

Brethren and Friends—It affords me no small degree of pleasure to be again invited here. I have just been requested to appear before you. The occasion is one of importance and usefulness to your church and congregation. It is seldom that we can find a person so imbued with a self-sacrificing and benevolent spirit as is evinced by our friend and co-laborer, Mrs. George M. Washum. She was not contented in being instrumental in presenting a purse of nearly \$200 to your worthy pastor, a few weeks ago, but by the promptness of her generous impulses, she originated the laudable design and carried it to a successful issue, amid obstacles almost insurmountable, disappointments and discouragements that could not be overcome only by such a spirit as she doth possess. The idea was novel and sublime. It evinced sagacity of a high order. Her hope was the beacon that led her through the labyrinth which will not merely replenish the treasury of your church-fund, but it will exert a salutary influence on the minds of our entire community and assist to dispel the unnatural and unchristian prejudice that has heretofore existed against us.

You cannot overrate her usefulness, nor award her too much credit. She is justly entitled to your sincere thanks and grateful remembrance. Mrs. Washum devoted her entire time for nearly three weeks to

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attend to this business. She daily traveled many miles in disposing of the tickets.

If your church had a dozen such energetic and preserving members, how, think you, would you be compelled to occupy this small and unsuitable place of worship?

To those sweet singers, Mrs. Georgiana Leach, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Wiley, and other ladies; also Prof. Scott, the Euterpeans, and the chorus—all who volunteered their eminent service, together with the pastor and trustees of the First Congregational Church, and the public generally who patronized the Concert, will please accept the sincere thanks of this Church for their kindness and liberality.

I am requested by Mrs. Washum to say that this purse containing \$132 00, is given to this church as a special donation, to assist in the purchase of a new church edifice.

I am happy to announce that Mrs. W. is not weary in well doing, but she is ready and willing to assist in any good work which has for its object the glory of God and the advancement of His cause, in whatever vineyard her services may be required. May God bless and reward her labors of love and charity. May the good seed that has been sown bring forth an abundant harvest; and may others go and do likewise.

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