

five hundred thousand in grammar and arithmetic, and we care not whether it come out of our tea, sugar, molasses or soap—it shall be paid with benisons.

The next item is a little matter of \$33,360, being the government grant to Literary and Scientific Institutions; in which are included 130 Mechanics' Institutes, 23 other literary and scientific associations and libraries, and 2 conservatories. This is a very wholesome item, provided these institutions are unable to support themselves, which in most of the smaller towns appears to be the case. Times are hard and money scarce, and it is just now if ever that a little wholesome support is needed, if these institutions are to be kept afloat; and therefore, divining with their wonted sagacity, it is just at this opportune moment that the government have discovered the beautiful theory, that "every tub should stand on its own bottom," and have deduced therefrom the propriety of withdrawing their support from these literary tubs generally, and allowing them to stand or fall upon their own resources. What have our mechanics to do with literature and science in times like these, when they have quite enough to do to satisfy their physical frailties with potatoes and pantaloons? For our part we can't for the life of us divine. If they wish to cultivate their minds and to revel in the arts, there are the news-vendors' windows big with literature, and radiant with wood-cuts; if they desire to while away an evening, are not the saloons open to them?

Our Charities assume moderate dimensions, and evince no symptoms of prodigality, amounting to \$194,988. This embraces twenty-three hospitals, ten orphan asylums, and two houses of industry. So that our provisions for disease and sickness would appear to be praiseworthy—for the fatherless and foundling satisfactory—but for industrious and healthy poverty contemptible. If this should meet the eye of any of the begging community, we would suggest to them as a new and telling plea to employ in their next expedition: *sir*, Canada supports but two Houses of Industry.

Next come the Geological survey \$19,566—a contribution to science and future progress which few but anti-progressionist old ladies and marines will be disposed to cavil with; the militia \$162,351—a national armed force for a hundred and sixty thousand dollars; Arts, Agriculture and Statistics, \$24,616; and Agricultural Societies, \$111,032; this latter sum affording aid to fifty-three societies in Canada West, and fifty-five in Canada East. Then we have emigration, \$50,000; Pensions, \$45,000—principally to judges, militia officers, and superannuated parliamentary officials; Indian annuities, \$31,000; and public works, \$720,000—comprising repairs and erections of custom houses, post offices, court-houses, bridges, canals, and the marine hospital at Quebec, which is rather a large item, amounting to over \$23,000.