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REPORT.

1880.

The Church in this Diocese had good reason to be startled and aroused by the deficiency announced in the Statement of the Treasurer, made up to the 1st May, 1880,—a deficiency in the account for the general purposes of the Society of nearly \$6,000. It is true that a large portion of this amount was due a year ago. Then an over-estimate was made of the annual contributions. Various circumstances rendered it undesirable, and, in many instances, impossible, to make any reduction in the appropriations, or to lay any greater charge upon the Parishes. Sufficient notice on this subject has now been afforded. By this time it is fully known, in every Parish and Mission in the Diocese, that the Society must necessarily reduce its annual expenditure, and that from local sources larger offerings must be required. Although it was found necessary to refuse all applications for additional Missions, those on the schedule fully occupied more than absorbed the means at the disposal of the Society for the past year.

This over-expenditure, however much to be deprecated, could, under all the circumstances, have hardly been avoided without inflicting a greater injury. It must go no further. The amount over-drawn must, as soon as possible, be restored. Funds devised or pledged for the maintenance of the Church in the future, as well as in the present, must be held sacred. Parishes, for many years, receiving largely from the central fund, with comparatively little return, must now be made to feel that this state of things cannot go on. At all hazards a considerable increase in the local contributions must be made. When the members of the Church, in any Parish, abundantly able to give increased support for the Clergyman, refuse to do so, the sad alternative of a closed Mission,