

without increasing to any appreciable extent the Society's liabilities, the Board being more than ever convinced of the urgent necessity of adhering to the Resolution above mentioned: for they feel that they cannot express too strongly their apprehensions as to the future of the Church in this Diocese, so long as the stipends of the Rural Clergy are suffered to remain insufficient for the bare necessities of their position. Already has this painful cause obliged several of the Clergy to quit the Diocese, and seek elsewhere a sphere of usefulness; and it is the deliberate conviction of your Board, that unless measures be speedily adopted to rectify this pressing evil, the time is not far distant when many a Mission, which now enjoys the Ministrations of the Church, will have to mourn the loss of its Pastor.

How best to enforce, as of Divine obligation, the duty of every Mission to provide, according to its ability, for its own spiritual necessities, is a question which has repeatedly engaged the consideration of the Board. Every discussion of the subject has only tended to confirm the Board in the conviction, that any measure, to be truly effective and sufficiently comprehensive to meet the requirements of the Diocese, must proceed from the Church at large. But whilst it may be proper to leave the solution of this question to the collective wisdom of the Church in Synod assembled, meantime, your Board would respectfully suggest, that in every instance where a Mission shall be found to have failed in contributing the amount promised towards the support of the Missionary, immediate inquiries be made as to the cause of the non-fulfilment by the proper authorities.

It will be in the recollection of the Society, that last year a Memorial was forwarded to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, on the subject of a commutation of the present claims of the Church in this Diocese, on a basis similar to that adopted by the Provincial Government in the case of the Clergy Reserves, which, if acceded to, would secure in permanence to the Church, at least, a moiety of her present income. To this Memorial an answer was returned; but as it