

1875

1st Annual Report of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions

Reformed Church in America

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FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Woman's Board of Foreign Missions,

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1875

New York:

ROGERS & SHERWOOD, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS,
24 & 26 NASSAU STREET.

1875.

Ladies residing within the bounds of the Classes of Albany, Bergen-South Bergen, Cayuga, Geneva, Grand River, Greene, Holland, Hudson, Illinois, Kingston, North Long Island, Michigan, Monmouth, Montgomery, Newark, and Westchester, will please to correspond, in regard to forming auxiliaries, etc., with

MRS. JAS. P. CUMMING,

YONKERS,

Westchester Co., New York.

And those residing within the Classes of South Long Island, New Brunswick, New York, South New York, Orange, Putnam, Passaic, Philadelphia, Poughkeepsie, Raritan, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Ulster, and Wisconsin, will please to correspond with

MRS. A. E. MYERS,

BRONXVILLE,

Westchester Co., New York.

Letters containing remittances of money should be addressed to

MRS. PETER DONALD,

39 West 46th St.,

New York City.

Auxiliary Societies are requested to furnish copies of the letters they may receive from missionaries, or other laborers, to one of the Foreign Corresponding Secretaries, so that extracts may be made for publication.

FORM OF A BEQUEST.—(Personal Estate).

I give and bequeath to *The Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America*, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of _____ dollars, in trust, to be appropriated and applied for the use and benefit of *The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America*, located in the City of New York.

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MRS. JONATHAN STURGES, 40 E. 36th St., N. Y.

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MRS. D. INGLIS, 142 Henry St., Brooklyn, L. I.

Honorary Vice-Presidents.

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" E. T. THROOP MARTIN, Auburn, N. Y.

" J. ELMENDORF, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

" J. M. FERRIS, Flatbush, L. I.

" H. N. COBB, Millbrook, N. Y.

" R. H. PRUYN, Albany, N. Y.

MISS ELIZA PHELPS, Albany, N. Y.

Recording Secretary.

MISS A. B. DURVEE, 40 Park Place, Newark, N. J.

Foreign Corresponding Secretaries.

MRS. E. P. TERHUNE, Newark, N. J.

MRS. G. L. VANDERBILT, Flatbush, L. I.

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MRS. J. P. CUMMING, Yonkers, N. Y.

MRS. A. E. MYERS, Bronxville, N. Y.

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Managers.

MRS. JONATHAN STURGES.

" P. D. VAN CLEEF.

" DAVID INGLIS.

" E. P. TERHUNE.

" J. P. CUMMING.

" A. E. MYERS.

" G. L. VANDERBILT.

" PETER DONALD.

" T. W. CHAMBERS, 70 W. 36th St., N. Y.

" D. C. ENOS, 28 Monroe Place, Brooklyn.

" A. R. THOMPSON, 180 Clermont Avenue, Brooklyn.

" DAVID COLE, Yonkers, N. Y.

" T. B. ROMEYN, Hackensack, N. J.

" ERSKINE WESTERVELT, Hackensack, N. J.

" WM. ORMISTON, 17 W. 32d St., N. Y.

" H. D. GANSE, 153 East 73d St., N. Y.

" S. B. STEWART, 283 Hicks St., Brooklyn.

" M. C. HUSSEY, Peekskill, N. Y.

" A. LORING CUSHING, Belleville, N. J.

" G. D. HULST, 15 Himrod St., Brooklyn, E. D.

" W. J. R. TAYLOR, Newark, N. J.

" JAMES A. WILLIAMSON, Jersey City, N. J.

" J. C. SPROULL, 24 E. 58th St., N. Y.

" S. M. WOODBRIDGE, New Brunswick, N. J.

" J. ELMENDORF, New Brunswick, N. J.

MISS ANNA A. HOFFMAN, 41 W. 18th St., N. Y.

" ELEANOR E. BERGEN, 89 Willoughby St., Brooklyn, L. I.

" A. B. DURVEE.

REPORT.

THE First Annual Report of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America, necessarily contains little more than the fact and form of its organization. Its existence has been so brief that, instead of retrospect, its outlook is almost entirely toward that which the sure promises of God permit the eye of faith to view, as not less certain and real than the past.

HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION.

Although in a number of churches of our denomination Ladies' Missionary Societies have, for many years, existed, and have done noble work for the Master, each of these being, in one sense, auxiliary to our Synod's Board—that is, contributing, by influence and by collections, to its resources, yet, the distinct and general Woman's Board of Foreign Missions owes its existence to the recommendation of the General Synod, at its meeting in Poughkeepsie, New York, June, 1874.

It had long been felt, by those who were familiar with the details of missionary labor, the limitations as to sex of its former operations, and the peculiar adaptation of women to several branches of the work, that there was a department in the field of Foreign Missions which, in an especial manner, demanded the interest, sympathy, and co-operation of the ladies of the Church. The Synod's Board had, to a certain extent, of late years, endeavored to meet the requirement by themselves appointing and commissioning several unmarried ladies to our Missions in China, India, and Japan. Yet, it is evident, that the honored gentlemen constituting that Board must have been restricted as to choice, and also as to judgment of the characters and fitness of the candidates presenting themselves. Moreover, it seemed but reasonable that Christian women at home, ardent in their zeal for this

cause, possessed extraordinary means and opportunities for interesting their families, neighbors, and fellow church-members in behalf of the perishing heathen abroad. Their efficiency in all the charitable institutions of the day, their introduction of, and entrance upon, in many places, the very plans now contemplated by this Board, proved that the ability and the spirit were already at hand, and needed but to be summoned and intelligently directed.

The meeting for organization was called at the Chapel of the Reformed Church, corner Fifth Avenue and 29th Street, New York City, January 7th, 1875. The morning could scarcely have been more inauspicious. One of the severest storms of the winter was raging at the time when the trains, which were to bring ladies to the chapel from various suburban towns, left there for the city. The pavements were sheeted with ice, while the rain and sleet fell steadily all the forenoon. Yet, at the appointed hour there were present in the lecture-room twelve or thirteen ladies, representatives from as many churches, six of these being from the towns referred to, viz.: Brooklyn, L. I.; Yonkers, Millbrook, and Saugerties, N. Y.; Belleville and Hackensack, N. J. Rev. Dr. Ferris, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, to whose suggestion the Church is largely indebted for the formation of the Woman's Board, was present, and contributed, at that and at subsequent meetings, his counsel and assistance in the organization. A constitution and by-laws were prepared and adopted, permanent officers and a Board of Managers chosen, and an appeal issued to the ladies of the Reformed Church in America, appended to which was a form of constitution, to be adopted by auxiliary associations.

Two of the following meetings of the Board and its Committees were upon days, the severity of which fairly sustained the character of the organization-morning, and yet so earnest was the spirit of those who had undertaken the work, that the officers and managers were present almost without exception. The names of the ladies filling these positions will be found elsewhere in this Report, with their addresses and directions to correspondents.

RESULTS, SO FAR AS ASCERTAINED.

The following churches have reported auxiliaries already formed, some precedent, but a majority subsequent, in organization to the Women's Board. In addition to those here men-

tioned, notice has been received of prospective societies, with many cheering letters, congratulating the Board upon the work done, and bidding it "God speed!"

CHURCHES IN WHICH AUXILIARIES NOW EXIST.

Yonkers.....	New York.
Saugerties.....	"
Bronxville.....	"
Middle Collegiate Church.....	New York City.
Owasco Outlet.....	New York.
Adams' Station.....	"
Church on the Heights.....	Brooklyn, L. I.
First Reformed Church.....	" "
Flatbush.....	Long Island.
Flushing.....	"
First Reformed Church.....	N. Brunswick, N. J.
First Van Vorst Church.....	Jersey City, "
Reformed Church.....	Bedminster "
First Reformed Church.....	Newark, "
North Reformed Church.....	" "
Reformed Church.....	Bergen, "
Reformed Church.....	Freehold, "
Reformed Church.....	Belleville, "
North Collegiate Church.....	New York City.

In the North Reformed Church of Newark, N. J., and in the First Reformed Church of Brooklyn, L. I., Children's Bands have been formed, auxiliary to the societies existing in those churches, and contributing to the support of children in our foreign schools, while from the First Church in Gansevoort, N. Y., a lady writes to the Board, pledging, in her own name, the annual contribution required to form a similar Children's Band in that church. Interesting facts of this character, as well as the total amount so far contributed to the Women's Board of Foreign Missions, will be found in the Report of the Treasurer.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.

The letters received, since our organization, from our working sisters in the foreign field, are mainly congratulatory of themselves and us upon the new and promising phase which our labors of love at home have assumed, and very hopeful of the results which shall be secured through it for the Great Cause to which they stand pledged in the sight of God and man. And they, not more than we, who live in sheltered homes, respected and at

ease; defended from whatever is common and unclean by the might of public opinion; almost deified by the love and reverence of brothers, husbands, and sons—we, the Women of Christianity of this generation! To us, then—and those whose names are formally enrolled as members of our Board form but a small minority of the vast number to whom comes the cry for help—our brave sisters appeal with the earnestness and devotion of hearts that have given life, and all that the world holds dearest, that they may win souls for Christ; appeal with the unction of a close fellowship with the Master, and with affecting confidence in our sympathy and willingness to aid them. They ask for more workers, especially for teachers in the girls' schools, and for means to continue the abounding and increasing labors to which they have been called.

Most tenderly and cordially do we commend to the prayers and beneficence of the women of our churches these true yoke-fellows, who, for the love of our Divine Saviour, are exiles from home and country, until he shall welcome them to a better country—even a Heavenly.

PLAN OF OPERATIONS.

The first task, then, to which our Board addresses itself, is to bring the needs of those we would help home to the minds and hearts of those whose co-operation we crave.

Next, we would remind them, that hereafter, in the missionary operations of our church, women are to be the bearers of the comforts of our most holy and blessed faith to their fellow women; that every penny dropped into the missionary box by the baptized babe of the American Christian mother, may go through the hands of mothers and daughters, to sustain the schools in which the waifs of heathendom are gathered and taught the sweet story our nurslings lisp before they can tell their right hand from their left. We stand before the idol-serving wife and mother now, as woman before woman. The conventional laws that exclude instructors of the other sex from the family apartments of the jealous master, do not shut out the gentle sisterhood who are nurses, housewives, teachers of needlework, and sympathizing companions, as well as preachers of righteousness.

So far as human foresight can determine the prospect, none of the conditions of success are wanting to our undertaking, if the women of the Reformed Church in America will but interest themselves actively in behalf of it. The work is not an experiment.

The only excuse that can be offered for our seeming inaction in days past, is that we have watched the movements of other societies bearing the same banner as that we now raise—"Woman's Work for Woman"—and learned from their mistakes, as from their achievements, lessons that may serve us in the stead of dearly-bought experience. Thanks to the pioneers in the field, we enter it with a full comprehension of its nature and facilities, of the stumbling blocks to be avoided, the advantages we should seize. Our way is marked out for us by the footprints of those who have toiled and fought, as we need not do if we are wise observers and willing pupils.

Too much could hardly be said in praise of the action of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church, with regard to our infant organization. From the gentlemen composing it, we have had far more than the generous endorsement and assurance of good will that met the first suggestion of our design. Theirs have been the helpful hand that has carried us safely over preliminaries and technicalities; the prudent counsel we have never found in fault; the brotherly kindness that recognizes in us fellow-workers, with whom they esteem it a pleasure to co-operate.

These are the opportunities that say to us—"Behold, the Lord your God hath set the land before you! Go up and possess it as the God of your fathers hath said unto you. Fear not, neither be discouraged."

This is our appeal to the women of our beloved church. May the spirit of God give it a force which human earnestness cannot supply!

THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

*The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in
America in account with the Treasurer.*

CR.

By cash received from Society at Yonkers for India Mission, \$30; for teacher in Japan, \$59.....	\$89 00
Individual collections.....	24 00
Society of North Church, N. Y. City	33 00
De Witt Mission Band of Church on 5th Ave. and 29th St., N. Y. City.....	100 00
Mrs. Luqueer, for life membership.....	25 00
Collections from individuals in Church on 5th Ave. and 48th St., N. Y. City.....	120 00
Dawning Light Band of First Church, Brooklyn, L. I., \$173 25; also to make Mrs. Margaret Dimon, Mrs. S. B. Stewart, Mrs. Joseph Kimball, and Miss Helen Stewart, life members, \$100. Total for the support of Miss Emma C. Witbeck.....	273 25
Society of Church on the Heights, Brooklyn, L. I., for Girls School, Yokohama.....	174 65
Society of First Church, Hackensack, N. J., for Seminary at Chit- toor, \$50; girls school at Amoy, \$50; girls schools at Vellore, \$50; class of nurses at dispensary at Arcot, \$50.....	200 00
Total.....	\$1,038 90

DR.

By cash paid Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions.....	\$325 00
Balance in Treasury.....	713 90
	\$1,038 90

Mrs. PETER DONALD, *Treasurer.*

The following sums have been paid during the year to the Board of Foreign Missions, by Societies that have become auxiliaries to the Woman's Board :

Society of Church On-the-Heights, Brooklyn, L. I.....	\$291 25
Society of Church, Bedminster, N. J.....	121 25
Mrs. Margaret Dimon, Brooklyn, L. I.....	500 00
Society of First Church, Hackensack, N. J.....	200 00
Association of Church, Readington, N. J.....	252 50
Society of Church, Saugerties, N. Y.....	52 00
“ First Church, New Brunswick, N. J.....	50 00
“ Church, Flatbush, L. I.....	172 25
“ “ Bronxville, N. Y.....	90 00
Ladies of Church, Nyack, N. Y.....	123 00

Total..... \$1,852 25

Making a total from Ladies Societies of..... \$2,891 15

OUR WORK.

The following reports and letters are published chiefly to show the kind of work assumed by the Woman's Board, and that the ladies of the Reformed Churches may know what there is for them to do.

THE GIRL'S SCHOOL AT AMOY, CHINA.

Miss Helen M. Van Doren reports:

The school at Tek-chhiu kha opened on Monday, February 22d, after a vacation of four weeks. I send an account of its work during the past year.

This is the only school for girls in Amoy. Among its pupils we have representatives from the four churches in the city, and a number from the country stations. The school during the past year was well attended, thirty girls being present the greater part of the time. Of these, fifteen—mostly the larger girls—were boarders; the others, being younger, were allowed to walk through the streets, and thus could attend as day scholars.

The widow of Pastor Lo was engaged, at the beginning of the year, to act as Matron and assist in teaching the smaller children. My teacher, Liong-lo, has spent four afternoons of every week at the school, teaching the girls to read and write the Chinese characters. In this, instruction is given in the Scriptures. The more advanced pupils requested that they might be allowed to read some of the Chinese books, but it was thought best that the Bible be made *the* important study of the school. Besides this study of the characters, instruction is given in the Romanized colloquial. In this they prepare Bible lessons, and are taught geography, arithmetic, reading, and writing. The larger girls are reading the Pilgrim's Progress, and enjoy it very much. They have committed to memory all the Parables of our Saviour, and when school closed were learning the miracles. They also write an analysis of one sermon on Sunday. A class of eight little girls is learning the sermon on the Mount. The pupils commit to memory very readily, and it is really a pleasure to hear them recite. I have frequently taken visitors with me to the school, and they have all expressed surprise on hearing the recitations; they were given with such readiness.

We find it very difficult to teach Chinese girls to think. As this is something quite new to them, great patience is required, especially in teaching arithmetic. An advanced class, however, have shown quite a love for the study, and are making good progress. They

are studying Proportion, and will enjoy, I think, going on still further in this branch.' So we have reason to feel greatly encouraged.

On Wednesday afternoons the Matron gives instruction to the girls in cutting out and making their dresses. You may be surprised to know that many Chinese women are quite incapable of making their own clothes. We particularly desire that all who attend this school shall be thoroughly taught in this department. Saturday is given as a recitation day. A part of the morning is spent in putting the house in order, and the afternoon devoted to sewing.

The domestic work is under the care of the Matron, the girls taking turns in cooking and in the performance of all household duties. This arrangement enables us to do without servants, and, what is far more important, gives the girls just the knowledge they will need in homes of their own.

An inquiry meeting is held every week in the Church near the school. The girls attend regularly, and we have reason to feel that it has been of great benefit to them. During the year three of their number were received as members of the Church. Since the school began eight of the larger girls have been married; these, with two exceptions, were Church members themselves, and have all married Christians. For this we are truly thankful. The two referred to still attend the inquiry meetings, and we trust will soon give their hearts to Christ.

I cannot close without thanking those kind friends, who in the past have contributed so generously for the support of this school. I wish also to ask the prayers of the Church at home that God's blessings may rest upon all efforts made in behalf of our neglected sisters in China.

[The school, so agreeably described by Miss Van Doren, is not only the only girls' school in the city of Amoy, a city of 200,000 inhabitants, but also the only girls' school in all the region, inhabited by millions of souls, and the graduates of this institution are the only educated Chinese women in all this vast population. The expense of supporting a girl in the school is \$20 a year.]

OTHER WORK AT AMOY, CHINA.

The ladies at Amoy, who are Mrs. Talmage, Mrs. Kip, Miss Talmage, and Miss Van Doren, teach classes of women who are members of the two churches at Amoy, in reading and needle-

work. They also visit the out-stations of the Mission and perform services that are admirably described in the following letter from Miss Mary E. Talmage:

“AMOY, February 20th, 1875.

“We (Miss Van Doren, my sister, and myself) have just returned from a week's visit at Ang-tung-thau, a country village about fifteen miles north of Amoy. Our intention in going was to try to teach the women and children how to read the Romanized colloquial. There is a comfortable little chapel there. The small room over the back of the church, built for the use of the missionaries when they have occasion to spend the Sabbath there, we made use of as our dining-room, bed-room, or parlor, just as suited the occasion.

“The women seemed to have quite an interest in reading, and while we were there more scholars came every day than we could well look after. Some walked long distances, which was a great undertaking for them with their small feet. They were always ready for us after breakfast, and also after dinner. So, with these two sessions a day, besides the prayer-meeting in the evening, we were kept busy.

“It was really very encouraging to see them manifest so much interest. Several of the women that came were so old that they could hardly distinguish one letter from another; still, they tried to learn the alphabet with the rest. We had a number also every day, who came, as they said, to see the “strange” people they heard were there. Foreign ladies were something they had not seen before, and there seemed to be no end to the questions they would ask. Some of the most common were, ‘How old are you?’ That was always the first. ‘Did you make your own dress, or did some one else make it? How white your face is! How very clean your clothes are!’ Whereupon, we would suggest to them that if they should use water more freely *they* might be whiter. One good-natured little boy, whose name was Hope, made his appearance every day, but he always had very dirty hands. So one day one of us told him he should wash his hands and come back and let us see them. He went out and asked a little girl to pour some water over them, then he stooped down and took up a handful of earth and rubbed that until his hands were covered with mud. I suppose that was to take the place of soap. He then went to a pond, partly washed the mud off, came back into the church, dried his hands on a bench, and then came to us and put out his hands for inspection. I fear he did not receive as much compliment as he expected.

“One day there was a Chinese play going on near by. As soon as the people heard there were foreign curiosities near, they concluded that we were more interesting than the theatricals, and it was not very long before the chapel was filled with spec-

tators. They finally came in in such numbers, and made such a noise, that we had to leave them, and retire to our room and lock the door until they began to disperse.

"Every afternoon, after teaching time was over, we went out for a little exercise, and as the women seemed so very anxious for us to visit them, we made several calls. But we concluded the shorter we made them the better. I knew the Chinese did not know much about cleanliness, but I had no idea human beings could live in such filthy places. One woman particularly begged us to visit her. She said she had been home and cleaned up her house for our arrival. When we found ourselves there, and could not find a place clean enough to walk on, we wondered what it was before she began to 'clean up.'

"Two days before we left we visited the place of one of the church members, which was a long walk from the chapel. We had to pass through two villages. How the people flocked from all directions to see us! The man that led us told the rest to 'look until they were full,' but not to make a noise. When we arrived at his house, he showed us a good many of his trees that had been cut down by some of his enemies. They had taken advantage of his becoming a Christian to revive an old dispute, and had cut down all of his fruit trees, perhaps a hundred in number, some of which had just begun to bear. While he was telling us, the tears came into his eyes, and he said, 'I have no words to talk about it.' When we entered his house we found it very clean in comparison with the others we had visited. After shutting the crowd out, by his request we had prayer and singing together, and then we returned to the chapel, intending from there to go on a walk by ourselves. On returning, however, we found so many women waiting, and so anxious to be taught, that we could not resist them.

"Before leaving Ang-tung-thau we were in doubt whether it was better to remain with them another week, or come away now and return to them after a few weeks. We finally decided on the latter course. When we left the place five boys and one woman had learned to read pretty well. We are quite encouraged, and hope after our next visit that several more may be added to the number of readers."

THE GIRLS' SEMINARY AT CHITTOOR, INDIA.

A very modest boarding-school for girls was begun in 1859, at Chittoor, with eleven boarders and eight day scholars. From this has come the Seminary, which is the best school for Hindoo girls in all North and South Arcot. A commodious, comfortable building has been provided, and, to a moderate extent, such apparatus as is required in such an institution. The great majority of the graduates are Christians, a number being the wives of native helpers employed by the Mission, and twelve are engaged as

schoolmistresses in teaching village day-schools. Before many years the young women who have been taught here, and the young men who have graduated at Arcot, will be an influential portion of the population of this part of Southern India.

The last report of the school, by Rev. Jared W. Scudder, M.D., is as follows :

“By the Divine blessing all has gone well in this institution during the year. Mrs. Scudder has continued in charge, and has given much time and effort to the instruction and training of the girls. The new teacher, Martin Luther, has been faithful, and has succeeded in advancing the school to a higher standard of scholarship. Excellent health and prevailing good conduct on the part of the pupils have rendered the work of supervision a pleasant rather than an arduous task. Four girls in July and three in November were admitted to the Church on confession of their faith in Christ. We heartily thank God for this token of His blessing on our efforts to bring these young souls to the Saviour. A number of the scholars are ready to go forth as schoolmistresses, or in other capacities, as a way may be opened for them. Crochet work done by the girls has been sold to the amount of Rs. 200; and Rs. 90, 13, 10, saved by denying themselves a little food every day, has been collected and appropriated to benevolent objects. The present number of boarders is fifty-four. In December the school was examined by E. C. Caldwell, Esq., and N. Murugassa Mudalian, Government Inspectors of Schools. The following is the report made by Mr. Caldwell to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras: ‘Sir—I have the honor, in forwarding the accompanying certifying Memorial of the American Mission Girls’ Boarding-School, at Chittoor, to report that the school is held in a large and commodious building, built especially for the purpose, and that it is more than ordinarily well and efficiently managed. The number of pupils on the rolls was fifty-four, of whom fifty were presented for examination. Their attendance, owing doubtless in part to the pupils being boarded in the establishment, was remarkably good. Their answering, too, was particularly good, with the exception in arithmetic of a few girls, whose progress in that branch was not in keeping with their standard on other subjects. The pupils presented for the fourth standard also had not made sufficient progress in English grammar to be passed for grants under that head. In sewing, as in the case of the schools of the same mission in Vellore, the girls were generally far in advance of the standards required of them.’ A grant of Rs. 688, 4, was awarded by Government as the result of this examination.

“The school was also subsequently examined, with satisfactory results, by a committee, consisting of Rev. Messrs. E. C. Scudder and E. J. Heeren, in the presence of the whole mission. We record our gratitude for the success which has attended the institution throughout the year.”

THE SCHOOL FOR CASTE GIRLS AT VELLORE, INDIA.

The last report, from Miss Martha J. Vandeville, is as follows:

"The arrival of the new year reminds us, that some account is expected of the progress of our girls' schools. That such an account was not furnished for two years preceding we regret, but beg our friends to believe that, though silent, we have not been idle.

"Since our last report the schools have increased greatly in number and interest. A year and a half ago a school was opened in Thotopalian (the village of the gardens), and although the prophets foretold for it a failure, it is still going on as prosperously as could be expected. The difficulty of securing a responsible and efficient teacher at first all but brought the prophecy to a fulfillment. The present master, however, seems desirous of discharging his duty faithfully. The progress of the classes is satisfactory, and good order prevails. This village is a suburb of Vellore; most of the people are cultivators—rude and uneducated; they hardly estimate education for their children at its full value, and the children themselves are brought under discipline with greater difficulty than those of wealthier and more enlightened parents. The marked improvement in the appearance of these children since the schools were opened, encourages us to believe that the labor spent has not been in vain. The average attendance in the school for the year has been thirty one, and the number of names on the roll forty. At the annual examination by the Government Inspectors, seven girls passed the grades, for which we received from Government, under the system of 'payment for results,' Rupees 72, 12. This, together with special donations, covers the entire expenses of the school since it was opened. For the coming year a large grant is expected, but the balance of the expense is likely to fall on the mission.

"At the close of the year the school at Sullivanspetta was removed to Valapady, a village more central, and, on that account, accessible to a greater number of children. The prospect of a large attendance for the coming year is most encouraging. There are now thirty-nine names on the roll, but the average attendance is small owing to sickness among the pupils. Thirteen passed the examination, and a grant of Rupees 154, 8, was received from the Government. During the last three months it has been extremely difficult to secure the attendance of more than one-third of the pupils at a time, on account of the prevalence of fever in this part of Vellore. Teachers and pupils have alike, from time to time, succumbed to it. One bright little girl has died. The people are still greatly afflicted, and we are hoping that there will be an abatement of disease as soon as the hot weather sets in.

"In the Central School seventy-two are in attendance daily, while the roll numbers eighty-one. At the annual examination, thirty-five passed the grades, realizing a grant of Rupees 355, 8.

The success that has attended the working of this school from the beginning leaves me no room for complaint. Our only difficulty has been in securing a comfortable and permanent school building. We have occupied three different buildings in the three years that the school has been established, and are now on the look out for a fourth. The landlords demand exorbitant rent, and they are not willing to concede to us the privileges that are ours by law. It would be an unspeakable relief if we could feel ourselves able to purchase a house in this part of the town. The yearly expenses of the school would be greatly lessened, and money would be saved in the end.

"Sewing is still an important feature in these schools. Many of the girls in the advanced classes are able to cut and make their own garments. In this we are already reaping some of the fruits of our labors. A few months ago one of the elder girls in Sullivanspetta school begged to be allowed to teach a small class in sewing. She proved herself so capable, that for the present she has charge of all the classes in sewing in that school. A more dignified and womanly character can scarcely be found in one of her years and stature. She seems especially fitted to fill a responsible position. It is rare to find women qualified to teach sewing, and it was not until October of last year that we were able to get a teacher to assist in this department.

"The Scriptures are taught daily, and a great change is apparent, both in children and parents, in regard to this branch of study. The people protested strongly at first against this introduction of Christian instruction, and the children themselves seemed to have imbibed the prejudices of their parents. Now, they drink in Bible truths almost eagerly, and not only carry their Catechisms and Bible portions to their homes, but are allowed to read and study them there aloud, without interruption. One great hindrance to any real spiritual progress is the want of Christian teachers, who could exercise a daily and hourly Christian influence over the children. Another is the early removal of the children from the school. They leave us before their minds are sufficiently developed to grasp fully the great truths of the Gospel. Our only course is to follow them to their homes, and strive to nourish there the seed that has already been sown. In doing this, a vast field of labor presents itself, one which, for want of time, we are entirely unable to enter. Work among women in India is to us, who are engaged in it, an ever-growing responsibility. Revelations of its magnitude and value are daily opening before us, and we feel our weakness in nothing so much as in our inability to represent fully the needs of this great work.

"Miss Chapin has been obliged, on account of ill health, to forego her labors here for a time, and return to her native country. Her loss is felt in more ways than we are able to express. We hope that it may be the will of the great Disposer of events to bring her back to us and to her chosen work, restored in health and renewed in spirit.

“There is labor here abundant for willing hands and loving hearts, and if it calls for a sacrifice, it also holds out a promise: ‘There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or children, for the kingdom of God’s sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.’”

Just such schools for girls of the higher castes are needed in every city on our field in India. At Arcot, Arnee, Coonoor, Mudnapilly, and Palamanair, there is great need of an intelligent Christian lady, who will establish and conduct schools of this character.

THE FERRIS SEMINARY AT YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.

This institution is conducted in a building erected for its use on the bluff overlooking the city and bay, and having about it ample grounds for the recreations of the pupils. This large and attractive and comfortably furnished edifice is the gift of the ladies and Sabbath-schools of our church, to the cause of female education in Japan.

Mrs. Mary E. Miller and Miss Emma C. Whitbeck are the teachers. Already, although the school is only about five years old, three of the girls are prepared to act as teachers, and the salaries of two of them have been assumed by ladies at home.

While waiting through two long and trying years to secure a lot on which to put up a building, the number of pupils declined from fifty to twenty-five, but now, when the fruit of this patient waiting has been obtained, the attendance is increasing, and it is likely that soon the applications for admission will exceed the accommodations.

The Rev. Mr. Stout and his wife earnestly desire a similar school for Nagasaki, and have made their appeal to this Board for a teacher, or teachers, and a building.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE 1. This association shall be called the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America, and its central point of operations shall be in the City of New York.

ART. 2. Its object shall be to aid the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America, by promoting its work among the women and children of heathen lands, and for this purpose it shall receive and disburse all money which shall be contributed to this society, subject to the approval of the Board, in the appointment of missionaries supported by this association, and in fixing their locations and salaries. To the furtherance of this end, it shall also endeavor to organize similar associations in all Reformed Churches, and these associations shall bear the name of Auxiliary Societies to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America, and shall report their work to this Board at such times as the by-laws may direct.

ART. 3. Each person paying one dollar annually, through an auxiliary, or directly to the treasury, shall become a member of this association. The payment of twenty-five dollars by one person, at one time, shall constitute a life membership.

ART. 4. The business of this Board shall be conducted by thirty Managers, each of whom shall be a member of an auxiliary society. They shall be elected annually by the members of the Board, who may be present at the annual meeting, and shall organize on the first Tuesday after their election, by selecting from their number a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, two or more Corresponding Secretaries, and a Treasurer. They shall have power to elect not more than twelve Honorary Vice-Presidents, and to appoint corresponding members, when the object of the Board can be promoted thereby; they shall also have authority to fill vacancies occurring in their body during the year.

ART. 5. There shall be an Executive Committee, composed of the officers and two other Managers, to be elected annually. This committee shall have power to transact such business as may require attention in the intervals between the stated meetings of the Managers. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 6. The annual meeting of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday in May, in the City of New York, at which time the Managers shall report to the association the operations, condition, and prospects thereof, and an election shall be made of Managers for the ensuing year.

ART. 7. A special meeting of the Board may be called at any time by the President, upon the request of the managers.

ART. 8. This Constitution may be altered at any regular meeting of the Board, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, notice of the intended alteration having been given at a previous meeting.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE 1. The Managers shall hold their stated meetings on the second Tuesday of February, May, August, and November, at eleven o'clock A. M., at such place as they shall appoint. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings may be called by the President, upon the request of five members.

ART. 2. The Executive Committee shall meet once a month, at such time and place as the committee shall decide.

ART. 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and of the Managers, appoint all committees not otherwise provided for, and perform such other duties as are incident to the office, and shall sign all drafts upon the treasury before they are paid.

ART. 4. A Vice-President shall perform, in the absence of the President, all the duties of her office. The Honorary Vice-Presidents shall have all the privileges of Corresponding Members.

ART. 5. The Treasurer shall receive and hold, and keep an account of, all money given to the Board, and shall disburse it as the Managers shall direct. She shall report the state of the treasury at each regular meeting of the Executive Committee, and make a quarterly report to the Managers. Her annual report shall be examined by an auditor appointed by the Managers.

ART. 6. The Recording Secretary shall keep a full record of the proceedings of the Board and Managers, which shall be read for correction at the close of each meeting, and she shall give proper notice of special and stated meetings.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretaries for the foreign field to conduct the business of this Board with the Board of Foreign Missions, and also with the Missionaries, Teachers, and Bible-readers supported by this association. They shall prepare the annual report of the Managers; and missionaries supported by this association shall report to them.

ART. 8. The Corresponding Secretaries for the home field shall

correspond with the churches, and propose the organization of auxiliary societies wherever it is possible to awaken an interest in the work for which this association is formed.

ART. 9. Auxiliary societies shall be required to make an annual report to the Managers through the Corresponding Secretaries, on or before the first Tuesday in April.

ART. 10. Any Manager who shall be absent from three successive meetings, without giving notice of the reason of her absence, shall forfeit her position, and her place may be filled.

ART. 11. These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Managers, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; but notice of the proposed amendment must be given in writing at the meeting preceding such vote.

The following constitutions are recommended for adoption. They can be modified and adapted to the circumstances of different localities:

CONSTITUTION
FOR AN
AUXILIARY TO THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF
FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE
REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA.

ARTICLE 1.—This Society shall be called the ——— of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America.

ART. 2. Its object shall be to aid the Board in sending out and maintaining Female Missionaries, Bible-readers, and Teachers, who shall work among heathen women and children.

ART. 3. Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of ——— annually.

ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually.

ART. 5. The duty of these officers shall be as follows: The President shall preside at all meetings, and have a general oversight of the work of the Society. The Secretary shall give notice of meetings, shall record the minutes of each session, and shall prepare the Annual Report. It shall also be her duty to transmit to the Woman's Board the names of the officers of this Auxiliary, a report of its proceedings and condition, whenever necessary, and the Annual Report with that of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall report the state of the Treasury at every meeting, and shall remit the funds obtained, at least once a year, on or before the tenth day of April, to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board.

ART. 6. This Society shall hold regular meetings on the —, and an annual meeting on the —, to receive and adopt the Annual Report, and to elect officers.

DIRECTIONS FOR FORMING MISSION BANDS.

1. An association of young ladies, formed to aid the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America, shall be called a "Mission Band," and shall be auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Church in which it is formed, or to the Woman's Board.
2. Each Band shall be responsible for at least \$20 each year.
3. Any young lady may become a member of a Mission Band by the payment of twenty-five cents yearly. Each member shall be entitled to a certificate of membership, to be furnished by the Woman's Board.
4. The officers of a Band shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually.
5. The President shall preside at all meetings, and shall have a general oversight of the work of the Band. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Band, and shall make an Annual Report to the Society to which it is auxiliary, or to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church. The Treasurer shall receive and hold all sums contributed, paying the same, at least once a year, to the Treasurer of the Auxiliary of the Church in which the Band is formed, or to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church.
6. Each Mission Band must select an appropriate name, not already in use, and report the same to the Society to which its money is sent.

MISSION CIRCLES OF CHILDREN.

1. An association of children, remitting yearly not less than five dollars to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America, shall constitute a "Mission Circle."
 2. Each Circle shall be designated by an appropriate name, and shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer, to whom due acknowledgment can be returned by the Woman's Board.
- Or, if preferred, the following can be adopted :

PLEDGE FOR MISSION CIRCLES.

We desire to help in sending the Gospel to heathen children, that they may hear of Christ, who died to save them. We promise to give one cent a week to the missionary box, and to come together once a month to hear about missions, and to work for the cause.

FORM OF DEVISE.— Real Estate.)

I give and devise to *The Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America*, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, all that certain (here insert a short description of the property devised), with the appurtenances, in fee simple, in trust, to be appropriated and applied, with full powers of sale or mortgage, for the use and benefit of *The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America*, located in the city of New York.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

The postage on each half ounce of letters is :

To India, via Brindisi,	- - - - -	27 cents.
“ via Southampton,	- - - - -	21 “
“ China, via San Francisco,	- - - - -	10 “
“ Japan, “ “	- - - - -	15 “

On Newspapers, as follows :

To India, via Brindisi, on each 4 oz.,	- - - - -	8 “
“ “ via Southampton,	- - - - -	4 “
“ Amoy, China, via San Francisco, on each paper,	- - - - -	2 “
“ Japan, via San Francisco, on each 4 oz.,	- - - - -	4 “

On Pamphlets, Books, Etc.

To India, via Southampton, on each 2 oz.,	- - - - -	5 “
“ Amoy, China, via San Francisco, on each 4 oz.,	- - - - -	10 “
“ Japan, via San Francisco, on each 2 oz.,	- - - - -	4 “

On Packages :

To India, via Southampton, on each 2 oz.,	- - - - -	5 “
“ Amoy, China, via San Francisco, no arrangement.	- - - - -	
“ Japan, via San Francisco, on each 2 oz.,	- - - - -	4 “

