money is needed; to bring home on furlough those who must come; and lastly, to open new fields. If a missionary is sick, he must come home; if his children are at an age for education, they must come; if money in hand must be spent for this, the new worker cannot be sent.

There is debt, and slow returns from the churches. Women may lift the load, and by their prayers make the act of giving significant, causing it to partake of the divine largeness of the permanent—the eternal.

Any thanksgiving service is a test. If we are prosperous, and our brother have need, how dwelleth the love of God in us? Our table is lavishly spread; round it are gathered the nations. "One family, we dwell in Him." There are vacant places in many fields. Messengers must go to gather in the invited and teach them the manners of our Father's house. Why are they not running post-haste? Money is lacking. Women are at ease at God's family table; heads bowed while only the zealous officer of Band or Auxiliary returns thanks.