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"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—PS. 137: 5.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

IN the September number of the *Record*, an interesting report is published under the above heading; but, instead of being able to state that a balance of two hundred dollars was on hand, the sum should be twice as many thousand dollars. The fault, of course, is the fault of the Church at large. We question if many of the readers of the *Record*, or of the Church in general, have ever given themselves for a moment to the serious consideration of the fact that we, the Church of Scotland in the Maritime Provinces, are the only Church in the British Empire by which no provision is made for the widows and orphans of her deceased ministers. In the Mother Church the matter is taken up, and when, in the providence of God, a minister is taken away from earth, his dying moments are not embittered with the thought that those whom he loved dearer than life itself are to be thrown upon the charities of the world. He knows that ample provision is made by the Church, so that they can be maintained respectably, the widow during her widowed lifetime, and the orphans till they are able to maintain themselves. The Great Head of the Church has dealt kindly with us in the past, but at the present moment we can look round upon many a faithful labourer in the vineyard, whose family, were he removed, would be left in utter destitution. For, here are the facts of the case. We will say that the income of a clergyman is a thousand dollars a year, or, let us put that sum in more British terms, two hundred and fifty pounds. Out of that meagre sum,—and there are more stipends below than there are above that figure,—we shall say that a family has to be fed and clad respectably, charity lists headed, Churches encouraged in weak congregations, and a thousand calls from the poor and the aged in a small way, of which all others except the minister are supremely and blissfully unconscious. Let us ask our business men, with their thousands and tens of thousands of pounds in Bank stock, and our farmers, with their flourishing farms and well crammed barns, if there is the slightest possibility of saving a farthing. No; if they make "the two ends meet," they do marvels. They don't complain. Our ministers are the most uncomplaining men of the community; but even if they don't, we do not deem it right that the Church, for whose benefit these men spend their lives, should make no pro-