

industrious labor, they acquire enough to supply their wants, and also to aid in the support of the ministry of the word.

It cannot be expected that the responsibility of securing to such the ordinances of religion should rest on the people of these provinces altogether. Thus the Committee, while they most thankfully acknowledge the grants already so liberally made to these countries by the societies in England, would remark that so long as these provinces continue to be a *home* for thousands of the surplus population of the old country; the wealthy and the well-to-do there should not think of withdrawing their support. The principle, however, of gradually withdrawing their aid from the Colonies, and leaving us to depend entirely upon our own resources, seems now to be fairly recognized by the societies at home. The question, therefore, now begins to assume an importance which will no longer bear to be postponed or passed lightly by; the question must, ere long, be "How is the Church to be sustained in this Island?" The Committee feel that they would be unfaithful to the charge committed to them—viz: to give, in this Annual Report, a true account of the Church's prospects and operations in this Island—did they not also express their *fears* that, unless some decided steps be taken to meet an exigency that must sooner or later arise, consequences will ensue which are not to be contemplated but with feelings of pain. What then is to be done? Is another year to be allowed to pass ere some decided action shall be taken to originate, at least, a scheme whereby the Church in this Island shall, in due time, be rendered independent of all extraneous aid?

Before the Committee present the Reports received from the several clergy of the Island of their respective parishes, they would notice, with sentiments of the most cordial satisfaction, the *labor* which has been bestowed by the missionaries generally in the repairing, enlarging, and decorating the churches in which they respectively minister. Considering, generally speaking, the limited means of those among whom they are placed, the amount of