

THE
Sixteenth Annual Report

OF THE

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION

FOR

Improving the Condition of the Poor,

FOR THE

YEAR 1882.

WITH A LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS, ETC.

ORGANIZED DECEMBER 27, 1866.

HALIFAX, N. S.:
NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY,
1883.

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YEAR 1885.

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ORGANIZED DECEMBER 27, 1868.

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NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY

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HALIFAX ASSOCIATION
FOR
Improving the Condition of the Poor.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President :

JOHN DOULL.

Vice-President :

W. H. NEAL.

Supervisors :

S. M. BROOKFIELD,

JAMES FORREST,

H. P. BURTON,

A. M. BELL.

Treasurer :

W. L. LOWELL.

Secretary :

DAVID BLACKWOOD.

Auditors :

S. M. BROOKFIELD,

JAMES FARQUHAR.

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REPORT.

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The Directors of the Halifax Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor beg to present the Sixteenth Annual Report. They have to acknowledge with thanks the donations made to the funds under their control, amounting to \$1356, particulars of which will be found in connection with the Treasurer's account.

DEATH OF THE TREASURER.

Our Association has met with a painful loss in the death of our esteemed Treasurer, whose careful and kindly interest in the work of the Association did so much to make it successful. No one could have a warmer heart toward the poor than W. S. Sterling, nor take a deeper interest in their welfare.

EARLY CLOSE OF THE STONE SHED.

During the winter of 1882, owing to the heavy storms, it was found impossible to procure a sufficient supply of stone to keep the men fully employed; nor was it found that there was such pressing necessity for it. On account of the weekly line of steamers arriving here, many labourers were able to procure remunerative employment. There were other openings for labourers; so that it was the general experience of the visitors that there were fewer cases of destitution than usual.

THE SOUP KITCHEN

was not opened last year, as it was found there existed a prejudice against using the soup, and the loss arising from

preparing quantities which remained unsold more than counterbalanced the benefits derived. It can only be managed with economy when a large quantity is daily prepared.

COAL AND BREAD.

Relief has been principally granted in these two great staples of existence in winter. It is a great boon to a poor family to get from time to time a little aid in the shape of these two important items of housekeeping, and, in the future, the Society's help will be granted in the largest proportion in these forms.

RECOMMEND A CHANGE FROM VOLUNTEER TO PAID VISITORS.

The Association is deeply indebted to many kind and painstaking visitors, who in time past have given time and sympathy to the cases to which their attention has been directed. But we have not been able in this busy age always to find such visitors. And it has come to the notice of the Directors that, in the hurry of business, applicants have been relieved without systematic visitation. Last year the matter was under consideration, but it was felt that the first of another season would be the best time to make a change.

It is therefore submitted for your approval that, instead of volunteer visitors, one or two paid agents be employed. If two suitable men can be found, the south district would extend as far north as Jacob and Cogswell Streets, and the north district the portion of the city north of that line, retaining the chairmen of districts as at present. The cost of two men for three months, it is estimated, would not exceed \$150.

ADVISORY BOARD.

To carry out this changed system, there would require along with the President, an Advisory Board, to meet in turn every morning to consult over difficult cases and to give the visitors full instructions how to act. The detail of their work can be arranged by the members of the Board.

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CHANGE OF BYE-LAWS.

The Bye-laws for the regulation of the work of the Association require to be changed. But as the work would be new to the Board, it seems desirable that the present Bye-laws be set aside and the new Board be authorized to make such Bye-laws as, after full consideration, may be found necessary.

AMOUNT DUE BY THE CITY.

It is matter of regret that the stone broken in the winters of 1881 and 1882 is yet unpaid for. It is hoped that at an early date this claim will be met. It is expected that in all fairness toward the work of the Association, provision will be made by the Board of Works to include a sum for interest equal to that which has been paid out by the Directors to the Union Bank for the use of this money.

CLOSE OF THE STONE SHED.

The thanks of the Directors are due to Mr. W. H. Neal for the deep interest which he has ever taken in superintending the work of the Stone Shed. But, taking into consideration the increased cost of the work when a smaller number of men are employed, the loss upon the price, and the delayed payment for the broken stone, it has been deemed advisable to close the Stone Shed in connection with the Association. It is, however, hoped that private arrangements will be made to have the Stone Shed carried on, and it is expected in that case, that employment will be found for all the applicants who may be sent there.

THE PRESS.

The thanks of the Directors are due to the Press of the City for the kindly aid which has always been extended to the work of our Association.

JOHN DOULL,

President.

STONE SHED REPORT FOR 1882.

Memo. of work at Stone Shed in February and March, 1882.

DATE.	No. of men employed.	Bushels of stone broken.	Paid for breaking.	Paid for stone.	Amount paid Overseers.	Sundry expenses.
Feb. 3		668	\$ 20 04	\$ 8 35	\$ 9 50	\$ 4 31
" 10		1580	47 40	19 75	11 00	
" 17		968	23 04	12 10	9 67	
" 24		738	22 14	8 90	9 00	
" 28		574	17 22	7 20	4 00	16 25
		4528	\$135 84	\$56 30	\$43 17	\$20 56

This report shows a much smaller quantity of stone broken than during any previous winter, partly on account of the very heavy snow storms in February and March, which rendered it almost impossible to keep the shed supplied with stone for breaking, and also on account of the loss the Association sustains in all the broken stone supplied to the City since the price was reduced from that originally paid. The City now owes the Association nearly \$3000, which, I am informed, cannot be paid until the present floating debt is funded; and although provision was made for the payment of this amount, yet it seems it has been appropriated for other purposes. I cannot undertake to be responsible for the collection of the amount due for broken stone supplied to the City, in addition to the other duties appertaining to the Stone Shed, and therefore ask to be relieved from my present position.

W. H. NEAL,
Chairman Stone Shed Com.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Dr. Halifax Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor in acct. with the Treasurer. **Cr.**

1881.			
Nov. 1.	To balance due Union Bank	.....	\$2032 84
	Aggregate payments to District		
	No. 1.	\$ 98 95	
	" 2.	176 05	
	" 3.	393 71	
	" 4.	280 16	
		-----	\$ 948 87
	N. S. Printing Co'y	.....	23 75
	Stone Shed	.....	276 45
	Int't on advances and overdrawn acct.	.....	159 37

			\$3441 28
1882.			
Dec. 12.	To balance due Union Bank	.....	\$2085 28
	By Subscriptions to date	.....	\$1356 00
	Balance due Union Bank	.....	2085 28

			\$3441 28

Examined and found correct. **S. M. BROOKFIELD, Auditors.**
JAMES FARQUHAR.
J. DOULL, Pro Treasurer.

NOTE.—Against the balance due the Bank above shown, there is due by the City Board of Works, for stone delivered in the summer of 1881, \$2812 64, and for broken stone in the summer of 1882, \$203 76, making a total of \$3016 40. The difference, \$913 12, represents bequests which have not been expended.

**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 liquor as a drink; of such as have young children of a proper age that they be kept at school, unless prevented by unavoidable circumstance; 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

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dependent, except in extreme cases, for two or three days, or until they can be referred to the Commissioners of the Poor, or the churches to which they belong.

10. To discontinue relief to all who manifest a purpose to depend on alms, rather than on their own exertions for support, and whose further maintenance would be incompatible with their good and the objects of the Institution.

IN all cases of want coming to the notice of the visitors, they will be expected to perform the same duties, although no application has been made. It shall be their duty moreover, to render a written report of their labors, and also an account of their disbursements, to their respective Supervisors, at the stated monthly meeting.

Most of the Rules will, doubtless, commend themselves at once to approval. As it respects others, the propriety of which may appear less obvious, the following explanations are offered:—

In the 9th Rule, the permanently dependent are not regarded as proper subjects for relief, because, if they should continue to be relieved, the entire funds of the Association would soon be exhausted in the support of a permanent list; and its primary objects—the elevation of the moral and physical condition of the poor—be defeated. Such persons should become a public charge, which is far preferable to reliance on incidental relief.

The 10th Rule refers to those who have become so pauperized in spirit by long-continued vagrancy or gratuitous relief, or so debased by other causes, that there is no hope of inciting them to self-support and to aid whom would encourage sin and indolence, and foster a great social evil.

The complaints of unrelieved applicants who have been sent to the Association should not be listened to, until they

CONTRIBUTIONS

TO

"Halifax Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor,"

1881-2.

His Lordship The Bishop of Nova Scotia	\$50 00	Lieut.-Col. Clark	\$10 00
E. F.	50 00	The Mayor	10 00
H. F. Worrall	50 00	Wm. Hedley	10 00
Deull & Miller	50 00	M. S. Brown	10 00
Sir Edward Kenny	50 00	R. W. Fraser	10 00
Jas. Thomson (Barrister)	50 00	Thos. Ritchie	10 00
J. P. Mott & Co.	50 00	Mrs. W. P. West	10 00
Sir Wm. Young	40 00	Mrs. C. E. Wiswell	10 00
J. A. Moren	40 00	P. Jack	10 00
John Gibson	40 00	Mrs. J. Northup	10 00
D. Cronan	25 00	Muir & Blackadar	10 00
Burns & Murray	25 00	Buckley & Allen	10 00
Edward Smith	25 00	J. Norman Ritchie	10 00
Mrs. Kinnear	25 00	Mrs. Norman Ritchie	10 00
J. C. Halliburton	25 00	A. Duffield	10 00
Duffus & Co.	25 00	P. Crichton	10 00
Wm. McCoy	20 00	L. Hart & Co.	10 00
Mrs. Edward Binney	20 00	Geo. Thomson	10 00
M. P. Black	20 00	T. B. Aikins	10 00
Judge Ritchie	20 00	J. R. Lithgow	10 00
Rev. Dr. Hill	20 00	Thos. M. Braine	5 00
Mrs. J. Donaldson	20 00	J. T. Wood	5 00
I. S. Murray & Co.	20 00	Rev. Dr. Pollok	5 00
Alex. McLeod	20 00	Hon. S. Creelman	5 00
T. A. Ritchie	20 00	Thos. Forhan	5 00
Hon. A. G. Archibald	20 00	"S."	5 00
T. S. Reid (Bermuda)	20 00	C. C. Blackadar	5 00
J. F. Avery	20 00	Hugh Elliott	5 00
T. E. Kenny	20 00	Mrs. L. A. Wilmot	5 00
H. Hesselein & Sons	15 00	Miss C. H. Black	5 00
Wm. Lawson	15 00	H. Y. C.	5 00
P. Ross	15 00	J. H. Symons	5 00
E. G. & C. Stayner	15 00	Mrs. W. B. Fairbanks	5 00
Friend	12 00	"Stranger"	5 00
C. J. Gibson	10 00	"Friend"	5 00
		M. S. R.	5 00

F. H. Rey
 Mrs. Tup
 H. Hartsh
 E. Boreha
 H. B. Pat
 C. A. Cre
 Mrs. Jelf
 W. Twini
 A. P. Rei
 J. Willis
 Levi Hart
 B. S.
 Mrs. Burr
 Jas. Thom

