

*ABSTRACT OF THE FUNDAMENTAL RULES BY WHICH THE
ASSOCIATION IS TO BE GOVERNED.*

1. To consider each applicant for relief as entitled to charity until a careful examination proves the contrary.
2. To give relief only after a personal investigation of each case, by visitation and enquiry.
3. To relieve no one except through the visitor of the section in which the applicant lives.
4. To give the necessary articles, and only what is immediately necessary.
5. To give what is least susceptible of abuse.
6. To give only in small quantities, and in proportion only to immediate need ; and of coarser quality than might be procured by labor, except in cases of sickness.
7. To give assistance at the right moment ; not to prolong it beyond the duration of the necessity which calls for it ; but to extend, restrict and modify relief according to that necessity.
8. To require of each beneficiary abstinence from intoxicating liquors as a drink ; of such as have young children of a proper age that they be kept at school, unless prevented by unavoidable circumstances ; and that those of suitable years be apprenticed to some trade, or sent to service. The design being to make the poor parties to their own improvement and elevation ; the wilful violation or disregard of these rules shall debar them from further relief.
9. To give no aid to persons who, from infirmity, imbecility, old age, or any other cause, are likely to continue unable to earn their own support, and consequently to be permanently dependent, except in extreme cases, for two or three days, or until they can be referred to the Commissioners of the Poor, or to the churches to which they belong.

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