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Letter, 1895, July 29, Carrie Chapman Catt to Dear friend [Martha McClellan Brown]

Carrie Chapman Catt

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July 29, 1895.

Dear friend:—

In the Women's Journal and in the Women's Tribune, you have doubtless noticed the report of the Organization Committee of the National-American Woman Suffrage Association.

In the last three months it has held 180 meetings and has added 1,000 members to our Association. Yet much of this work was done in the hardest of all fields, the South. The results are therefore not as great when expressed in figures as they would be from any other part of the United States. We are determined at the next Convention to be able to bring in a report that every State and Territory in the Union has a good working organization.

We are also determined to aid, by way of organization, all the weak States who are willing to accept our aid. We are also anxious to help the States of Idaho, California and New York, where Woman Suffrage is pending, with the work of organization. Our plans are laid to do a great work before the winter months, and we are moving ahead with the same confidence we should have if in our hands we held the necessary funds to carry them out. But the fact is that our organization fund has run very low and we must have many hundred dollars to be able to pay the necessary bills this work will entail. Yet, so firmly do we believe that the friends of Woman Suffrage will come to the aid of our Committee in its efforts to build up our organization in the United States, that we are working in perfect confidence of success.

Beginning with September 1st., we shall send to every local club in the United States a monthly Bulletin which shall be complete with suggestions for work, programmes and letters to inspire the discouraged. We believe this new enterprise will prove a powerful weapon in the work of keeping local clubs alive and active.

We propose to send this Bulletin free to the President of every local club with the request that she will present it to the club.

We appeal to You to aid us in this necessary work. We are ready to accept any sum from $1.00 upwards. We must have $2,000 more to complete the work of the year. Can you not find others to join you in sending us a sum to aid in the work of organization?

Kindly let us hear from you as soon as possible. We need the money now. Make the sum as generous as you can and be sure the results at the end of the year will prove your money has been wisely invested. We have a righteous cause, let us stand by it.

Yours sincerely,

Chm. Com. on Organization.