

district. Great is the cunning found in the school of vice; and we need a prophylactic benevolence in order to defend us from the designs of the vultures of human society.

"The poor ye have always with you" is as true now as when spoken by the Master nearly nineteen centuries ago. The poor must be looked after, and any church or community which neglects this duty is marked for a blight.

Let us set forth for the readers of *THE HOMILETIC REVIEW* a plan which we found did good work to prevent fraud and waste, and, at the same time, furnished a very simple method to secure a correct auditing of the accounts.

Let it be premised, however, that no plan can work itself. There is no more an easy road of safely distributing money than there is an easy way of honestly accumulating it.

In any church or society there must be secured a corps of visitors who will agree to enter upon the campaign with system and patience, and the more of Christian grace and grit the better.

There must also be a districting of the neighborhood; and it will be all the more important if the churches combine, or, at least, if at appointed times committees from the different churches and societies in a district or ward meet and compare notes as to the families who are receiving aid. This precaution will tend to break up the schemes of the "rounders," and uncover the tracks of the dishonest.

Let the Church select a grocery-store, a dry-goods store, and a shoe-store to which orders are to be sent. But it will simplify the matter if shoes can be ordered from the store which furnishes the dry goods. Such stores are generally willing to help the cause of the needy by selling at cost, or nearly so, upon the society's orders.

Then let it be understood that in no case is money to be given.

It is usually best for the visitors to go out in the New Testament order—two and two together.

Let all the visitors be supplied with

blank orders—some for the dry-goods store, some for the grocery-store, and some for the shoe-store. On the top of each of these orders is printed the name of the church or society which issues them, followed by the address of the store which receives the order and provides the goods. On the back of the order may be printed a list of the visitors who work in a given district, but this is not necessary, provided each store possesses a list of the names of parties authorized to sign the orders which are to be sent to that particular store. On the left side of the blank, printed in a perpendicular column, are the names of the different articles which the visitors may designate shall be furnished to the applicant who bears the order to the store. On the top of the blank should also be left a space to receive the name of the recipient. At the bottom is space for the summing up and for the name of the visitor who makes out the order. There should also be a limit assigned, beyond which an order is not to extend.

A visitor finds a family in need of various kinds of food. Let him or her write opposite to each article ordered the amount in money value, adding up the various sums and placing the total at the bottom, stating the limit of the order. Then let him or her draw the pencil or pen across the name of each article which is *not* ordered. Then let the visitor make out an exact duplicate—date and all—which he or she is to retain and file away. All of these orders should be numbered, the duplicate bearing the same number as the order taken by the beneficiary. The recipient, of course, uses the order he receives to enable him to obtain the needed relief, and the visitor retains the duplicate to act as a complete check upon the beneficiary, and to be used as a voucher in settling the accounts. Once a month, or once in three months, let the visitors hand in all their duplicates to the treasurer, and let the merchants who have supplied goods to the beneficiaries produce the orders they have received, and