

der to eighty-five, not much, if at all, above what it was last year, considering our increase in numbers. One of those members was unable to work for twenty-two weeks, from an unfortunate fracture of his kneecap, and the other, an old member, has been laid up with a still more unfortunate and lingering disease of the bladder and kidneys.

One in less than every nine of our members, has been under my care and on the sick benefit list for a week or more, many for shorter periods.

During the year I have visited the sick members regularly at their own houses when necessary, and have given advice to all consulting me at my surgery, and in all cases have supplied necessary medicine free of extra charge.

Of the diseases and accidents from which the patients suffered, some were comparatively trivial, and such as workmen can scarcely avoid, for example, cuts, sprains, severe bruises, whitlows, neuralgia, rheumatism, influenza, and bronchitis, while others were more grave. There were cases of fracture of the bones of the leg, ribs and kneecap, abscesses, typhoid and scarlet fever, small-pox, acute inflammation of the heart and lungs, chronic inflammation of bladder and the kidneys.

There are three members at present under medical treatment, and for them I would ask your kind sympathy, as they have been for many weeks laid on beds of sickness. It is probable that no office bearer of this Society has such an opportunity as your physician of observing the good you are quietly doing in assisting one another in times of sickness