In the next place the receipts from the Mission Fund are \$845 less than last year.

As a consequence of this decrease in two important sources of revenue, the balance in hand with which your Board began operations last year has been almost entirely expended, notwithstanding the fact that in 1878 the funds of the Board were strengthened by a grant of \$1970.40 from the Clergy Trust—more than double the amount lost to the Diocese by the dimunition of the S. P. G. Grant.

The payments for Stipends have been \$801 more than in 1877, a result which cannot fail to give satisfaction, inasmuch as it implies the full resumption of the ministrations of the Church in places unavoidably deprived for a time of a resident clergyman.

As the vacancies in those Missions have only been filled during a part of the past year, and there are still two without a clergyman, your Board anticipates a very considerable increase in its expenditure during the current year.

In referring to the falling off in the assessments received up to December 31st last, and the dimunition from the Mission Fund, it is obvious that, to a certain extent, at least, the same cause accounts for both, viz., the long continued depression in commercial interests of every description, equally affecting the merchant, the manufacturer, and the farmer; but there is this distinction which your Board desires to press upon the congregations receiving its aid that whereas subscriptions to the Mission Fund are entirely voluntary, an obligation rests upon every Churchman in a Mission to pay his subscription towards the assessment. A feeling of honour as an individual member of the Church, a desire to sustain the credit of the Mission to which he belongs and some sense of acknowledgment for the benefits in which he participates, all unite in constituting a strong obligation from which no man can endeavour to free himself without a sacrifice of sound principle.

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