

*strengthen him upon the bed of languishing : thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.*—*Psalm 41, ver. 1, 2 and 3.*

To an objection, however, frequently made against charitable institutions, that they have a tendency to encrease pauperism, your Committee would, before they conclude their Report, make the following reply.—“ There is a line of distinction which both reason and religion point out.—When charitable aid encourages indolence, and diminishes or destroys responsibility to be industrious and frugal, its tendency is obviously pernicious ; but where it only relieves the distresses of the infirm and impotent who are unable to resort to labour, or provides the means of being industrious, to those who are constitutionally able to support themselves by corporal exertion, they cannot see that it offers any incitement to idleness and vice.”

The Government of this Society is in a Committee of twenty Gentlemen annually chosen by and from among the subscribers, who also elect a Treasurer and Secretary.—The Committee have divided Halifax into seventeen wards, and from time to time, appoint two gentlemen as Visitors to each, whose duty it is to become acquainted with every case of distress therein, by visiting through it occasionally during the month they are in office, bestowing such relief as the nature of the case requires ; to meet the Sub-Committee (which consists of four members of the Committee, the Treasurer and Secretary) on the evening previous to the monthly meeting of the Committee ; to pay in the amount of collections made by them during the month ; to render an account of the cases relieved by them, together with the nature and extent of relief given ; and to receive the amount of the same from the Treasurer, who is directed by the Sub-Committee to pay it. The Committee meet on the evening of the first Thursday in every month, to receive from the Sub-