

look forward with hope to the time when, by the increased support given to our Diocesan Church Society, the general interest taken by every layman in his own parish and mission, and the aid of moderate endowments, arising from benefactions of the living, or the bequests of those who are called to give account of their stewardship, we may become with unqualified satisfaction to ourselves and to others an entirely self-sustaining Church.

But I gladly turn to that advice which it is my duty to give you as a body of clergy whom God has given into my care. We must thankfully acknowledge that we are spared the trials which fell upon the clergy in former times. But your Bishop is, I hope, the last man who would underrate or fail to sympathize with the trials of the clergy in our own day; yet perhaps the smallness and uncertainty of clerical incomes is not the greatest of the trials of a priest. From one serious trouble, the expense of outfit when he enters on the work of a mission, the missionary is to a certain extent released, or at all events he is greatly assisted, by the loan of \$250 made by the Church Society without interest, to be repaid in moderate sums. With occasional donations granted by loving parishioners, and due care and forethought, a clergyman, if he be prudent, may keep out of debt. But only if he be prudent. Those who engage in early marriages before they have earned anything for their own support, and those who indulge in unnecessary expenses, cannot, on our limited incomes, keep out of debt. And debt is demoralizing as well as depressing. It is sure to lead to borrowing, and borrowing often supposes heavy interest, and interest supposes shifts and contrivances and all manner of uncomfortable practices, a doubtful morality and a heavy heart. To the younger clergy I unhesitatingly say, it is your duty not to marry until from your own income you have laid by something towards the maintenance of your household and the comfort of those who reasonably look to you for support. For the greater part of those who begin life in debt carry it on to the end, and harass their own minds and the minds of others by want of prudence at an early period. But after all, is not the greatest trial of a clergyman's life in himself? We who are called by the Church to the office and work of priests in the Church of God, who do not shrink from the awful responsibility of the message committed by our Lord to His Apostles, and through them conveyed to us, had need often to ponder in our hearts the words which no subtlety of