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Correspondence

Hannah Whitall Smith

1983

Box 3_13 (Correspondence- Willard, Frances 1877-1889)

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World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Hon. President:

MRS. MARY CLEMENT LEAVITT,
Care Kidder, Peabody & Co.,
Boston, Mass.

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MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD,
Evanston, Ill., U. S. A.

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Eastnor Castle, Ledbury,
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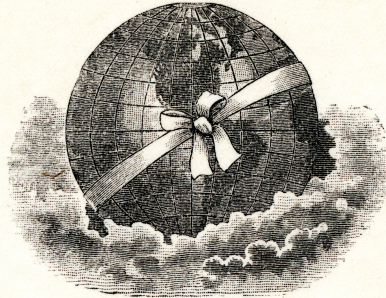
MISS AGNES E. SLACK,
Ripley, Derbyshire, England.

Hon. Assistant Secretary:

MISS ANNA A. GORDON,
Evanston, Ill.

Treasurer:

MRS. MARY E. SANDERSON,
Danville, P. Q., Canada.



TIME OF PRAYER—Noontide.

BADGE—A Knot of White Ribbon.

METHODS—Preventive, Educational, Evangelistic, Social and Legal. WATCHWORDS—Agitate, Educate, Organize.

OBJECT—To unify throughout the world the work of Women in Temperance and Social Reform, and to seek, through the circulation and presentation of a Petition addressed to all the Governments of the world, the complete overthrow of the Alcohol and Opium trades.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,

Evanston, Ill., 22 December 1897

U. S. A.

(Dictated).

Dearest Hannah:

I know you were interested in the Spafford phenomena and so send you these painful developments. I do not believe Mrs. S. is bad. They now are making out that she was a Swedish servant girl.

I am going along Hannah dear in my routine and "branching out" from time to time for the Temple. The prospects are encouraging as you will see by reading the Temple column in the UNION SIGNAL. I am quite confident that we shall raise the money by next autumn to retire the Temple Trust Bonds, and then I shall feel that we may retire from the problem owning a respectable interest in the Temple and holding our offices, etc. there, otherwise we should have been obliged to go out "bag and baggage" and what a spectacle we should have presented! Mrs. Carse can then go on with her effort to raise the entire amount, \$300,000. more, but it will be her personal venture and we shall take care to say so to the public at our next convention which is to be held at Los Angeles, Calif.

Anna and I have been most kindly entertained in the home of a cousin where we have had every comfort and advantage as they are well-to-do people. It seems more like our own home than I ever thought any place could except Rest Cottage and Lady Henry's. We shall be

Round the World Missionaries:

MISS JESSIE ACKERMANN,
The Temple, Chicago.

MRS. J. K. BARNEY,
Providence, R. I., U. S. A.

MISS CLARA PARRISH,
Paris, Ill., U. S. A.

MISS RUTH SHAFFNER,
Carlisle, Pa., U. S. A.

MISS JENNY H. ERICSON,
Helsingfors, Finland.

MISSES VINCENT AND CUMMINS,
69 Lincoln Inn Fields,
London, W. C., England.

MRS. HELEN L. BULLOCK,
Elmira, N. Y., U. S. A.

with our cousins on Christmas and New Year, and directly after we are going to New York. I shall be governed by the news from Lady Henry as to my further movements. If she improves I would not go over until spring, but if not I mean to sail at once, for as you may well imagine my anxiety concerning her is a great hindrance to good health and good work. I would never have believed that I could be away from her when she was so ill. However in her letters and cables she is her own brave self and does everything in her power to reassure me. I am so glad that she is quiet and has the most skillful care, and I quite expect that she may "brace up" so as to be comfortable, but I do not think she ought ever again to try to work as she has done or anything like it. Your statement about Duxhurst astonishes me that it is still £300. in debt. What can account for such large outgoes? I am so glad that our Brother Robert is better and can take some comfort of his life. It has grieved me that he should suffer, for I think he has suffered enough "and more too." I judge dearest Hannah that thee is comfortable. I fervently hope so; do tell me about thy health. Loving our Ladye as thee does it must be almost unsupportable to know that she suffers. Alas and alas for us all, but taking life as a whole it will turn out well and I am glad. Now Hannah dear thee must stand in thy lot and place at the head of the School of Methods. We cannot have everybody resigning and Josephine Butler has done this on a large scale! Just stand in the place and let Hoodie do whatever she can. She has come back to her old position here being as you know very kind and genial with her comrades, and she has a nice office at the Temple with Mrs. Rounds and edits the Illinois paper. She lives with her nephew and niece and I think is very comfortable, but sometimes I fear she has not enough money as she looks rather "seedy". However I deem it best never to mention

these matters and have not had a word with her concerning the difficulty in England. I proposed her as convener of our next convention and have done several things to show my good will.

Thee shows dearie how little thee knows about the excitement here when thee thinks that we could have kept Lady Henry's name out of it. Our papers from ocean to ocean took up the matter and so they did in Canada and had everything that the friends of Mrs. Butler could set going against our Ladye and against me, so we had to face the problem in the form that it took upon itself. Much that was in my addresses was written at the very last moment when this storm had been brewed by the press. You will not often find a difficult problem better handled is my private opinion! Selah! I am assailed in the papers every few days on the subject still and accused of having received an annuity from Lady Henry of \$5,000. which made me stand in with her. Pleasant isn't it? Well Hannah dear I have ceased to wonder at anything that may happen and try to go on my way filling the time with work which seems to be our most satisfactory portion under the sun.

Anna is well and sends lots of love and Christmas greeting as do I with all my heart. Heaven bless thee and thine is the prayer of,

Thy loving sister,

Frances

Thee writes of me altogether better than I merit and with thy usual generosity, but I must admit it is a comfort after all.