Marshall Republican.

To Meet in Marshall

Woman's Missionary Convention of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, a National Assembly, began today, with the opening of the meeting at 10 o'clock. The invitation extended by Mrs. N. C. Bishop.

The Woman's Missionary Convention of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, composed of representatives from the respective churches in each of the states, was the occasion for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the meeting. Mrs. N. C. Bishop was present at the late gathering, having presided over the opening session.

The date has not been set, but the matter is left to the executive board, and the convention will be held during the month of May and will be attended by two hundred delegates from all parts of the country. Covington, Ohio, and several Kentucky and Tennessee churches desired the convention, but Marshall, through Mrs. Bishop's efforts, proved the winner.

The Invitation Addressed

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Marshall (Mo.) Congregational Church, in order to raise funds for the purpose of building a new church, has been named as the beneficiary of several contributions for the purpose of extending an invitation to the Woman's Board of Missions to hold their annual meeting, May 10, in Marshall.

Many persons now present in Decatur, attended the general assembly held on this day two years ago, and to such we do not need to say anything in praise of our beautiful city, saying that in the last year, all of our principal streets have been macadamized or asphaltered and furnished with granite sidewalks.

Those who have only read of us, we would like to mention some facts which lead us to think that Marshall is destined to be the great Western center of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and of a church college which will radiate over all the Louisiana Purchase such influence as will make our church and our college a power for good in the Western world.

All great religious and educational movements have their beginning in the hearts and brains of those who, with prophetic eyes, have beheld through clouds of doubt and discouragement the obstacles imposed by unbelievers, the light of a new and better order of things. Who can read the early history of our church, and not be fired with the thought of the fathers, whose hands hundred years ago, undertook great things, to declare, in spite of the perils of the world, the number of church, that Christ died for all.

That awakening and the movement following it in the Cumberland Presbytery of Kentucky and Tennessee, is spurring us of this newer Western frontier region to reach out and work mightily to spread the true spirit of the Master's teachings by our example, and our Christian college, which proclaims from its walls "Missouri Valley College for Christ."

Statistics are numerous, and, for that reason we often fail to have in just what we rank we stand in our own community, church or school. But as all those who are in midstream next year, a few facts in regard to the progress of our church and school in the last eleven years may be the means of convincing you that the statements made in this invitation are not the effusions of an overzealous advocate, but bright and abating facts set down in the name of mathematical accuracy.

First—Our state in its relations to the Woman's Board of Missions since the second in the amount of its contributions to missions in 1896, and it ranks third in strength in our synod.

Second—Our Church of Marshall!—bears the proud distinction of being in the center of a tract of land which is fertile and fertile leads the known world. The Valley of the Euphrates, the Mesopotamia of Bible times, bore this honor until our farmers in Middle Western Missouri made our land the fairest birthplace of the human race.

We have come to see and not to be. Are you observing the land in the name of the newly formed Marshall, and invite us to come up and view it with us, that you may know and understand in your hearts, our great opportunities, and be moved to further help as we have done all the advantages that are already standing on half hinges.

Third—Our church, not third in importance to us, but third as relates to synod and presbytery. In numerical strength, we rank third in the assembly, and with our additional membership of 40 souls since January 1, we may have reached the second place.

Our 632 members are anxious waiting in this garden spot of the earth to have their representatives talk your "yes" to their invitation to the Woman's Board to come among us and "join hands" by strengthening our hands and making stout our hearts in the inspiration of your presence.

Fourth—Our pastor and the working force of the church will make us impetuous from your coming, equaled only by that of the general assembly held in 1896. Eleven years ago the membership of the Marshall church was less than 100 souls; now it is 632, and a great change in the appearance of the church was a poor structure, quite small and with narrow, painted windows, but in this there was room enough, and we can say.

We have a spacious building, with modern furnishings, and, in addition, a mission church completed last year at the expense of $8,300.

We have another mission which meets in our college building, for another suitable house must soon be built.

Our church annually contributes $300 to the work of the work of the two churches.

In addition to this, we are endeavoring to support the other parishes in our church on the other side of the land, of which, Mrs. A. M. Drennan, of Ten, Japan.

Finis—Our pastor, if he were not here I would tell you just how this beneficent growth has been possible; but as he might object, I will simply say that he is a double tither, almsman one-quarter of his salary going into the Lord's work.

While setting this example, he is able to give us a sermon now and then on tithing, and I have little doubt, that if properly entered, he could be persuaded to deliver a sermon on God's blessing at any almost gathering of the church. At the request of the general assembly, he has prepared a tract on this subject.

And I might offer as an inducement to the delegates attending the board meeting in Marshall, that we give you our church, and an everyRib-giving to take home with you as a souvenir.

Our church members go down into the field generally for all contributions.

Sixth—Our Auxiliary Missionary Society, of which our pastor's wife is president, is alive and at work, but it will be enabled to spread the gospel, both in home and foreign fields, further and further under the magnificence of meeting face to face, and working shoulder to shoulder, with the friends of Christ's church.

We have life members, and we have taken credit for every hundred dollars contributed to Mrs. Drennan's church, and we would be entitled to move.

We were benefited more than we can tell by the presence of Rev. and Mrs. Judge C. R. Hall, of Oklahoma, Japan, and Clay, and in Japanese. And when they had gone as they went. Continue to be a means of grace and spread the gospel.

Our president, Mrs. Albert McAllister, is a resident of Marshall, and she is a missionary in all good work and her desire to have your "yes" to this invitation is. We are sure, appearance in her heart while this board is in session.

Seventh—Missouri Valley College. This is the last of the last, that the words speaking of the past record, may linger in your thoughts.

This is the youngest college in our church, and is one of the best, not the best endowed of all our church schools.

The movement was set on foot at the last general assembly to raise a one million-dollar endowment fund to put the college in a position that will keep them in safety on the waves of temporary misfortune, which at varying times have threatened our house and the great enterprises. The good to our church that this school is doing in working hand in hand with the church can hardly be estimated; but a few facts showing results will convince even a careless thinker that Missouri Valley College works in no vain labor, and is teaching straight at the mark set by our highest church and educational authorities. That you will judge how successful she is in carrying out her alms, we call your attention to the work done.

The corner stone of Missouri Valley College was laid April 19, 1890. Since then from that time the trustees have been fortunate enough to secure as president Wm. H. Black, D. D., one of the young leaders of our church, who not only has ideals concerning what a Christian college should be, but has been able to unthinkingly carry them out, as his firm, unyielding, Christian influence has been. Every pupil entering our college will either work into the traces of good order and hard, conscientious study, or out of the school. Very few work out.

And of those who work in and through, we submit a few examples:

"Today five of the leading pulpit in the state, namely, Bishop Buffington, Independence, Beals, and Springfield are filled by Missouri Valley College graduates. This is the first year that the school has been a church of the pulpit known to the church at Little Rock, Ark., and another to "The Saddler of the College" was the only one to do the work.

In visiting seven congregations one could not have missed noticing out of a seven Sabbath schools and Christian Endeavors offered by Missouri Valley College this week.

Very recently one of our students has been the builder of three churches, two in Missouri (one of which is new strong) and one in Tennessee; and still another has completed a church in Illinois, which will be dedicated June 10, 1900.

Last September the Lexington Presbytery of the Missouri Synod laid the cornerstone of our graduate, Rev. J. C. Worley, with his young wife, see Florence Clemens, as missionaries to Japan, where they are now working with a number of missionary truths. Missouri Valley College has educated one Japanese student, Mr. Ake, and a second is now attending our school.

Mr. John and Arthur Hall and Mrs. Anse Hall, children of our missionaries in Japan, have also received their education with us.

As said before, these facts are given to show that the work of college and church are one in purpose.

The church, the missionary society and the college will extend to you a most cordial welcome and will join with you in impulses of missionary truths in these young minds, upon whose work the future of the church depends.

Miss N. C. Bishop.
Marshall, Mo.

For Sale:
Two registered red polled bullocks.
N. N. Ruff, two miles west of Marshall.