

souls. But whilst we speak of our Mission Fund, and how we are crippled from the deficiency of our resources, I would remind you that there may be another deficiency, which is still more sure to check our work. Perhaps we are not looking upwards for God's blessing, forgetting that whilst we sow and water, He, and He alone, can give the increase. We may swell our Church revenue, we may double the number of our Missions, we may strengthen our band of clergy, we may seem to prosper in all directions, but let us ever bear in mind—I am afraid we are apt to lose sight of it—let us ever bear in mind that it is only by the almighty power of God that we can do the real work of Christ, and build up His kingdom.

CONFIRMATIONS.

During the past year I have held thirty-one Confirmations, and admitted five hundred persons to full Church membership. I think the clergy understand that I am ready to visit their parishes, either for Confirmation or for any other purpose, whenever they desire my presence, so that I can do so consistently with other engagements. Our Confirmations are to me increasingly interesting, and I would fain hope increasingly useful. I cannot speak too highly of the pains taken by the clergy and the labour expended, in preparing candidates for this holy rite; and I think they feel with me that of all the ordinances of our Church none is more blest than this for the awakening and nurturing of spiritual life among our congregations. I believe that there are advantages in Confirmation yet to be developed, and that almost all our parochial work may well centre round it, as the definite point from which spiritual good may radiate.

ORDINATIONS.

The number of Ordinations during 1873 has been sadly small. I ordained on Trinity Sunday and at Christmas but two Deacons and three Priests. I hope that I shall never again have to record so scanty an accession to our ministerial ranks. Indeed there is a far brighter prospect in this respect before us.

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.

The Church now possesses in this Diocese a Theological College, which many *already* admit, and which all will I believe *one day* admit, to be one of the most useful organizations which have ever been introduced into the Diocese. It was opened for the admission of students in September last, and has, I am thankful to say, succeeded even beyond my expectations. At the close of the last term there were ten students, and some of them were of great promise for future usefulness in the Ministry. I am fortunate in having secured for the important post of Principal a clergyman eminently fitted for the work he has undertaken; and under his wise and able superintendence, a feeling of confidence has been established in the Diocese, and a system of training for Holy Orders has been introduced, which must tell beneficially on the future character and capabilities of our younger clergy. One of the Students was admitted to the Order of Deacons on Trinity

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