

REPORT OF WESTERN SECRETARY,
Board of Home Missions Gen'l Synod Evan. Lutheran Church in U. S.

TO MEETING HELD Monday, April 14th 1884.

KANSAS.

II. Kansas. A. Marquette McPherson County.

A. MAR-
QUETTE.

Though not a mission on our funds, the work at this place is a most important one and cannot fail to have a most salutary effect on our Swedish-American work in Kansas and elsewhere, if properly guarded and encouraged. On this account, and because of a desire to have a consultation with Rev. Pastor Stolpe on other mission matters, I attended the dedication of the large and handsome new church, March 23rd 1884.

The feast of dedication was a great event in that county, where over 700 Lutheran Sheds. The reception of the American brethren - Rev. W. J. Kippel and myself - was most cordial and even the Augustana ministers present expressed their joy at learning and knowing those of the General Synod which they had been taught to look upon with suspicion and fear. The congregation was organized March 28th 1878, with 54 members. These persons had from eight to fifteen miles to drive to the church at Bemont, and therefore asked permission to build at Marquette, and also asked for recognition by the Augustana Synod. They were refused and an effort made to compel them to remain with the old church, and submit to the long drives in winter's cold or summer's heat.

MARQUETTE
KANS.

MARQUETTE
KANS.

On this account Clin. Ev. Lutheran Church was organized. It was regularly incorporated in 1880, pastor Stolpe having taken charge in 1879. The church edifice was commenced in 1878 and completed in March 1884, at a cost of \$5500.00.

MARQUETTE

It is all paid for, including Parsonage and Cemetery, with the exception of \$700.00, and this has been assumed by a few of the members. The Dedication lasted all Day Sunday and part of Monday. At 10 o'clock A.M. Children were baptized, and members received. Some of these had just arrived from Sweden. The Dedication sermon was preached by Rev. A. M. Sorenson, and the Dedication service performed by the pastor and Rev. P. M. Samnquist. Then came the Communion sermon by Rev. C. A. Swenson followed by the Holy Supper. The Dedication sermon was an hour in length, and the Communion sermon an hour and a half, making the entire morning service over three and one half hours. Many people stood through all these hours, and seemed not to tire of the Gospel. The afternoon service was English, and the Installation of the pastor. This service lasted only two hours. In the evening a platform meeting was held, at which four Swedish and two English addresses were delivered.

On Monday morning the Cemetery was consecrated, with addresses in Swedish and English. From 1000 to 1600 persons were present at the Sunday service. After the Cemetery Dedication, a drive of nineteen (19) miles and a road ride of 52 miles brought me to

B. Bunker Hill, where I preached on Monday night and, after service, held a consultation with members of the Church-council. A violent thunder-storm and drenching rain prevented many from attending the service, else the Church would have been crowded. I found the brethren well

Marquette

Marquette

B. BUN-

-KER
HILL.

BunkerHill

of hope and courage and determination. The Sunday School has been kept up to a high standard by Bro. H. Tyler. Over One Hundred Dollars have been raised for the reduction of their debt, new families are moving in, and some who had left are returning. What they need and long for is an earnest, self-denying pastor.

They seem to have hope of Mr. Hanley, & also have had letters from or concerning the following ministers.

Rev. E. E. Barclay,	Seminary,	Springfield, O.
" A. G. Rosenbaum	"	Salem, Va.
" J. J. DeLo.	Centre Brunswick	N. Y.
" J. A. Sample	Muncy,	Penn.
" S. Aldenour	Doub's Station,	Iowa.
" J. H. Watterick,	Schellsburg,	Bed. Co. Pa.
" Jas. A. Hartman,	Samartine,	Clarion Co. Pa.

Of these men I only know DeLo and Aldenour and James Hartman.

It is not enough of a place for DeLo, Aldenour is seemingly of no account, and I fear Jimmie Hartman's wife would get home-sick. Bro. Hartman would really be suited to a more important place than Bunker-Hill. They need a little financial relief at Bunker-Hill, and it does seem to me that their former pastor Rev. H. J. Song, New Bloomfield, Perry Co. Pa, might afford them the relief. His father's estate holds a mortgage of \$500.00 on the Church-Building which will due about May 1st and which he says must be paid when due. They have raised about \$100. to pay on it, but that is the utmost they can do before Autumn. It seems to me Bro. Song cannot allow the church to be troubled, if he can in any way prevent it.

BunkerHillKans.

BunkerHillKANS.

and it is said he can present it by simply taking the mortgage himself as a part of his share of the estate, and thus settling with the other heirs. It might be well for the Secy. to write Rev. Song, or well to refer this matter to Board of Church-tension and Secy. Richards, with request that they, in some way or other, relieve the church at Bunker-Hill. It is a nice property - the only church-building in the place.

Gen. Secy. to write to Rev. Song -

C. HAYSCITY.KANS.

C. Hays City.

Though Rev. Henry Sharp "played the fool and bred exceedingly" as missionary at Hays City, the field, to my mind, is not without hope. If an earnest young man, ready and willing to "endure hardships," can be found to take that field, he can make a success of it. We have more material in and around Hays City than all the rest of the denomination put together, and some of it most excellent material. The climate is a very desirable one, and beneficial to persons of weak lungs, or predisposition to pulmonary trouble. The best people of the place, in every way, are favorable to our church, or members of it, and the field is a difficult and trying one. I know the church there can be made a success with the right kind of pastor.

HAYSCITYKANSAS.

I reported our Church-Committee there for not giving the Board full information concerning Sharp, even as early as June 1883. He ought to have been "fired out" at that time. They told him to go, and he promised to do so

HAYS
CITY

but held on and on. He is evidently a mi-
-sance of the first water - an ecclesiastical
sponge, and he ought to be asked to return
to the Board of Home Missions the salary he
unjustly took from the treasury since June
1883! Why, that fellow lived off of Judge
Nellis and his family for months, and
though asked to leave the house again and
again, he stuck and sponged. He took the
money intended for repairs to the Church
- pleading for it, and promising to leave
if they would give it to him. Even after
that time he remained, evidently to get his
salary from the Board of Home Missions.

HAYS
CITY

I have been wondering whether
Rev. J. Lowell Baum would be strong enough
to undertake the work at Hays City. The
Climate would be good for him, and
he could get along with one sermon a
week for awhile. If he is strong enough
for any work, I believe he could soon restore
confidence at Hays City, repair the Church
Building and reduce the debt to Board of Church
Extension. The people are very anxious to
have service, and asked that Rev. J. A. Bright
be allowed to preach for them occasionally,
they paying his expenses of travel. I told
them I would consult the Dist. of Kansas
Synod about Rev. Bright's preaching for them,
and they ^{would} hear from him. I informed Rev.
A. J. Rippele, and his decision will be
based on the testimony in the case as
sent him by the Board. The Sunday
School at Hays City is kept up by Wm. D. G.
Nellis and wife, though it is not very vigorous.
The Presbyterians and Methodists and five (5) Baptists
would greatly rejoice if he suspend operations.

HAYS
CITY
KANSAS

The Rev. Sec. to write to J. L. Baum

D. ELLS-

D. Ellsworth & Lincoln-Centre.WORTH

At Ellsworth, I preached Sunday morning - March 30th, to an audience numbering 51. About one dozen of these were Germans, who had come to hear Rev. Bright.

LINCOLN

CENTRE.

Nearly all of our 32 members were present, and manifested a desire to have the work go forward. In the afternoon I drove to Lincoln-Centre, 25 miles distant, and preached at night to as many people as could be crowded into the Court-house. The audience was estimated at from 150 to 200. After service, by urgent entreaty, and against my convictions of justice to myself, I was driven two miles to see an old gentleman - a Dutchman from Springfield O., who was sick.

He seemed, however, greatly refreshed by the visit and was lavish in his expressions of gratitude. Leaving him at eleven o'clock Sunday night, he drove four miles to our lodging-place and got to bed at 1.30 Monday morning. At half past four he here called for breakfast, after which he started for Ellsworth - 21 miles - and made the depot at 9.50, nineteen minutes before train time. Having sent a full report of the investigation of charges against our Missions, I need only here refer to a few things directly concerning the Missions.

BRIGHT

I am satisfied Rev. J. W. Bright can have no further success in Ellsworth, unless he confine his labors entirely to the German people. I so told him, and advised him to move out of the town. From Rev. Dr. Sternberg and others, I learned that his popularity com-

ELLS-

WORTHKANS.

BRIGHT

menced to wane about a year ago. He held a "Big Meeting": "Union Gospel Services" on the Woody plan, but ignored all the other pastors in the town - excepting occasionally to call on one of them to "lead in prayer." ("The Bright Family" conducted the singing after the manner of Sankey &c. &c. &c.)

EHREN-FELD.

The result was not a single addition to the Church, opposition on the part of the pastor and people of other Churches, a falling off in Mr. B's regular audience and a general decline in his prosperity.

2. Mr. Ehrenfeld has made some grave mistakes also, and has no doubt, to some extent hindered the work. The quarrel between himself and Mr. Bright was evidently very bitter, and even when peace was declared he did not support Mr. Bright as he should have done, but was always on the hunt of objections - stayed away from services, and seemed glad rather than sad, at the reports of evil concerning his pastor. He seemed quite astonished when I declined to be his guest and told him I would not go either to his house or that of Mr. Bright, that both had done wrong and that he had not shown a Christian spirit.

Ehrenfeld.

I think he now feels that he "stirred up" the late reports a good deal too much. He took kindly all I said to him, and thanked me for being "plain with him."

Pleasanth
Charge.

3. I have no doubt that a good and reliable preacher - who can use a little German - can succeed in building up a Sutherland charge in the vicinity of Pleasanth - making that place a base of operations. Winton

4. The petition from Lincoln-Centre is a strong one, both as to number of names

Wesworth

And the character of those who sign the Appeal. If Bro. Bright has learned any wisdom by the trial through which he has just passed, or by the advice given him, & if he is allowed to continue preaching, I believe he has a splendid opportunity to redeem himself in the world at Lincoln Centre.

It is a growing County seat, and now having a very heavy emigration. We have some excellent members there, and at several places - eight and ten miles distant - small colonies of Sutherans he might look after.

5. Mr. J. A. Bright begged me to be merciful, and with tears and sobs protested his innocence of any of the gross charges against him, and promised by the help of God, to be more prudent in the future. "Only let me preach the Gospel," said he. "My Mother gave me to the Ministry when I was a babe, and it will kill her if I cannot preach."

I talked most plainly to him and also to his wife, as my soul went out to them in pity, and promised my report would "place the most charitable construction on their actions." I told them they had done well for themselves, in a pecuniary way, by locating in Kansas, and had done wrong to "make a poor mouth," and plead poverty & suffering, when in fact they were better off than when they lived in Pennsylvania. They acknowledged the facts and confessed their wrong.

6. The Church Property, consisting of two lots valued at \$100.00 has been sold to pay Mr. Bright salary due him. The lots were bought for \$60.00 by three of the members, who promise to secure lots better located, whenever

BrightProperty

Elsworth

Church Property

a church-building can be erected. They said it would not be possible to collect the amt. One Mr. Bright, that they would have to pay it out of their own pockets or so, and having had an offer of \$100.00 they concluded best to "clean matters up" with Mr. Bright in this way. The Organ I ordered care-fully covered and put away in the base-room of Mr. Rammelsburg, one of the officers of the church, so soon as Mr. Bright closed her S. School, subject to the order of the Board of Home Missions.

She \$25.00, and Rev. contributed in answer to appeal, I ordered Mr. Bright to send to And. G. Smyser, Pres. Board of Church Extension, to be placed to credit of Elsworth Mission for building purposes.

He consented to do this, and consented that the amt. shall be kept out of the \$100.00 to be paid him by Church-Council. He promised also to make full report of all mo-nies received by him, to Board of Home Missions.

ELLS-
WORTH.

E. SALINA.

E. Salina. Rev. A. J. Kipzell is much more encouraged and is getting things in better shape, and on a more substantial spiritual and business founda-tion. He still suffers great inconvenience from not having the Hartsell books and papers sent in a batch to Board of Church Extension. They decline to give them to him for some season or other, and therefore he cannot throw light on many things which many of our people at Salina do not un-derstand. Bro. Kipzell is very anxious to make Salina self-sustaining, and is do-ing his utmost to accomplish his desire.

Salina

F. Topelka

F. Topelka.

The Missionary at Topelka with one or two members of the Church Council met me at the depot and reported everything full of encouragement for the New Church Building. They are about to exchange their lot for a very finely located corner. I urged upon them to submit their plans to the Board of Church Extension, and in no case to only "half do the work of building". The tendency at Topelka has been to "little things" and thus our work has been "be-littled" as it should not have been. They underestimate their own ability and strength and need to be lifted up in their ideas of Lutheran Church work.

TOPEKA.

I trust the Board of Church Extension will know what kind of a Church-Building is to be erected at Topelka, before they pay any of the \$5000.00.

G. Atchison

G. Atchison. As the members of St. Marks at Baltimore, who contemplate living in Atchison had not yet reached the city, I thought it wise to postpone the visit to A. to a later date. Our lots there however, ought to be gotten on a tight basis, so that the New Missionary may vigorously push the work, so soon as a new beginning is made.

H. Lawrence

H. Lawrence.

Our Missionary at S. - Rev. J. C. Maurek - looks well, and seems encouraged, though he has had "a pretty tough time" as he expresses it. He is working carefully, patiently and persistently, and will succeed. "Cheer him!"

I. Peabody.

I. Peabody. I enclose the latest from Peabody, marked A.

Kansas is having, according to a familiar western expression, a regular "boom" in emigration, as well as in crop prospects. The "Great American Desert" on parts of which it was said nothing would or could grow, is blossoming and blooming, and promises from thirty to fifty fine bushels of wheat to the acre.

Every train is filled with "land seekers" or those who have already selected farms and are moving to them from the older states.

Oh! for men of the right mind, and money to meet these people as they come.

Oh! for power to awake the slumbering churches to the rescue of souls - many of our own household.

KANSAS.

III. NE-BRASKA.

III. Nebraska. Beautiful Nebraska!

The emigration to Nebraska is even larger than that to Kansas, and the proportion of Lutherans is also larger.

It is not unusual to find from ten (10) to thirty (30) families in one train, nor to see thirty car-loads of household goods "bound for Nebraska". The cry of the Master to us is Occupy! Occupy!!

From almost every part of the State we have hopeful, cheering word.

A. RED-CLOUD. & HARDY.

A. RED-CLOUD.

I enclose the latest from Rev. W. D. Nicholm. marked B.
Suffered to burn to see

B. Auburn and Stella.

B. AUBURN

AND
STELLA.

AUBURN &
STELLA.

or might be well to caution Bro. Kimmel kindly, not to write too much of his work. He is inclined to be a little too fast, and at times manifests "zeal without knowledge". His boasting of having made a self-sustaining charge &c. &c. cannot be justified in our next report to Gen^l Synod, as "Oakland" is again on the ground, and they ask for an increase at Tekamah. Bro. K. is a good man and self-sacrificing, but has at several places as Hastings, Kearney &c. gotten us into trouble. Kindly caution not hurt him.

C. STROMS-
BURG.

C. Stromsburg. I enclose a letter from Rev. D. H. Schütz, concerning this Lutheran settlement. Letter marked C.

I told him to "go ahead" and see what the opening for English preaching will amount to.

III. MISSOURI.

III. Missouri. A. Kansas-City.

A. KANSAS
CITY.

I enclose the last letter ^{received} from Bro. Fretell, and trust his hopes for entire restoration to health will be realized.

From the 1st Church I have heard nothing.

IV. Colo-
rado.

A. DENVER.

IV. Colorado. A. Denver. Letters from Rev. O. C. Miller of Cedar-Rapids marked E tell of his decision to remain at C.R., and yet leave the impression that he wants to go to Denver. I cannot understand why if he feels that the "Dear Lord" wants him to go to Denver, he must yield to his "dear people" at C.R. and not do the bidding of his Lord. I also enclose a letter from Rev. R. Meiser D.D.

DENVER.

V. Michigan. A. Grand-Rapids.

V. Michi.

-R.A.N.

A. GRAND

RAPIDS.

I enclose a letter marked F from Mr. Will H. Keil - son of Mr. Father Keil, whose letter concerning this city appeared in the "Evangelist".

B. Three

Rivers.

B. Three-Rivers. I have no further word from this point since my suggestion that they correspond with Rev. Whitehill of Peabody, Ms.

VI. In-

-diana.

A. Sofarsport.

-port.

VII. Indiana. A. Sofarsport.

I enclose a very cheering letter, marked G, from Rev. J. S. Gaud, concerning this joining city. On the reception of the letter, I at once forwarded to Rev. J. J. Purcell, whose reply is also herewith submitted. I will arrange to visit Sofarsport on hearing the result of Rev. Purcell's canvass, "unless otherwise ordered".

He must not only "advance" westward but continue to keep the rear of the advancing column well covered.

Sofarsport.
and

VIII. Illi.

-nois.

A. Chicago

No. 1.

VIII. Illinois. A. Chicago, No. 1.

Mr. Heilmann writes: "He will be ready for dedication by May, 4th, and I am glad. The burden has been heavy to me but I hope will then grow somewhat lighter".

B. Rock-

-FORD.

B. Rockford. I enclose letters from both Rev. Anderson and Stolpe concerning Rockford. Under

Rockford.

All the circumstances, I think Mr. M. Stolpe should accept the call to Rockford, and I believe will do so, in case he can get a good man for Marquette. It would be a great pity, yea almost a calamity to have Marquette vacant, or to have it become a prey to some fanatical Swedish Minister. Pastor Stolpe thinks he can perhaps secure a pastor for the church at Marquette, and thus go to Rockford.

I believe he will be a power for our General Synod work at Rockford, and with care and encouragement, a power for our General Swedish work.

C. Galesburg.

C. Galesburg. Mr. Dr. Hasler has arranged to preach English in the Swedish Augustana Church in this Lutheran town ^{commenced} about April 27th.

I preached in the Congregational Church A.M. & P.M. Sunday April 6th, and found several American families anxious for an English Suth. organization. In this city as in scores of others, we have been supplying the material for building up other denominations.

Galesburg

THE SWEDISH ANSGARI SYNOD.

The Swedish Ansgari Synod.

I was received by this body, with some cordiality and a good deal of suspicion, but through a Swedish layman I met a few years ago and a pastor for whom I once did a kidnap, I secured recognition, and an opportunity to speak. Filtering the vinegar from it, I used substantially the address or statement of Pastor Anderson

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marked I. which I enclose. They listened attentively, and the Sutheran members of the body, who have been in it from the beginning, nodded assent, and gave evidence of great satisfaction at the statement of facts "just as they remembered them."

A year ago, the synod under control of Mr. Erickson, who led them from the General Synod, positively refused to hear any representative of the General Synod, & fairly silenced Pastor Andersson. This man makes pretension to "great piety", objects to any Confession or Creed by the word *de. de.* I tried to show the synod that there was a great deal more piety in honesty, than in mere talk and profession, and that stealing Colleges in the name of "deeper piety", was not well pleasing in God's sight.

No sep. was attempted, excepting an "explanation" by the West. As there was no certainty as to when the synod would adjourn, and no further need of my presence, I returned home on Monday. What the result will be I cannot tell, but believe the synod will discard the Erickson party, and return to the General Synod, or enough of them will come out of the present "mixture" and form a synod claiming the original constitution, property &c. &c. Whatever may be the result of the visit as to the Ansgari synod, I am sure the visit to Falesburg will be very valuable to our work, from some things I there learned. I learned.

1. The great need of a Church Paper in the Swedish language.

This was also impressed upon me, when at Marquette, in company with

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QARI

Synod

SWEDISH

ANSQARI

SYNOD

ANSQARI

SYNOD.

SWEDISH

NEEDS.

eight or nine Swedish pastors, and many intelligent Swedish laymen.

They are in the dark concerning the General Synod, its doctrinal basis, life and spirit. The Augustana men say: "We are much more in sympathy with the life and missionary spirit of the General Synod, if it be as you say, than we are with the General Council; but we have been led to a different impression.

Our Publication-house ought to give us a Swedish Paper, of only half the size of the Missionary Journal.

2. The great need of tracts in Swedish language, for same reasons as above and to reach where we cannot send the living preacher.

3. The great and absolute necessity of Swedish-American Ministers, and hence the need of Ansgari College or some institution where they can be trained. Students might be brought from Sweden and placed at Gellingsborg or Springfield for a few years, or a Scandinavian Prof. added to the German Seminary faculty at Chicago. I know this all looks to the future, but we must look to the future, and now in the present so plan and labor as to have a future harvest.

4. The absolute need of a Board of Education of the General Synod to secure and hold property, plant institutions &c. &c. Had there been such a Board, composed of men of good business tact, we would not have been decieved at either Springfield, Ill. Knoxville Ill. Des Moines Ia. or Carthage Ill. This matter should claim careful attention at the next convention of the General Synod.

LESSONS

LEARNED

AT

SWEDISH

ANSGARII

SYNOD

APRIL

FIFTH

SIXTH

TO

SEVENTH

1884.

5. That Mr. C. Andersson is not a good
neither a successful Swedish leader.

REV.

CHAS.

ANDER-
-SON.

SWEDISH

LEADER-
-SHIP.

His entire management of the Swedish Mission Institute at Keokuk Ia, and Knoxville Ill. his securing the property at Knoxville, or rather his failing to secure it firmly, his pastorate at Galesburg, his management of Zion's Banner &c. &c. All show defective leadership, and a lack of real business tact. He is one of the noblest and most self-sacrificing of our ministers - has literally given up, or used up, all his own means, his wife's patrimony and the help of friends for the church, but in nearly every church now has failed.

OUR

SWEDISH

WORK

I found great love for him, especially on the part of the ministers who were his students, and whom he helped in their course of study, but from these I learned that his Swedish language is defective, and that he cannot edit a Swedish magazine for any length of time. On the other hand he has bitter opponents among the Dispensational Lutherans, who say he is "not entirely sound in the Lutheran faith &c. &c. Putting all these things together it is clear to me that we cannot look to him as the man to lead our Swedish-American work.

I wonder if he could not take an English church, somewhere in our bonds, do good work, sustain his family and honor the Master.

NEEDS.

6. That he must pay more attention to the Swedish, Danish and Norwegian people. Had there been some representative from the Boards, or from our American Synods, at the conven-

tions of the Ansari Synod, in its earlier history it is quite probable it would never have been led away from us.

A friendly visit and encouraging words, have great weight with these people.

So soon as I learn the action of the Synod, I will inform the Board.

Men for the Work.

Mr. C. C. Barclay, Springfield O.

Mr. J. J. Delo, Centre-Brunswick N.Y.

Mr. N. G. Rosenbaum, Salem, Va.

Mr. J. N. Sample, Muncy, Pa.

Mr. J. H. Watterick, Schellsburg Pa.

Mr. James A. Hartman, Samaria Pa.

Mr. J. G. W. Hursh, Joplin Ind, Letter J.

I know none of these but Bro. Hartman, whom I highly esteem.

Money.

I enclose letter from Supt. of Dr. Dorners P. School at Washington D. C. in reply to my suggestion, which suggestion, was at his request during visit in Decem. 1883. Letter marked K.

Hoping for a pleasant and successful meeting on the 14th. I am, with love to the Brethren,

Sam^l B. Barnitz
Western Secy.

Resolved that in transmitting the
testimony in the Bright case, it is
the judgement of the Board that it
will not be prudent to assign Rev
Bright to temporary supply at Hays
City as had been ^{suggested} ~~suggested~~, as they
^{point} are not willing to contribute at all
to his support until the cloud of
present hanging over him is
entirely dispensed.

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