

have supplied the machinery rendered necessary by the altered circumstances of the Diocese, the Laity will show themselves not less liberal nor less zealous in her maintenance than the Laity of other Dioceses. The question which, in the judgment of the Board, at this time takes precedence of all others is how best to secure the efficiency and permanency of the Church's Ministrations in this Diocese. Questions which have agitated other portions of the religious world relative to the comparative excellencies of different systems, find no room for discussion here ; where, if founded at all, the Church must stand sustained by the willing efforts of her own children, and where nevertheless the deep poverty of her widely scattered communion precludes the expectation of any considerable number of Rural Missions being able for many years to come to support themselves. Here, then, they who are in favor of an Endowed Church, who point to endowment as the principle on which the Churches of all countries and of all ages have been founded, and they who regard the Voluntary principle as best adapted to develop and sustain the energies alike of clergy and laity, may work harmoniously together, in furtherance of a system common to them both, the only system, of which our circumstances admit, and one which our exigencies have already put into operation by the creation of the Diocesan Board. The means entrusted to the Board for securing the well-being and maintenance of the Church are (1) the General Sustentation Fund, and (2) the Revenue Account or Mission Fund, as it is more generally called. It is highly important that the precise objects of these two funds should be kept prominently before the Church. The object of the General Sustentation Fund is to anticipate as far as possible the withdrawal of the annual grant of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel ; or in other words to become the nucleus of a Diocesan Endowment Fund, when the Society shall no longer extend to us its aid. The object of the Mission Fund is to supplement the deficiency occasioned by the periodic