

dition of things, which, if unchecked, must tend to lower the present standard of ministerial efficiency—not to speak of the hardships which it entails upon the clergy now working in the Diocese—your Board appealed to churchmen to raise for the past year an additional sum of \$1500, which would have enabled the Diocesan Board to add \$50 to the stipend of each Missionary in Priest's orders. It is needless for the Board to repeat the regret with which they learn that in place of any increase there is so large a deficiency in the receipts of the Mission Fund. It is quite impossible with due regard to the welfare of the Diocese that the revenues of the Clergy should remain at their present insufficient standard. Your Board trust therefore that at the ensuing Annual Meeting of the Society energetic measures may be taken to increase permanently the revenues of the Clergy. Last year on application of the Diocesan Board, your Board granted \$1000 for the purpose of giving a bonus to the Clergy on a scale regulated according to length of service in the Diocese, and this year they have ventured to do the same, though to do so has necessitated the appropriation of nearly the whole amount to the credit of the General Fund. But whilst your Board have cheerfully responded to the application of the Diocesan Board, they are confident that churchmen generally will agree with them in thinking that the system of granting a bonus annually to the Clergy is not one that should be continued longer than necessity requires. It will be observed that another year has gone by without the Board receiving any amounts for transmission to the Missionary Societies engaged in evangelizing the heathen nations of the world. This important object which is included amongst the leading works specified in the Society's constitution may be beyond the present strength of churchmen in this diocese, but certainly whilst we are doing nothing towards conveying the Gospel to the heathen, we ought not to be content without exerting ourselves to the very utmost to support the Church's ministrations within our own borders with more generosity than is apparent in the Mission Fund for the year.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

The amount of voluntary contributions to this fund for the past year is considerably in advance of that of the two preceding years. For the past four years the claims on this fund have fallen considerably short of the amount of voluntary contributions, whilst the annual interest accruing from the funded capital, reaches, according to the last statement, \$1578 00.