

Although those were days of serious thought and severe and incessant toil, they were also times of great enjoyment. Peace reigned in our councils, and harmony of purpose and action wrought their natural work. Pastor and people were united.

They could see that, with God's blessing, they were gaining ground and could even anticipate the time when the last fetter of debt should be knocked off and the Scotch Plains Baptist Church should be again, what for more than a Century she had been, dedicated to the Lord's service, free and clear of all debt.

Among the means to this glorious end introduced by the new Pastor, one ought not to pass unmentioned in the annals of those days of trial and triumph, viz. : The Ladies' Circle.

The New Pastor had brought with him an helpmeet, invaluable to himself and to the Church, and when upon the Organization of "THE LADIES' CIRCLE," Mrs. Parks became its President, with Mrs. Huldah D. Cleaver as Vice President, Miss Mary Dunn, Treasurer, Miss Hannah Hayes, Secretary, and a Board of Managers, there came into life one of the most, if not the most potent factors for the success of the work in hand.

Under the wise and skilful guidance of their beloved President, who worked with her head, her heart, and her hands, the ladies of the Church, without regard to age, rallied with an ardor that shed new lustre upon the sex, and worked with the utmost zeal and untiring energy. Indeed more money was raised through this splendid band of women, than through any other one agency then in operation.