

the metropolis and vicinity. In doing so I cannot do better than quote the very pregnant words of our ex-president, Mr. Hunter, who, during his term of office, made an appeal on behalf of the Solicitors' Benevolent Association to every member of the profession. Mr. Hunter says: 'Having been a director of the Solicitors' Benevolent Association for nearly twenty years, I can speak with confidence on the manner in which its affairs are administered, and also as to the great assistance it is able to give to the poor and necessitous members of the profession and their families. During the time I have been a director, I have been surprised to find how many applications have been made to the association for assistance from societies and relatives of solicitors whom I find personally known as apparently prosperous members of our profession only a short time before, but who had been reduced by misfortune to dependence upon others, and this experience leads me to wish to impress upon every member of the profession to become a subscriber to the association.' I cannot too heartily echo these words of my predecessor, whose name at the foot of such a circular is the best assurance that we could have that the affairs of this charitable institution are administered judiciously and well, and that it deserves our cordial support. The ranks of our profession are, as we all know, overcrowded; how many among us must of necessity, if ill-health overtakes them, be involved in penury; how many there are whose families must be left ill provided for, and under circumstances that help must be required for providing the mere necessities of existence. What poverty so keen, so hard to endure, as that of those who have been well educated and have known better days? Let those among us who have enough and to spare help this good object—I speak not only of the comparatively very prosperous man, but of the ordinary well-to-do members of our profession. Let each and all of us who come within this category think, not only of ourselves and those dependent on us, but let us devote some small portion at least of our savings to the assistance of those less fortunate among us, who from ill-health and other misfortune have been unable to make that provision for themselves or those depending on them which more favourable circumstances would have enabled them to do, and in no better way can we help the necessitous amongst our profession and their families than by contributing to the funds of these associations."