

To the Board of Home Missions,
General Synod, Cran. Suth. Ch. in U.S.
Report of Western Secretary for April Meeting,
1883.

I Iowa.
A. Fairfield.

II. Iowa. A. Fairfield. Sunday March 18th was spent at this place, though not a Mission, in order to secure the election of a pastor, by uniting opposing factions. With gratitude to God, I report entire success - people at Church who had not been there for years, and the unanimous election of Rev. A. B. McClarkin, a pious, ~~Christian~~ orderly Sutheran minister. He will be on the ground in a few weeks. A great help to our Home Mission work is the right kind of men in the established pastorates, hence my help whenever possible, to put them there.

B. Davenport.

B. Davenport. March 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, & 26th were spent at Davenport, and though the weather was most wretchedly inclement, the attendance at all the meetings, Passion week and Easter, was quite encouraging. By going around Saturday A.M. and working up matters a little, we succeeded in getting a good start for Easter offerings, and raised in all nearly \$450.00 toward a payment on the Parsonage. The Chapel has been most beautifully frescoed, and its wood-work framed, at the amazingly low cost of \$75.00. It is the

prettiest piece of work for the money, I have ever seen. So too the parsonage is a very gem of a home - not extravagant at all and yet in keeping with the surrounding property - a credit to the General Synod.

All things at Davenport look hopeful to me. One, the spirituality of many of the members of the Mission Church, is not of a high order, but even in these I noticed a great improvement since the visit of April 1882.

C. Burlington.

C. Burlington. Permit me to urge upon the Board at the April meeting, the passage of a resolution opening a mission at Burlington. Even though we cannot at once command the man, I am persuaded we should not delay another month to say to ourselves, the Iowa Synod's committee and our blessed Master, we will open an English Lutheran Mission at Burlington Iowa. Neither should it depend upon the \$1000. from Iowa Synod being in hand. One third of that amt. or nearly so, is already raised, and an earnest effort is being made to raise every dollar of it, and I believe it will be done. There is unfortunately some difference of opinion, as to the \$1000 - part of the Synod believing it ought to be for Lot, and other part for support of the

Burlington

Missionary. This comes from the indefiniteness of the wording of the resolution. The whole discussion, and my plea was for that sum, or a needed sum each year, in addition to Apportionment, to sustain a special Mission in Iowa. One brother however, jealous of another brother he supposed might be the Board's selection, opposed the support idea, and went off on the Church-extension idea, and thus created difference of opinion, and hindered the work.

Burlington

But now the money is being raised, and the Adv. Board are earnestly at work, and determined to leave nothing undone, on their part, to plant a Mission in the growing city of Burlington. Bro. Miller will report to the Board, whether or not the General Council have established an English Mission. If they have not, we ought to do so at once.

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Burlington

The Iowa Brethren argue that comparatively little attention has been given their territory, and ask why the Board should refuse to select a promising city on their territory, or select it only on condition of their paying the Missionary, while at the same time they open Missions in important places in other States, without such requirement. I cannot but feel that it will be wise to act favorably concerning Burlington, at April Meeting.

Burlington

II. Illinois.

III. Illinois.

A. Chicago.

I regret very much, for some seasons, not having received the letter of the Board, requesting me to spend two weeks in Chicago, to assist Bro. Heilman in a money campaign &c. The two weeks past however, would not have been favorable ones for such work. The weather in Chicago has been wretched and depressing, and business men very gloomy and "blue". Navigation has not yet opened, and the Spring trade is unusually late. It will take a great deal of planning to do that work successfully, and I believe Bro. Heilman is laying well the plans to reach wealthy people in that city. Letters of introduction must be secured from influential people to these men, before they can even be gotten at for an interview. He is working that up now, as well as also, getting subscriptions from his own members. In Chicago a half day on March 27th - I had a talk with him, and also a conversation with several men of influence, in which I brought the importance of our work to their attention.

I am trying to secure letters to others, and will do my utmost to assist in raising the money for the building. Had the letter reached me, I would of course, have "obeyed orders", cancelling all other engagements.

Chicago

and doing my utmost to carry out the wishes of the Boards. I believe now, however, it was wisely ordered that the letter did not reach me, as the effort at that time, might not have been successful. The work at Chicago, though it is a rapid city, will require "patient perseverance". No. Heilman must not expect too much at once, nor must the Church, unless it comes up promptly and very liberally to the calls of the Boards.

Chicago.

III. Wisconsin.
A. Milwaukee.

III. Wisconsin. A. Milwaukee.

Wisconsin state! Wonderful Sutherland City! "An open door great and effectual" Our Heavenly Father help the Church to hear His Son, crying unto us Occupy! Occupy!! Occupy!!!

Here I found fifteen (15) Sutherland Churches, one (1) Reformed, and one (1) "Gran-Synod of the West." Many kind words also, from our Anglicized foreign population, urging the necessity of an English Church. The Church must be awakened to these calls from the cities - the Sutherland Cities of the North-West.

Milwaukee.

IV. Nebraska
A. Hastings.

IV. Nebraska. A. Hastings.

Though everything seemed against us at Hastings we nevertheless dedica-
-ted the neat little Church, but only

secured One Hundred and Fifty Dollars towards the \$800. which funds, Building and improvement cost. The funeral of a prominent citizen, who had been assassinated, took place at the hour of our dedication, and the excitement in the town was at such a pitch, that it absorbed all public sentiment and emptied every church in the town - excepting where the funeral was held. The funeral was to have been Saturday, but the coroner's inquest was not completed, and it was therefore made Sunday morning. The G. A. N.'s having it in charge had music and banners, and drew everybody, some from sympathy, some from curiosity. Those of prominent citizens, who did not attend the funeral, were trying to get hold of the murderers, in order to hang them.

Then too, the weather was simply dreadful, as to inclemency, snow, sleet, blizzards, rain and mud. We therefore postponed our service to 8 P. M. The weather grew worse, but still we had an audience of about forty (40), about fifteen (15) of which were Sutherans - the country members not being able to come at all. We dedicated the church and started the mission on its way, with as neat and bright an audience-room as is found in Hastings. Bro. J. N. Senter

of Grand Island Neb. and Rev. H. Sietman
one of our German ministers, assisted in the
consecration services. Bro. Martins has worked
very hard in some directions, having helped
paper and paint the church. Made side-
walks &c. &c. He has also commenced
carrying in town and country, and
though^{not} does not strike me as saturated
with "snap" as they say out here, he is
a good man and will not work mischief.

If he shows any lack of success, with
so good a building, he must, in reasonable
time, have him understand that he is in
the wrong place. # The Building is, in all
its interior arrangements very attractive
and very comfortable, and outwardly, will
also be, when freshened with a new coat
of paint, which will be given it, as soon
as means can be raised. It can also be
enlarged, and its appearance still more im-
proved, without in any wise injuring the
present building, or weakening it. Under
no circumstances must we allow this
very cheap, well located Church-Building
to pass out of our hands. Bro. Knoble,
the noble layman who has been plead-
-ing for a Lutheran Church at Hastings,
and who has given \$100. towards the Building,
and who is giving \$100. per year, and a house
and ten acres of land, beside, for support of
missionary, says he hopes to give \$100.00
each and every year, until all is paid. He

would like Board of Church Extension to have the deed for entire property. I trust the Board will be able to secure for the property at Hastings from \$325. to \$500, so as to secure it beyond all doubt. The town is proving in substantial building, business and population, and is regarded as the fourth best town in Nebraska. I believe if we had had a fair say, and the citizens of Hastings present one half of the needed amt, could have been raised. I have insisted upon Bro. Martin's going to every merchant and business man, and presenting the claims of the Church, and asking a subscription this week. Plan of decoration enclosed.

B. Neo-blond.

B. Neo-blond. Have arranged for Rev. Bro. Angus Stone to supply Neo-blond next Sunday - April 8th - and Rev. Bro. D. P. Brenock of Abilene, Kansas, ^{to visit the people} April 15th with a view to a call. There never was a better time for "re-cuperation" at Neo-blond than NOW! There is dearth and want in all the other churches, and souls waiting for a Lutheran pastor. The S. School is kept up with great encouragement. My hope is that Bro. Brenock will accept a call to Neo-blond.

C. Lincoln.

C. Lincoln. I very much regret

the continued agitation of "Removal of Church Building" at Lincoln. I fear it will work mischief and alienate some of the most substantial members of the Church.

As I felt when the purchase was made, so I feel now, and that is that we want to be First where our own people are. Second, where our special Sutherland material is - material from which we draw children to the S. School. With the exception of two or perhaps three members or families, all our people live near the present Church location, and nearly all the German Sutherans are in the same neighborhood. To change location to the other side of the city, will be like beginning the work anew - especially the S. School work.

As I said in a former report, the work at Lincoln will, of necessity, be of slow growth, and require great patience.

I doubt whether the Missionary will have any larger audiences in a new location. These can only be had by persistent, patient visitation. I suggest very careful consideration of this matter of removal.

Lincoln.

D. Grand Island.

D. Grand Island. This is a Mission without aid from the Board, and a grand Mission it is - worthy of all encouragement and praise. Rev. John N. Senter is the Missionary, and a model and example to many. He came here October 6th 1882, and

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has visited 400 families, distributed 7000
pages of facts marked as copies sent
with this report, and has already a
membership of 36 who pay a salary
of \$500. The S. School numbers on enroll-
ment over 100, and has bought its own
books and papers. The great want is, of
course, a Church-Building, and, this I
think we have now a very great interest.
Our lots here are worth \$5500 to \$7000,
and daily increasing. From November next
they will bring \$600. per year rent. A better
Church-Building, by far, than any in the
town can be built for \$6000. The idea is
to try to borrow \$3000. by mortgaging the lots
(6 per cent. interest). \$2000. to \$3000. can be
raised here. The building will not be put
on our own lots, but a new one bought not
so high in price, but better adapted as to
location - our lots being ~~Building lots~~
Business lots. Money here cannot be
borrowed under ten per cent, so a loan
must be secured from the East. The lots
- i.e. ours - are increasing in value too rapidly
to be sold now. The whole business here
has been admirably managed by Mr. Hummel
- a prominent lawyer and son ^{of} father
Hummel of Illinois - now deceased. Can
anything be done by Board of Church Ex-
-tension, to borrow this money, or by B.W.M.
in the way of suggestion? The income

From the lots will pay interest ~~\$\$\$~~
\$180.00, and \$420.00 on principal each
year. Grand Island is a Division
town of Union Pacific Rail-way,
and the first one west of Omaha
occupied by us on this line!

It is cheering to visit such a Mission!

E. North-Platte. Report says the
Supreme Court have decided in our
favor, concerning our lots at North
Platte. I guess it is true, but will
report from there officially tomorrow,
- the Lord willing.

I must ask the indulgence
of the Board for lack of neatness in this
report. I have been obliged to write it
under difficulties - shabby table, people
talking, and so weary from loss of sleep,
and no loss of travel, that I can scarcely
see. I wish the meeting of the Board
could be held in Dakota, Nebraska,
Kansas, Wisconsin or Texas, that for
themselves the members might see & feel
the glorious opening for our General
Synod, and thus make others also see
and feel!

With love & all

Yours in cheer & heaviness

Sam^l P. Barnitz

Western Secy.