

REPORT.

THE Executive Committee, before entering upon a Report of their proceedings, during the year 1856, invite all the members of the Society to unite in ascribing thanks and praise to Almighty God for His past blessings. "Except the Lord build the house, their labor is but lost that build it." Whatever success has attended our efforts is to be imputed solely to the aid and protection of Divine Providence. Our duty is to be thankful that we are allowed to be the instruments for continuing upon earth the work of Christ's Church, and to use our privilege with all diligence.

Our Holy Exemplar, while among men, went about doing good to their bodies and souls. He has left us a pattern of self-denying love, as well as of purity and holiness, to be imitated by all his followers. It was one of the primary objects of this Society to unite all members of the Church in love and Christian charity. Let us then revert as nearly as possible to that blessed time when "Believers were of one heart and of one soul," inspired with a common ardor in one great enterprise, and with common cordiality and zeal contributing to its promotion.

The experience of the past year tends still more forcibly to impress the Executive Committee with the great importance of this Society, with regard to the future existence of the Church in this Diocese, and they wish to convey the same impression to the mind of each of its members.

Although the Society has grown and increased, although it has spread and taken root in all parts of the Province, yet it must be considered but in its infancy. It still needs for its welfare the warmest support and most cordial co-operation of all its members. It requires now, perhaps, more than at any other period of its existence, the prudence and wisdom of its directors. For the many demands for assistance which will be made as the S. P. G. withdraws its aid, will render it no easy task to distribute our limited income to the best advantage.

It is to be hoped that a feeling of selfishness will not be manifested, but that each parish will now do all in its power for the general good of our Church, although deriving no immediate return. The Society, on its part, will, as its funds permit, gladly assist those who are willing but unable to support their own burden.

The Executive Committee has been able to sustain the usual engagements of the Society, and somewhat to extend its operations; and they submit the following account of their proceedings:—