

Allowing that the extra expenses of a beginning, would bring the amount of the first year's expense to a charge of \$50,000 upon the State Treasury, here would be an economy at once to that Treasury, from the expenses of 1850, of \$53,987.

Another advantage would be, that the State could arrange for forwarding new comers to distant homes, or sending them back to their old homes when necessary; measures which the towns cannot take.

The State could also collect all forfeits due on bonds, which in many cases now, are left uncollected, the town authorities not knowing they are due. Again, the sending of these poor people about unnecessarily, would be wholly at an end.

So much for the relief to the State's Treasury. There would be this relief to its conscience, that, when taking two dollars from each of these poor people on his arrival, its promise to take care of him in need would mean something definite.

It will be understood of course, that this measure does not relieve a person not now relieved, of necessity, under our cumbrous and complicated system. It only simplifies the responsibility.

Turning to the town treasuries and consciences, it will be observed:—

That there will be an end of introduction of paupers from the rest of New England greater than is met by their outgoing from Massachusetts:

That traveling expenses within the State is saved:

That the accounts will be greatly simplified:

That no persons need be supported in the Poor Houses but those well known in the towns:

That there is an end to the present temptation to keep *foreign paupers idle*, so that the towns may draw, for them, on the State Treasury.*

With all these savings effected to the towns, it cannot be doubted that their charges for the paupers not under the care of the State would be lessened also, from those they now bear.

The State would know what it was doing. The towns would know what they were doing.

Under the present inaction of the Federal Government in this matter, I do not see but it would still be necessary to send to New York or other States, paupers who have arrived there and paid their head-money there, and to receive from them

*A town in the western part of the State, some years since, forfeited its claim for twenty-five dollars from the State treasury, for support of an old woman, because it was proved *she could rock a cradle!* The decision was doubtless correct under the law.