

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1868.

Under the existing circumstances of the diocese, missionary labor, which is the first of the objects embraced in the constitution of the Society, demands the chief share of the attention of the Central Board. The department of missions, however, having been entrusted to the management of the *Diocesan* Board, the Central Board begs to refer the Society to the report of that body, presented herewith, which, with its appendix, contains full information respecting the work committed to its charge. The share of the Central Board in that work relates at present mainly to the supply of the means for carrying it on: and while acknowledging with thankfulness the result of a recent effort made among the congregation of the Cathedral Church, which has materially increased those means, the Board is bound to state that so far from having been able to extend its operations, it has not been in a position to afford to the *Diocesan* Board the assistance which it had been encouraged to expect two years ago. Early in 1867, the sum of \$1000 was voted to missions from the general fund of the Society, of which only one half was paid during that year. The state of the funds rendered it impossible to renew the grant during the past year, and it is only within the last few days that the treasurer has been enabled to pay the balance due on account of the grant of 1867.

A reference to the early history of the Society will shew that one of the objects which its founders expressly proposed to themselves was to supply the deficiency which was even then making itself felt, arising from the withdrawal of the aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. How much more strongly such a ground may now be urged, and how vain it is to indulge any hope, even if it were right in principle to do so, of continuing to depend upon any resources but our own, will appear from the letter recently received from the Secretary of the S. P. G., and appended to the report of the *Diocesan* Board. The absolute necessity of a farther reduction of that Society's expenditure