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DEBT.

II. Illinois, A. Rockford.

According to arrangement with Board, and at request of Church-Council at Rockford, Saturday, Sunday & Monday, Novem. 26, 27 & 28, were spent with "Emmanuel Lutheran Church" of that city.

I found officers and members very much discouraged, and almost ready to give up. Some of the faithful women, actually came to me, joining their hands and asked whether they must give up. No thing trouble them. 1. Their debt, and interest payments.

They have a bonded debt, bearing seven (7) per cent interest. The amt. is \$4500.00, which is secured by mortgage on the property. In addition they have a floating debt of \$700.00, but about enough subscriptions to cover this. The few who have been bearing the great burden are growing weary & restless under it, and say they "cannot longer endure". The many whose names are on the

Church-roll know little of giving, and seem not to be reached by the pastor. So save this handsome property and congregation to the General Synod, and to provide for the magnificent future of the Church at Rockford, something must be devised at once. Never has my heart gone out to a people in deeper sympathy than to these men and women, and never have my hands seemed so tied. The work of relief is not our work, but pre-eminently the work of the Board of Church Extension, and

that Board seems "unable to aid because of lack of funds." An appeal was made to the Synod of Northern Ills. and I had hoped, I feel confident, that the strong and touching words of lay delegate and pastor, and some of the members of Synod who had been on the ground, would stir the hearts of the ministers, that they would raise \$1000.00 for Bd. of Ch. Ex. for use at Rockford, in addition to apportionment. But alas! Believing more in the "Resolutions" of the Apostles, than the self denying spirit and the "Acts

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 ACTION
 of
 SYNOD of
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the Apostles", they adopted the following resolution: "Your special committee appointed to confer with the pastor and delegate of the Rockford Swedish Missions, and devise some plan to relieve the financial distress of that Missions, would respectfully report that arrangements have been made to have Rev. S. M. Heilman visit the place at some time in December, and make an effort to secure help from the citizens of Rockford.

It is suggested that the Chairman of the Advisory Board - Rev. C. Dickinger be added to that Committee, and that the Western Secy. of the Board of Home Missions be requested by the President of Synod to make arrangements to assist personally in the accomplishment of this work. How easy to pass that kind of action and thus pass by their own direct duty.

They might at least have asked Board of Church Extension to carry the interest at Rockford for a few years, and apportioned the Board of \$275.00 per year for that purpose.

The Church-officers and pastor at R. on account of above resolution or action, expected to see, with me, Rev. S. M. Heilman & Rev. Dickinger for the work of canvassing the city and raising the money, and seemed quite surprised when I told them that I knew nothing of the action of W. Illinois Synod, having never been informed of it, and that it would not be possible for me, at this time, to make a money canvass in their city. I arranged with them to report their condition to Board of Church Extension, and request a donation of \$500.00, or the

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interest on their bonded-debt - \$275.00 per annum - for a few years. As Bro. Deelman had promised them to aid in another canvass of the city for funds, I requested Rev. E. Groom - Pres. Synod of Northern Ills. to appoint with him Rev. J. M. Ruthrauff of Dixon, who is said to be well adapted to such work. Mr. Groom has made the appointment, and these latter with Rev. C. Dickinger, Chairman Adv. Board, will plan for a canvass, select the best time, after consulting with the officers at R, and try to secure funds for relief.

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"The best time" is now, so far as the need is concerned, but I fear the committee will hardly be able to make a canvass before Christmas, and after that, up to Feb., or March, will not be a good time to get money. Meanwhile something must be done to give them relief. Their interest will be due Feb. 1st, and must be promptly paid. Oh! that some Sutheran steward or stewardess, would save this beautiful church-property to the General Synod, by carrying the mortgage a few years, or loaning the \$4500.00 at four or five per cent. Rev. E. Groom will write to Board of Church-Extension, pleading that they carry the interest for a few years, and if necessary will advance the \$275.00 for interest, Feb. 1st. This generous proposition of his, is not to be told outside of our board. A crisis has come in this work at R. The Compensationalists will

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cheerfully pay the indebtedness on the Church property, provided they can secure the congregation, or will buy the Church-building if sold under foreclosure.

The few who have been carrying the work are weary, and they say helplessly to carry it longer - unless aided. In this emergency it is not difficult to discover "the great temptation" in the offer of the Congregationalists. For us to lose this property, is to lose the future of General Synod English Sutheran work in one of the best cities in Illinois.

There are 8000 Swedish citizens, in many respects controlling the city.

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Our Mission S. School has eighty to one hundred English scholars. It is managed by a Congregationalist - a most excellent gentleman, but having more interest in the future of Congregationalism, than the future of Sutheran Christianity in Rockford. The first (Cathedral) Sutheran Church (Augustana) has a Sunday School of 425 to 525, and two thirds of the teaching is in the English language.

I preached English in this Church, by request of Pastor Johnson, and arrangement with our Church-Council, and had present 700 to 800 young people, and many middle-aged and old people, everyone of them understanding English, and many of them using it all the time. Oh! what a field for the future. Pastor Johnson said: "These young people are

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no doubt, in the Churches of other denominations, when there is not preaching in English in the Swedish Churches, and we only have it about six times a year." At our own Mission, where I preached English in the morning, the singing - "Nearer my God to Thee", was just as clearly and well rendered, as here the Swedish hymns. We must by all means, save our property to the General Synod, for future English work, yea for present English work! Pastor Johnson who will be remembered by Pres. Albert & Secy. Schultz, as pastor at Des-Moines Ia, said again and again "I wish we had an English Church of the General Synod in Rockford. We have no hope whatever of the General Council, and indeed have but little sympathy with many of their views or practices". He told me that a movement to withdraw from that body, will likely be made by Augustana at its next meeting.

The sending of "Minutes of General Synod" to every Augustana Pastor, was a master stroke of Christian policy. 2, The Pastor is the second trouble of the Emmanuel Church of the General Synod, and this trouble has really much to do with the first one.

An efficient pastor could probably develop the membership, so as to have no difficulty in raising salary and interest, and at same time reducing the principal of the debt. They want a change, but "hope it can be brought a-

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-but without any trouble or bad feeling". They "hope the Board of Missions can find a place for Pastor Hansen and quietly take him away, and give them another pastor." They would like a pastor who can use both languages, so as to have American services, and have the pastor in the Sunday School. They want "a manly man" who will be equal to the other clergymen of the Swedish churches." They had some hopes that perhaps Rev. Jepsen could be secured for them, and from what they heard of him, thought he would be just the man. I told them he could hardly be secured at this time, as he has just accepted a call to Indiana. I mentioned Charles Roos, and suggested that he could perhaps be secured. They will take anybody the Board will recommend. The first thing to do is to get rid of Pastor Hansen. What to do with him I scarcely know.

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I recently heard of a Swedish Congregation at Le Roy, Michigan, vacant, and urged upon Pres. Brown of N. Ill. Synod. to find out about it, and report. The Congregation is a member of that body, but was not represented in any way, at late convention. I held two services - preaching at 10.30 A.M. and S. School at 3 P.M. - and three meetings with Church-officers - Saturday 8 to 9 P.M. Sunday 1 to 3 and 9 to 11.30 P.M. in the interests of our work in Rockford.

Also consultations with the pastor and individual members of Council

Saturday afternoon and Monday morning.

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The Sunday School has not, under the superintendency of Mr. Baker, been using "Auspicious Lessons", but will do so in 1888.

I told Aft. Supt. they were violating the rules of the Board. He is one of our members, seemed surprised and "dazed", and had me write Mr. Pymer at once, for Auspicious lessons for 1888. The future of our work in Rockford is bright with promise, provided the present financial troubles can be overcome, and a suitable pastor can be secured. The beautiful city continues to grow rapidly and substantially - large manufacturing establishments being added every year. In every way possible, in accordance with prudence, I tried to cheer and encourage these people, urging to hope in, and work in, "having respect unto the recompense of the reward". I will write Bros. Heilman and Nuttarauff, giving them hints for the work to be done in the canvass for money. I assured the Council that our Board would not press them to reduce amt. asked for support of pastor, until they were in better financial condition, but would do all in our power to help them, if they will do their utmost to help themselves.

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Though the morning of the 27th was intensely cold - bitter cold - the congregation in attendance numbered over one hundred. Pastor Hansen preached at night in the Swedish tongue, and had about seventy - many attending English services at the Cathedral Church.

B. FREE
-PORT.

B. Freeport.

As the report on investigation at this Mission is likely to be sent to the Bd. of Ch. Ch. and the N. W. of U. Soc. Ch. Com. I have prepared it on separate sheets & herewith submit the document marked A. Many things remain to be said on this visit, and the more at it, but I cannot write them. So impressed was I with "the many things", that I was strongly tempted to start for Gallatin this A.M. to attend Board Meeting. Suffice it to say for the present, that the Board of Home Missions and the Secretaries, have been entirely sustained in their judgment as to the present Missionary. Mr. Garrett himself now feels that he had "better" taken our advice and not come to Freeport" and Mr. Neser feels that "he had better taken the advice of Western Secy. and made out an itemized account long ago".

Mr. Garrett said that "he felt hard and displeased, when Secys. advised him to stay away from Freeport - but has found out by experience, that they were right."

FREEPORT

C. PRINCE
-TON.

C. Princeton.

Rev. D. P. Groscup, has accepted a call from the Pres-
-byterian Board of Missions ^{or} work in Missions, at a salary of \$900.00. A resolution of condolence with the Presbyterians might not be amiss. If they can use that kind of missionaries, they are welcome to them.

Mr. Groscup says he "wrote Secretaries of Bd. of W. U. for work, and they said they had

EXITGROSS-
-CUP.

no power to manufacture climate". He then "wrote that he would forego climate", and they said they had no mission for him &c. &c." I presume this is all true, and the Secretaries might have added, if they had not been kindly disposed, that "they have never been given power to manufacture brains or common sense".

It annoys me to think of having secured a lot valued at \$150.00. for the unworthy man, and that too, from a congregation which has not had a great deal of satisfaction with the sending of Botes. Mr. Hill, Chairman of. asked me to suggest a family for their society. I sent him a list of families, with descriptions of each one, & the society selected Mr. Grosscup. He ought to return the Bote, but the trouble would be to have the garments fit another family. Exit Grosscup! Exit Bote!

EXITGROSSCUP.D. LENA

D. LENA. Had a splendid Missionary meeting at Sena, on the night of Member 30th. Large audience, much interest, and a good collection for beneficiary education. As the P. School offering for Home Mission had just been taken, and education was pressing, I said "all night":

E. POLO.

E. Polo - A legacy - a difficulty.

A LEGA--cy.

In 1882, when visiting Polo, and speaking in the interest of Home Mission, the matter of legacies was urged at some length. After the service was over, the same matter was discussed in the home

KATIEGOOD'SLEGACY.

of "Katie Good", who had some means at her own disposal, and who became very much interested. The seed soon took root and when Katie Good grew sick and found she could not recover, she sent for her lawyer, called for the Missionary Journal to show him legal title, and bequeathed \$1000.00, as she thought, to the "Board of Home Missions of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the U.S."

KATIEGOOD'SLEGACY.

After her death and the opening of the will, it was found that P.O. of W.M. was left out, and \$1000.00 given to "the General Synod, Ev. Lutheran Church in the U.S." Rev. Mr. Alderman wrote me of this, and though regretting that the legacy was not to our Board, I felt interested in having it secured to General Synod and at once wrote Mr. Alex. Seibert, Secy. W.M. his attention to it. I secured but little satisfaction, and wrote again and again.

POLO,LEGACY.

Just before Gen^l Synod at Omaha, he wrote me that he had secured a copy of the will, and that the money would in due time come into treasury of General Synod. It was my intention to prepare a resolution to be offered at Omaha, directing Secy. of General Synod. to pay over to Board of Education, any moneys coming into his hands by legacy, not otherwise provided for; but somehow or other (Confidential I fear) I did not prepare neither suggest such resolution.

LEGACY

AT

POLO.

It now appears, and Rev. Mr. Neeser-Pastor at Polo, was instructed to inform me, as Western Secy. of W.M., that the money will not be paid over, unless it is paid to Board of Home Missions.

The relative's object to its going to the General Synod Treasury, because they say they know "it was relative's intention that it should be used for Home Missions."

If not paid to Home Missions, the will will be contested, and the money, no doubt, go to the heirs. The judge of Ogle Co. has decided that "the intent of the testatrix must be considered and carried out"

and "that the money can be paid to the Board of Home Missions". The relative's are willing and anxious that this shall be done, and request the presence of some authorized person. January Second, 1888 to receive the money. Mr. Appold, Secy. of W.M. Secy. Colby or myself should be on the ground at that time. If either of the Secretaries, they must be provided with power of Attorney from Secs. I suggest that a power of Attorney be prepared for each Secy, in case Mr. Appold cannot attend to the matter, so that the one be prepared, in case the other should be unable to go to Polo. Mr. Neeser would like to have a Home Mission Service on Sunday, January 1st 1888 - the day preceding the settlement. It might be well to get through Mr. Neeser - the name of executor and ascertain exactly just what kind

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of document will be needed.

LEGACY

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POLO.

It has been a question with me, whether Mr. Gebhart should be consulted about this matter, or asked to receive the money and pay it over to Bd. of B. M. The sums of it only, as a legacy to General Synod, has corresponded with executor &c. Will he oppose our receiving it, or will he be willing to act for B. M. Alexander Gebhart is, as I have reason to know, "a very peculiar man". Shall he be consulted, or shall he go on and get the money, and let him find it out afterward?

POLO

LEGACY

If this money is paid to Board of Home Missions, without any trouble there will be other legacies from same family, but if they must contest the matter, it will prevent much good in the future.

III. NE.

BRNSKA.

A. WAVERLY

III. Nebraska. A. Waverly.

Letter from Rev. G. D. Cyster. Pleasite. Rev. named B. tells of the visit of Rev. Robt. White, and his probable election.

B. BEN-

-EDIET.

B. Benedict. Letter - C. from Rev. G. A. Schmutz, tell of trans. dis-appointments and tribulation in the work of building, and also speak of other mission matters in Nebraska synod. I note him that it is not possible to change my dates every few

BENE-
DIET.

days to accommodate delays in build-
-ing, and that he must now arrange to
suit my other engagements.

III. COL-
ORADO.

A. DEN-
-VER.

III. Colorado. A. Denver. I. Scandinavian.
Letter from Pastor Hansen marked
D, asks for Sunday, Decem. 18th instead
of 11th. I have promised him the day,
provided they cannot be ready at Sunday.

IV. DA-
-KOTA.

A. BIS-
-MAREK.

IV. Dakota. A. Bismarck.
Another letter from Mr.
Haeltenstine, requesting a visit to
Bismarck, and telling something of
the field. Letter marked E.

V. CAL-
-IFORNIA.

A. SAN-
-DIEGO.

V. California - A. San Diego.
Yes, I am convinced
that a mission should be opened at
this point without delay, and believe
that Rev. J. J. Purcell of Sogansport, Ind.
might carry the work there. The family
of Mr. C. C. West, of Peabody, Mo. has just
gone to San Diego. Mr. W. is a most ex-
-cellent man. He is engaged with Messrs
Hensley and Platt, dealers in Real-Estate.

VI. IOWA.

VI. IOWA. Rev. Mr. Kipell's article in
"Observer" some weeks ago, was very
misleading. The Board have established
four new missions in that state during
the past five years, and two of them in
the largest cities. It has also cared for
the "lunatic districts" of the other generation.

VIII.
KANSAS

A. WI-
CHITA.

VIII. Kansas. A. Wichita

A letter from Wichita da-
-ted Novem. 16th says: "The Lutherans
are about as follows - Jack and Gos-
-ticks and John's have gone back to
the Reformed Church, whence Bro. Bro-
-mer got them. Blackwelder is sour,
but seems a little softer towards the
enterprise - Miller, Cichholz, Dickson,
Pfeantz, Zeiminger, Gehring &c. seem
all right yet."

B. AT-
CHISON.

B. Atchison.

I believe that Mr. P. C.
Levell of Schuylkill Haven Pa. would
be a good man for Atchison. He is
well spoken of everywhere.

C. LEA-
VENWORTH.

C. Leavenworth.

Spent Sunday - Novem. 20th
in this growing city, and am certain we
have here a field of importance. By arrange-
-ment met several of the families from Ger-
-man - Mission Church - who desire English
service and found here also Mr. & Mrs.
Allan Shingley from St. Marks of St. Louis.
These are earnest workers - intelligent and
consecrated to our cause. I will write Mr.
Mr. A. M. Geiger of my visit and suggest
to him to hold an occasional service
at the house of Mr. A. B. Barthel ^{formerly} one
of his members at Valley Falls. Only in
this way can we find out what
persons can be depended upon for orfan-
-ization and work.

LEAVEN-
-WORTH.

D. WASH-
-INGTON.

D. Washington.

Sitters marked E. from Rev. J. M. Rinker, will be of interest. I expect D.V. to spend Tuesday and Wednesday Decem. 6 & 7, at Washington and Men-leaf, looking after organization at W. and travel at G.

E. LAW-
-RENCE.

E. Lawrence.

By request of the Con-gregation at Lawrence, and Presb. of Synod of Kansas, I spent Sunday, Decem. 4th in this city, taking part in the installation of the pastor - Rev. S. J. Hyman. The day was one of great interest to pastor and people, and many were the assurances of good ac-complished by the visit of Rev. W. J. Swell, and Western Secy. The weather was beautiful, the congregation large and attentive, and the S. School most interesting. One hundred and forty six were present at the S. School, and the enrollment has now reached near-ly that number. Four services were held viz - Sunday School - regular, at 9.30 A.M. Installation at 11 A.M. Sermon on the Church, by Rev. W. J. Swell, Charge to pastor by same. Installation and Charge to people by Western Secy. At 2.30 P.M. a Sunday School Meeting - Special - was held, the Church being filled from end to end. Addresses were delivered by the visit-ing ministers. The Church was a fair crowd at night, and a sermon preached by Western Secy. The congregation and

LAWRENCE.

LAW
RENCE

pastor seemed over-joyed with the encouragements of the day. Rev. Mr. Scholl of Finland was also present and assisted in the services.

So my mind the prospects at Lawrence are better and brighter than ever before. There is entire harmony in the congregation, and a devotion to the work not heretofore known.

There is every reason to thank God, and take courage.

Many of the disappointed members are returning, and they hope for a number of additions at the communion Sunday, Decem. 11th.

Bro. Hymen is making a most excellent impression on congregation and community.

That the Board may have much to cheer at December Meeting, is the prayer of

Your servant

Sam^l J. Gamutz
Western Secy.

Kansas-City Mo. 5 P.M.
December 5th 1857