

*Wm. G. Galt  
Miss Palmer.*

266

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Church of England,

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND,

FOR THE YEAR 1891-2.

Presented at the Annual Meeting, Winnipeg, June 21st, 1892.

MIDDLE CHURCH, MAN.  
RUPERT'S LAND INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL PRESS.  
1892.

OF THE

Church of England

OF THE

FOR THE YEAR 1887

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RICHARD CLAY AND COMPANY, BUNGAY, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

"With good will doing service."

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**Officers.**

**President.**

MRS. GRIDALE.

**Vice-Presidents.**

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MRS. THOS. CLARK. (2nd)

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MISS MILLIDGE. (Cor.)

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MRS. POWELL,

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MRS. MATHESON,

MRS. WILLIAMS.

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N. B. Address of all officers : Winnipeg.

# RUPERT'S LAND WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual service of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, was held in Holy Trinity church on Tuesday June 21st at 11 A.M. The Rev. S. Macmorine of Portage la Prairie read the Prayers. At the celebration which followed the Ven. Archdeacon Fortin was assisted by Rev. J. J. Roy, of St. George's. The Rev. H. A. Tudor, Rector of All Saints' preached an excellent sermon bearing upon missionary work done by women in the Church.

It was pleasing to observe the increased attendance at this service, as well as at the meeting which was held in the school-room adjoining the church at 3 p.m. The President, Mrs. Grisdale, occupied the chair. She was assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Fortin, who after the singing of the Missionary Hymn "Jesus shall reign where e're the sun," opened the meeting with prayer. The room was well filled and many of the city clergy were present. The President gave her annual address which will be found in full below. This was followed by the reports of the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, and the Treasurer's statement which showed that the sum of \$572 78 had passed through her hands. The Recording Secretary gave the approximate value of 29 bales sent out to distant missions during the year as amounting to \$635.93. A larger increase in the number of members as well as in the interest and energy displayed by them, in the cause of missions was alluded to with thankfulness and as encouragement to 'go forward' in the coming year.

The Corresponding Secretary's Report showed a number of letters written and received. An admirable paper upon 'The origin and work of Auxiliaries' by Mrs. Fortin, 1st Vice-President, was read by her and listened to with great interest and pleasure; it will also be found below. On the invitation of the President, the Rev. S. Macmorine addressed the meeting, speaking for Mrs. Macmorine as the representative of the newly formed branch of the Auxiliary at Portage la Prairie. It is much to be wished that others of our clergy would follow the example of that town by organizing branches of the Woman's Auxiliary.

In the inscrutable providence of God several members were prevented from being at this Annual Meeting by severe illness. A message from each was given, and received by their fellow workers, with sincere regret and sympathy with them and their families. The meeting was then closed by singing the hymn "All people that on earth do dwell," and the Archdeacon pronounced the benediction.

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

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MY DEAR FRIENDS:—

This is the fifth anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary in Winnipeg, and we have cause to be thankful for the prosperity which has been vouchsafed it during the year which has just ended.

You will hear from the Report of the Recording Secretary, that notwithstanding the withdrawal of most of the aid we formerly received from Eastern Auxiliaries, the value of the bales sent out this year, is in excess of those sent out in any previous year. The membership has increased and we trust the interest in this work also.

The standing of this Auxiliary in the past has been rather anomalous. At first it was started as a diocesan organization for the distribution of clothing etc. among the Indian missions. The clothing was supplied by the Auxiliaries in Eastern Canada but during this year we have had to depend mainly upon ourselves. An encouraging feature in the work is, that quite a number of members have promised to give ten cents a month in addition to their annual subscription.

But although this is a diocesan organization, until a few months ago it was very much like a parochial branch. Now the parent

stem has one offshoot, namely the branch at Portage la Prairie which has sent in a delegate to attend the annual meeting ; and to whom, in the name of the members of the Winnipeg Auxiliary, I extend a most cordial welcome. We trust other parishes may soon follow the example set by our Portage la Prairie sisters.

The question arises "How is it that our fellow-churchwomen throughout the diocese show such reluctance to join us in this missionary work ?" As a rule, people are not slow to acknowledge the benefits which accrue from united efforts. It is a trite saying that 'Unity is strength.' Perhaps one reason may be that in nearly every parish and mission the members of the Church have to strain every nerve to meet their own obligations, and they are afraid to bring in any outside claims, lest their own parochial societies should suffer loss. But these fears are groundless. The only changes necessary for a Ladies' Aid Society to become a branch of the Woman's Auxiliary are : the change of name, the use of the Members' Prayer, an annual subscription from each member of ten cents to the Diocesan Treasurer, and an annual report, from the secretary of the branch to the Diocesan Secretary, of all work done or money raised by the branch during the year. Of course, when a parish has grown out of the mission stage, and is able to give help outside of itself, bales of clothing may be sent to Indian Missions, or donations of money given for missionary purposes. I believe there ought to be a branch organized in every parish and mission (where it is not impracticable) in the diocese, no matter how small it may be, and even though the parish or mission itself may receive aid from the Mission Fund. It would create a missionary spirit and keep alive interest in mission work. One of the objects of the W.A. is to diffuse missionary intelligence and to infuse missionary zeal amongst the children of the Church

We are pleased to have with us on this occasion some of the officers of the Children's Guilds connected with our city churches. It is our earnest desire to have these Guilds affiliated with us as Junior Branches of the Auxiliary, and we would ask those in charge of the Guilds, to consider the matter, and see whether such a union could not be brought about.

The methods of working the Guilds need not be altered and each Guild would still retain the power to dispose of its own funds. The members' prayer for junior branches to be used, and an annual subscription of 5 cents are all that is required. The prosperity of the Auxiliary in the future depends very much upon the children who now belong to these Guilds.

A most earnest worker in the diocese of Toronto said, when speaking on this subject, "This matter calls for our most, serious consideration, for if our work is to continue with success in after years in this diocese it can only be well done by women trained in childhood to habits of self-denial and carefully taught the needs and claims of the mission fields." The object of bringing in the children is apparent. As they pass from childhood to womanhood they will naturally pass from the junior to the senior branch bringing with them the interest and knowledge acquired by years of training.

Up to the present time the work done by the Winnipeg Auxiliary has been chiefly Dorcas work. Some of us feel that the time has come to advance a step, and that we should, before commencing work again, meet together to consider what is best to be done. Not that we wish to give up the Dorcas work—far from it—each of us would like to hear those words addressed to her, "I was naked and ye clothed me."

In the RUPERT'S LAND GLEANER for last month we read "That a diocesan organization, with its centre in Winnipeg and a branch in every parish, should be formed, the sole object of which should be the upbuilding of the Home Mission Fund." This is one of the objects at which we have been assisting, and if the clergy of the diocese would co-operate with us and recommend the formation of a branch of the W. A. in their parishes, probably the desired end might be attained without any new organization. Our members might be able to carry out a rule of the Synod made a long time ago, but only carried out in two or three parishes, which reads thus "Local Associations in aid of the Home Mission Fund shall be established in every Parish or Mission under the direction of the vestry or vestries, or such other management as they shall approve of. All members of the Church of England in the Diocese shall be requested to subscribe at least five cents per month, payable quarterly to the Home Mission Fund. No doubt many persons can and will give much more than the minimum sum mentioned; but it is hoped that every family will try to contribute to the Home Mission Fund at least 5 cents per month for each of its members, and such contributions alone will make a large sum." If the members of our Auxiliary could take up this work in every parish or mission much of the \$2000.00 extra required for this year could be raised.

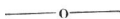
My dear sisters, some of us feel rather humbled when we think of the little we have been able to accomplish in five years.—There



have been many difficulties and discouragements. The heavy debts on our churches, the scarcity of elderly and middle-aged ladies amongst us, such as are found in older countries, with time and means at their disposal, to carry out such a work as this, and the want of servants, are great hindrances to its success. Having struggled on so far, however, I do not think we are disposed to give up. If it has been done for the glory of God, and from love to Christ and to our poorer brethren, we need not fear that our work is wood, hay, or stubble. It will stand.

In the natural world the men who sow the seed do not always reap the harvest. This may be our part—to sow. Others may reap, but in the end both will be partakers of the benefits, and if we have any faith in the efficacy of prayer we must believe that the daily prayer, going up from the faithful workers who are banded together in this service, will be as sweet incense to our Father Who is in Heaven, and will bring down His blessing.

I will only add that our Secretaries and Treasurer deserve our warmest thanks for the service they have rendered during the year. The motto of our Auxiliary well expresses the spirit in which they have laboured, "With good will doing service."



#### RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To-day we enter upon the sixth year of the existence of this Association, formed for the purpose of "interesting Church women in Missionary work by one common bond of harmonized effort." The success which has attended the various branches of the Woman's Auxiliary in the eastern dioceses is widely known, as all who read their little monthly publication called *The Leaflet* can see, and as many of the clergy in this province will gratefully acknowledge. Necessarily the progress of a similar organization in this new country must be slow. Last year the number of members upon the list was 49. At present there are 94 names. A fee of 25 cents a year constitutes a member, besides which each is expected to give a monthly donation of ten cents, to use the prayer upon her admission card daily, and to exert herself to interest her family and friends to help by every means in their power the cause of both Home and Foreign Missions.

We regret that only one branch has been formed outside of Winnipeg, that at Portage la Prairie, whose representative we are

glad to have the pleasure of having with us to-day. The difficulties to be met with in country places appear to make it almost impossible to form branches as they do in the east. There each parish has its own wants well provided for, here each is a Mission still needing much assistance. So far our work has been chiefly that of the Dorcas department, but the parish of Holy Trinity collected during Lent the sum of \$368.30 for the Home Mission Fund, and Christ Church \$28.56. St. John's also passed their offertory for the same, \$56.40, through the hands of our treasurer.

During the past year the meetings have been regularly held and fairly well attended. A Packing Committee met each month, shortly after the general meeting, and there were prepared and dispatched 29 bales the approximate value of which came to \$635.93. This year also we may be said to have stood alone, having received only *one* box and a small parcel from the eastern Auxiliaries.

To show what increased interest and energy there has been amongst our members it may be interesting briefly to notice the growth of the work which may be seen from the following table:

YEAR	BALES SENT OUT	VALUE
1889-90	9	\$221 00
1890-91	14	\$562 15
1891-92	29	\$635 93

It is to be noted also that this year the bales were all provided by our own members, with the exception of that one box and parcel from the east. In the preceding years there had been several much larger boxes or bales sent to us to distribute. The eastern auxiliaries now send their bales direct to missions or sometimes through Archdeacon Phair. In the month of September last the children and staff of the Rupert's Land Indian Industrial School under the charge of the Rev. W. A. Burman were received and entertained by the W. A. in this (Holy Trinity) School Room, many present expressing their pleasure at the improvement visible in their appearance and in their appreciation of the efforts of their instructors. The special charge of this W. A. viz. the clothing of ten of their numbers has been met according to lists given us by the Principal and Mrs. Burman, of whose wise and careful management we can speak with admiration. In addition to this the Girls' Guilds of All Saints' and Christ Church in this city have undertaken the clothing of one child each, working in affiliation with the W. A. thus endeavoring to train the younger members of the Church in missionary work.

We regret deeply the loss of one of our most devoted members who in the past year has been taken from us, the late Mrs. R. D. Richardson, whose love for the cause of missions was shewn by constant attendance at the meetings when in a very weak state of health, as well as by many deeds of generous kindness to distant places not known to many of her fellow-workers.

The parishes or missions which received bales from us during the year were as follows:—

St. Andrew's.

Kinosota, Rev. Gilbert Cook.

Shoal River, Mr. E. H. Bassing.

Elkhorn, Rev. R. G. Stevenson.

Selkirk.

St. Peter's, Rev. J. G. Anderson.

Hungry Hall, Mr. John Smith.

Wabuskang, Mr. D. W. Wood.

Black River, John Hope, Catechist.

Scanterbury, Edward Thomas, Catechist.

Sionx Mission, Mr. Hartland.

Fort Alexander, Rev. A. Cook.

Winnipeg River, Mr. John Kipling.

—Favel, Catechist.

Fairford, Rev. G. Bruce.

Springfield, Rev. G. H. Hooper.

Lac Seul, Rev. T. H. Pritchard.

Rupert's Land Indian School; Summer and winter outfits for ten girls, including five uniform suits for same.

Seven parcels given privately.

A. E. U. Patton,

*Recording Secretary.*

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#### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

During the past year your Corresponding Secretary has received seven letters asking for information regarding the work of the Auxiliary and our needs in this Diocese, ten applications from the Clergy and catechists among the Indians, for Communion plate, linen, and surplices, and clothing for the destitute.

Six letters have been written to the Auxiliaries in eastern Canada, which continue to send bales for distribution, containing information as to the needs of the country parishes and Indian missions, and forty-three letters to our Clergy and others, in answer to their applications, and sending them directions as to bales etc. Total received : 28, total sent : 49.

At present there are thirty-three subscribers to the *Monthly Letter Leaflet*, a small paper containing an account of the work done by the Auxiliary in the six eastern dioceses.

S. E. Millidge.

*Corresponding Secretary.*

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TREASURER'S REPORT.

CASH STATEMENT 1891-2.

*Receipts.*

Balance on hand from 1890-1.....	\$ 6 60
Member's subscriptions .....	41 30
Collections .....	14 25
Collections in Holy Trinity parish for the Home Mission Fund .....	368 30
Collections in Christ Ch. parish for same	55 28
Donations .....	10 30
Proceeds of entertainments at St. John's	56 40
Members' subscriptions of ten cents per month, in addition to annual fee.....	20 35

*Expenditures.*

Cash paid Mr. J. H. Brock.....	423 58
“ “ Rev. W. A. Burman.....	68 90
Printing.....	17 00
Materials bought.....	49 56
Express and cartage on bales.....	10 05
Cash on hand.....	3 69
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	\$572 78    \$572 78

B. H. Leslie,

*Treasurer.*

## ORIGIN AND WORK OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.

By Mrs. Portin, Holy Trinity parish, Winnipeg.

DEAR FRIENDS:—

When I was asked by the Board of Management to read something before you this afternoon, I had the satisfaction of feeling that the most important paper was to be prepared by our esteemed co-worker, Mrs. Cowley, and therefore I might take a very secondary place, but God has willed it otherwise for our friend, and this day sees her, not in our midst, but on a bed of sickness, from which may it please our Heavenly Father soon to restore her, and may we be permitted for many years to enjoy the privilege of her counsel and ready help. We know she is with us in spirit to-day, and many hearts here will turn in loving sympathy toward her sick chamber.

I thought I would like to say a few words upon the *origin* and *work* of the Woman's Auxiliary, a work of such vast range, truly that the world is its field, and eternity alone will be the limit to what it can accomplish.

The W. A. though looked upon as a modern development of Christian work, yet savours very much of apostolic usage. The last chapter of Romans shows the Christian women of the Imperial City in very prominent positions. They filled places of influence and activity in the Church; and Phoebe the Greek, actually held the office of Deaconess at Cenchrea, and was honoured by St. Paul to be the bearer of that marvellous Epistle to Rome. Perhaps she did not know the value of what she was carrying, but we do; for, thanks to her careful custody, we have it in our Bibles to-day, and when she reached her destination what a noble W. A. she found there to welcome her and help her. Priscilla and Mary and Junia, and the sister of Nereus, and Julia, worthy successors to the women who followed Jesus and ministered to Him of their substance. And the work these women did in Rome was just as necessary in its place, and just as really a part of the economy of God as the work of the Apostle Paul.

In deeds of mercy it is not good for man to be alone, and, though it may seem egotistical, coming from a woman, still it is a fact, that God has been pleased, all down the ages, to accept the services of consecrated women; and men have recognized in them their quick intuition, impulsive sympathy, and great faith, and, in many instances, their disciplined power of endurance; and

have appealed to them, as Barak of old did to Deborah, to come with them to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Like many other useful organizations, the W. A. of the Church to-day had a very humble beginning, and for us in a new country, this ought to be a thought for great encouragement. We may only be permitted to see the day of small things, and to work on in faith and hope, sowing a seed here and a seed there, trusting to the great Gardener to water and nourish our plant and make it grow into a great and noble tree, the shadow and influence of which may be a blessing to many.

As a rule, Churchwomen in America are indebted to their English sisters for example and leadership in all good works, but the W. A. is a thoroughly American institution—its distinctive features are original. To follow up all the steps which led to it would take too long, but in 1862 the movement began, small as a snowflake, to assume its shape, when good Bishop Stevens, of Pennsylvania, urged "the consideration of the subject of the best manner of incorporating more formally into the working of the Church the services of women, whose hearts God had moved to devote themselves to works of piety and charity."

Slowly the ball rolled on, until in 1869 the organized service of women was recognized as a most important feature of missionary work, and in 1871 the whole subject of woman's work in the Church was reported upon fully and elaborately. At last in 1872 the W. A. began its distinctive career. Growing slowly and surely, working its way into one parish after another, until to-day it stands before the Church of England *as a success*, and we may safely say that the parishes that have been engaged in this good work have received as much as they have given, and that the return to them in the increased life of their own parochial organizations, from their connection with this effort to aid and encourage missionaries, has been more than an equivalent for all that they have contributed. Many a parish that is suffering from exhaustion, its money and stamina gone to serve no useful purpose, has been helped to a cure by the virtue going out from a branch of this society. Thorough, earnest, persistent effort by a number of parishioners to do good, stimulates and invigorates the whole parish. Our life is never drained by gifts to missions, or by efforts to alleviate the hardships of those who are bearing the cross of poverty for Jesus sake. A zealous, live, missionary society will bring with it benediction and power, and a zeal for home work also, as naturally as fire brings heat.

And now let us thank God, that across the invisible line that separates the Republic from the Dominion, we find a new bond of union between Churchwomen of English race and English speech, in the formation of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of Canada, and that its spreading tide five years ago reached our far north-west. And though only a missionary diocese in many respects ourselves, still we find we can look beyond us, and with sympathy and help cheer on many who are labouring in our more remote fields ; and look forward to the day when our alms, as now our prayers, can go out to the heathen across the seas ; though we may not forget that heathen darkness exists even in our own favoured land, and the hands of our Indian missionaries need strengthening and upholding as much, perhaps, as if they were in far distant China, Japan, or Africa.

But let us ever true to our title, "Auxiliary." We are *helpers* not *leaders*,—a dependent, not an independent power. Our influence must be felt in a quiet, unobtrusive manner, rather than seen amid noise and clamor. The Church has wisely directed that our work should flow through Church channels, that we should recognize ourselves as diocesan and parochial organizations, looking to our Bishop as our spiritual head ; and following up with timely and ready help, where he leads the way, and opens up the field. There is no room for factions, or insubordination in our midst, any more than in a military camp. Our success lies in our unity—in being shoulder to shoulder. *Individual* work is *all essential*, without it we could not live, but it must form part of the great whole. In the Centennial Exhibition was a powerful magnet that would lift 1800 lbs., it was formed of a *hundred* thin plates, no one of them of much magnetic power, but together holding that great weight ; so dear friends, let us not lose heart, if *single handed* we feel helpless to kindle enthusiasm or alleviate a sorrow, for *together* we can meet the responsibility of answering appeals with our prayers, our sympathies, and what pecuniary assistance we can command. We can often be as the bridge from those who can help to those who need. We cannot always choose our environment. We can only be content to do our duty in that position in life, to which a kindly Providence may have called us.

Perhaps we may ask ourselves what are the elements of success in a mighty undertaking like this. *FIRST*, let us lay to heart that *self-consecration* is necessary if we would be used as instruments in the great cause of Missions. One of the early artists used to say "that to paint Christ, one must live much with Christ." So

may we all more and more implore the Holy Spirit to sanctify us wholly.

SECONDLY we must attach great importance to *prayer*. Let us pray that the Gospel may have free course and be glorified, let us pray even when we cannot give—the Lord can open the hearts of those who have abundance. The dew of Divine Grace falls in answer to prayer, not only upon the thirsty mission field, but upon our own needy souls. Let us never neglect our special Auxiliary prayer, the very wording of which binds us to all the dear helping sisters, who are daily using it throughout the eastern portion of our great Dominion.

ANOTHER condition of success is the *enlistment* of every one we can, and the patient gathering of *small contributions*. God accomplishes great results in nature by little things—even the tiny ant—and, so, great results for missions are to be sought rather in the aggregate of many little offerings, than in the single princely gifts of the few rich Christians. Humble servants, and little children should all be numbered among the friends of Missions.

Again, let us not be easily discouraged, we must have faith, enthusiasm, courage enough to rebuke a sneer at missions as we would rebuke profanity. Indifference and apathy often arise from ignorance. If we could disseminate information we might cultivate a spirit of appreciation for the magnitude and holiness of the work. Before people give to an object they must be interested in that object, then the gift will come without the asking, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh", or as Rev. Mr. Osborne quaintly puts it "Once convert the heart and the pocket will feel the Divine thrill." We believe in Christ and His power to save the world, but we must remember He works through human agencies. It is our privilege to be co-workers with Him, it is our high and holy calling. What woman *has* done, woman *can* do. The hardest thing for us to realize to-day is, that what we do is just as truly and directly done for Christ as were the deeds of those people who fed and tended and lodged Him 1800 years ago, yet so it is, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these tired labourers, isolated settlers, or superstitious Indians, ye have done it unto Him."