

A Plea For the Poor.

This is a hard winter on business men, tradespeople and all classes who have to get their living by trade or labor. but the first to feel the teeth of the wolf of poverty gnawing into their vitals, are the quiet, modest, uncomplaining poor, who through age, sickness or lack of work are reduced to privation, and who being too spirited to beg are sometimes in very severe straits before they are found out and have their wants relieved by the charitable disposed or the churches. the churches.

These is in no city, we may venture to say, in the world, a people more kinder-hearted or ready to relieve distress, when they hear of it, or a people who will make more sacrifices for sweet charity's sake than the people of Fredericton. But the majority of them have enough to do to maintain a decent and comfortable competence and are taxed very heavily for the support of the poor, and they naturally ask:—Why do not the poor get the benefit of these taxes? The system of relief for the poor as practiced in Maine may be compared with ours, greatly to our shame and discredit. There, on application, if a family is in straitened circumstances, by reason of sickness lack of work or any other cause, the town in which they have acquired a residence is bound to support them in comfort until such time as they are in a position to help themselves.

How is it here?—the most the authorities will give in outside aid, no matter how large the family, is the magnificent sum of 50c. per week, and to even get that small pittance, they must submit to such insulting and cavalier treatment as no self-respecting person, no matter how poor could stand. Then again, where is the city doctor or the free dispensary of medicine for the sick poor? If they exist we have not heard of them. There are no class of men more humane or more willing to help the poor than our doctors, but that they can go to all cases, or leave a paying patient for a non-paying one could hardly be expected; and while the druggists have always done their full share in the free dispensing of medicines to the poor, if they gave in every case there would not be much profit left on their general sales.

It is time that an enlightened and humane mayor and council, (instead of embarking on wild-cat schemes that will tax the poor man beyond all ability to pay, and leave a legacy of debt to our children without any corresponding advantages,) should keep the expenditure strictly within the income, relieve as much as possible the heavily burdened tax-payers, and afford such relief to God's poor as is within their means and consistent with our standing as an intelligent and humane corporation.



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Borax being used in this Soap makes it the greatest dirt destroyer on earth.

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Dinner begins at 11, but meals will be furnished at any hour during the day.

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