

Woman's Auxiliary to the Presiding Bishop and Council

Protestant Episcopal Church

281 Fourth Avenue

New York

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OFFICE SECRETARY

THE SPIRIT OF MISSIONS
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

CORPORATE TITLE
THE DOMESTIC & FOREIGN MIS-
SIONARY SOCIETY OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

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1821-1921

The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society was organized one hundred years ago. This centennial will be observed in the Autumn of 1921.

Secretary of Committee on Arrangements
REV. F. J. CLARK

My dear Friends:

Miss Lindley has asked me to send you some message on the occasion of our fiftieth anniversary, and I am glad to try in this way to link our happy past with what I hope may be a still better future.

You remember that our first United Offering was made in the Church of the Holy Communion, New York, in October, 1889. I want to take you back to the same Church, and to April 21, 1880, when a special service, with an instruction by Bishop Huntington of Central New York, inaugurated the Society of the Royal Law. There may be one or two of the present members of the Woman's Auxiliary who remember attending this service, and a very few who recall their membership in this Society.

In the interval between her resignation, in 1876, and her appointment as Honorary Secretary, in 1883, with a few of her friends the first Secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary devised and set on foot this plan for an unorganized and unofficial society. It was to be composed of communicants of the Church, and its purpose was to be "the especial cultivation of the gift of Charity, and a daily

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supplication for the increasing holiness of all its members as a body, with frequent and particular intercession for such individuals as may be known personally or by their work to any one member."

Through correspondence circles, the distribution of leaflets, special services, instructions, conferences, and for four years 1885-1889, through the pages of a monthly magazine - Church Work - this purpose was set before the women of the Church. At the end of the four years bound volumes of the magazines were sent to the Bishops, to Divinity schools and Church colleges, to Sisterhood and Deaconess houses, to boarding-schools for girls, to Diocesan branches of the Woman's Auxiliary, to headquarters of other organizations of many kinds. These volumes must still be on the shelves of many of these libraries, and are also in the Library at the Church Missions House.

Beside much other matter, the magazine gave the history of almost every form of woman's work then organized in the Church, and the evident purpose was that every reader, whatever her own individual interest or activity, should know of every work, and, knowing of it, keep it in her loving thoughts and prayer.

As we stand now on the threshold of a new beginning, the present leaders in the Woman's Auxiliary and those in the other societies making up the Church Service League are bending their careful efforts upon the working out of some plan by means of which the various organizations of women in the Church today may be coordinated in a common, comprehensive service. My message, therefore, is simply to express the earnest hope that we all, as we go on in the

development of the aims for which the League stands, may preserve the purpose of the Society for the Royal Law, that the living force compelling us and the banner under which we move may be the Divine power and the God-given standard of Love.

Your affectionate friend,

Julia C. Emery.