

sense of that gentleman's politeness; and of his attention to the interests of the poor through the medium of this Institution,

There has been paid into the hands of your Treasurer during the year, exclusive of the Legislative Grant, the sum of £196 15 3, being *One Hundred and Twenty-two Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Ten Pence Halfpenny less than the preceding year.* The Balance in his hands this day is £14 10 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The objection which is unceasingly reiterated by those who labour for an excuse against assisting the exertions of any benevolent institution, viz. "that among the promiscuous multitude of objects, many undeserving and improper persons are relieved,"—has not unfrequently, during the past year, been brought against the Halifax Poor Man's Friend Society. To this your Committee conceive it impossible to make a more pertinent reply than in the following answer, given to the same objection by their predecessors in office; and which is extracted from the Society's Report of last year. "Although the Committee are not prepared to deny that some improper objects may possibly have obtained a little relief from the Funds, yet they are satisfied that the existence of the Society has been a great blessing to that part of the Community in general, whose poverty has not been the consequence of indolence but of misfortune, and many of these have shewn, by their expressions of gratitude and respect, that they are not insensible to the favors received from the higher classes of Society, through the medium of this charitable Institution."

It has been the anxious wish of your Committee that the Visitors should relieve with the greatest caution every individual upon the books of the Society; yet it is not impossible that even during the past year some impositions may have been practised; but with all its imperfections—and where is there to be found any merely human institution free from them?—your Committee hesitate not to express their own conviction, without wishing in the least to lessen the worth and utility of other Societies, that there has not been such extensive relief afforded to the poor of this town with the Funds of any pre-existent charitable Institution, as from the expenditure of an equal sum by the Halifax Poor Man's Friend Society.

Your Committee in resigning their office, wish to remark, that as the Almoners of the Society they have been permitted the "luxury of doing good," and they would charitably hope there cannot be a Subscriber to its Funds, even to the most trifling extent, but will partake of that luxury, when informed by your Committee that but for the supplies afforded through the means of the Society, some, perhaps many, of his fellow-creatures, would, during the last winter, have fallen victims to want, in its most distressing shapes of cold and hunger.

In addition your Committee have only to say, that in their

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