

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND SOCIETY OF
IRELAND.

Through the kindness of a Medical friend of this city, we have received the 29th annual report of the above society for the year 1871. This society was founded in 1842. Its object is to afford relief to Medical men under severe and urgent distress, occasioned by sickness, accident, or any other calamity, and also for the relief of widows and orphans of Physicians and Surgeons. In looking over the list of donations and bequests, we observe the names of several men of high professional eminence. The list is headed by a donation of £100 from Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and H. R. H. the late Prince Consort. We also find the names of Dr's. Banks, Stokes, Carmichael, Cusack, Butcher, Kingsley, &c., &c., as contributors, each to the amount of £100, and upwards. The legacies and donations for the past year amounted to £217, and have been added to the society's capital which now amounts to £14,400. Auxiliary Branch Societies have been established in different parts of Ireland and British India, and the committee draw special attention to the amount of subscriptions remitted this year from their three Indian auxiliaries, Bombay, Madras, and Bengal, viz:—£156. The number of applicants for relief during the past year was 91. An analysis of these shows, 12 new applications, 15 Medical men, 72 widows, and 4 orphans. Nine of these were disallowed, and 82 approved. The entire sum given in grants amounts to £965.

We also notice a munificent offer of £1,000 to the society, by a gentleman signing himself "Nemo," on the conditions that £2,000 be raised in donations of not less than £50 each, within the period of six months, and from Practitioners residing in Dublin. In response to this, eight gentlemen have already subscribed the sum of £50 each. Donors of £10 and upwards at one time, or by instalments, are life members.

We have thus drawn the attention of the profession in Canada to this society, for we think that something of this kind should be instituted here. The members of the profession in Ireland, we are sure, are not rich, but they show an earnest willingness to assist each other, which is worthy of all commendation.