

The present condition of the Fund may be shortly stated thus—

Amount already invested - - - -	£1350
“ on hand to be invested - - - -	143
Making a capital sum of nearly - - - -	£1500
The expenditure during the year has been—	
Annuity to one widow - - - -	£20 0 0
Postages, stationery and incidental charges -	7 11 3

From this short statement it will be seen that this Fund, although in its infancy at present, is likely to become one of very great importance to the Church, if properly managed and supported in a liberal spirit by the people. It is quite evident that the contribution of Ministers as individuals are, considering their very limited means, fully as much as can be expected from them. But it is the opinion of this Board that if the claims of this scheme, upon the members of the Church are fairly submitted and zealously advocated the Congregational Collections, instead of equalling, as they now do, the individual contributions of Ministers would more likely double them.

During the past year three Ministers have in the Providence of God been removed by death, and two of them have left Widows with large families, each having six children.

Both of these cases have lately been considered by the Board, and decided upon in accordance with the plan submitted to the Synod last year.

In the one case, that of the Widow of the late Rev. Jno. Smith of Beckwith, she was at once placed upon that Fund, which is composed of Ministers' Individual Contributions, for an annuity of £10 a-year, and upon that Fund which is composed of Congregational Collections for an annuity of £6 a-year, making in all £16 a-year.

In the other case, that of the Widow of the late Rev. Jno. Dickey of Williamsburgh, she was in like manner at once placed upon that Fund, which is composed of Ministers' Individual Contributions, for an annuity of £10 a-year, and upon that Fund which is composed of Congregational Collections for an annuity of £5 a-year, making in all £15 a-year.

It will be in the recollection of the Synod that the Board last year submitted a graduated scale, by which it was proposed that where the average of Congregational Collections amounted to £3, a-year, the annuity to widows and orphans should be £10 a-year, when the average amounted to

£6 the annuity should be £15

9 “ 20

12 “ 25

this scale being as it should be, very much in favour of the small Congregations, for instance

A payment of £3 secures an annuity of £10, or £3, 6, 8, for each £1 paid.

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