

Another index of the prosperity which has attended the work of the Church in this District, is to be found in self-sustentation.

The Mission of Richmond and Melbourne ceases, at the close of the year, to be any longer a recipient of aid from the Diocesan Board, the people of this mission assume the responsibility of sustaining for the future the ministrations of the Church amongst themselves. Add to this the spirit manifested by the people of Compton to contribute the whole of the clergymen's salary when they were last required by the Board to raise their assessment, and we find additional evidence of the Church's advancement. These are omens for good, and may well cheer less privileged missions which are still under the fostering care of the Diocesan Board, and raise the hopes of the waste places of the district which have hitherto, in vain, asked for assistance. Your Committee find in the measure of success which has attended the operations of this association cause for thankfulness and hope. Thankfulness that our work begun in faith, with at first but small encouragement, has prospered beyond our expectation,—hope that in the provision which is made for the religious instruction of our people, each anniversary will find that we are keeping pace with the Church's wants and recognizing our responsibilities. The more our people become acquainted with the actual wants and necessities of the Church the more liberally will they bestow a portion of their means to meet them, and this involves the duty on all the members of the Association of taking an active part in acquiring and in disseminating that information which will have the happy result of building up the Church of God.

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