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AMERICA.

The Society's Missions in the BRITISH WEST-INDIES continue to present an unfavourable aspect. The deteriorating influences which have been at work in these Colonies, since the alteration in the duties on sugar, still prove a serious counteraction to Missionary operations. Increasing poverty is injurious to the spiritual interests of the people, by absorbing many of them to such an extent in cares and anxieties respecting outward things, that they become negligent of the public ordinances of Religion; and, from the same cause, the pecuniary receipts of the Missions are so considerably diminished as to render it necessary to contract the sphere of Missionary effort just at the juncture when the peculiar circumstances of the people require for them increased, instead of diminished pastoral attention and care. The Committee have made as liberal grants towards supplying the deficiency in the Local Receipts as the state of the Society's Funds would allow, but they are not able wholly to meet the emergency of the case. In the Local Reports from the several Districts, there is much that is encouraging. In many places there is a gracious work in progress, and the efficacy of the Gospel Ministry in the conversion of Sinners fron the error of their ways is delightfully apparent; but the good which has been affected has been so overbalanced by the oppressive evils which prevail, that a very considerable diminution in the aggregate number of Churchmembers in the British West-Indies is the painful result.

In British North America, the Missions are gradually, but steadily advancing in influence and importance, and bid fair,