

The Overseers of the Poor in submitting their annual report have to notice <sup>with deep regret</sup> the death of the late Master of the Work House - This dispensation of divine Providence has deprived the town of a faithful and vigilant officer; of one, whose humanity and kindness to those unfortunate persons committed to his care, has been evidenced by their strong feelings of sympathy towards him while suffering under lingering disease and their united endeavours to alleviate the additional burden of care and anxiety which necessarily fell to the lot of his afflicted wife. - In endeavouring to fill his place they have been actuated by the desire to obtain a person of sound discretion & equanimity of temper, of settled habits of <sup>temperance</sup> and of economy. - How far they have attained their wishes time only can prove. - The petition before the town to consider the expediency of procuring a farm for the poor if acted on immediately cannot be carried into effect so soon as to require the appointment of a master of the house with reference to the management of a farming establishment until another session shall have passed and time will ~~not~~ thus be found to make a new arrangement in regard to a master, if the change of circumstances under which the poor are to be maintained shall render it necessary. -



There are two subjects in regard to the employment and restraint of those belonging to the work house which have been before submitted to the consideration of the town, but have not been followed by any definite action thereon. The first regards the employment of persons able to labour, by the surveyors of the highways, in order to attain this object, it is necessary for the town to pass a vote that the selectmen shall so apportion the money as to oblige the surveyors of certain wards to employ the poor in order to accomplish the necessary repairs of the roads within their respective wards. The difficulty of obtaining work for the poor still continuing, it becomes important that they should be employed on the highways as much as practicable and so much less money ~~should~~ <sup>may</sup> be voted for the repairs of the roads as will be equal to the <sup>estimated</sup> labour. —

Another subject of considerable importance is the means within the power of the town, to prevent the supply of ardent spirits to the subjects of the Work House. — As ordinarily no licences for retailing are granted, <sup>or renewed</sup> but upon the recommendation of the selectmen, it is suggested that it will be useful to pass a vote that the selectmen be requested to withhold their approbation from any person who <sup>m</sup> they are ~~satisfied~~ <sup>know</sup> or have good reason to believe has during the preceding year sold any spirituous liquor to any person belonging to the work house. — It is also very desirable that every ~~person~~ <sup>one</sup> should abstain from giving spirituous liquor to such persons. — It is only when ardent spirits are beyond the reach of <sup>parents</sup> ~~parents~~ <sup>parents</sup> the subjects of the house that they can be ~~preserved~~ <sup>preserved</sup> from



gross intemperance, which is followed by a loss of their  
labour, impaired health, disorderly behaviour & depra-  
vation of moral principle as injurious to themselves <sup>greatly detrimental</sup>  
& those with whom they associate and to the pecunia-  
ry interest of the town

There has been in the Work House as subjects during the year seventeen men, twenty three women, eighteen children, making in the whole, fifty eight, there are now in the House thirteen men, ten women, & three children, making twenty six ~~in the persons~~, the average number has been twenty seven. - Three deaths have occurred.

The amount of orders drawn by the overseers of the Poor on the Town Treasurer within the year is ten hundred & nine dollars thirty five cents,

The expense of relieving thirty five persons out of the House having settlements in town has been ~~two hundred eighty eight thirteen cents~~ three hundred seven dollars sixty one cents. -