

	£	s.	d.
Medical attendance and medicine	16,742	1	8
Expenses of management (inclusive of levies to central bodies) ...	10,568	7	5
Other payments	4,256	12	10

£31,567 1 11

This gives an average of 18s. 4d. per member for medical attendance, &c., and 11s. 4d. for expenses of management, a saving of 1s. and 10d. respectively upon the previous year's averages. The sum of the contributions and levies to these funds was less than in 1881 to the extent of 2s. 1d. per member. This may probably be accounted for by a diminution in the levies required to be made during the year.

20. Table VI. shows the distribution of the societies' funds as on the 31st December, 1882. Of the total amount, £130,109 was placed at interest, and the value of land and buildings was set down at £81,597. Cash in hand amounted to £13,876; and £6,888 represented value of goods, regalia, debts, &c.

The following is a statement of funds and assets as at the end of the year:—

Funds.		£	Assets.		£
Sick and Funeral Funds	204,780		Investments at interest	130,109	
Medical and Management Expenses	21,529		Value of land and buildings	81,597	
Funds			Cash not bearing interest	13,876	
Other funds and property	6,161		Value of goods, regalia, &c.	5,728	
			Other assets	1,160	
		£232,470			£232,470

21. Table VII. shows how the funds at interest were placed, with the rates per cent. earned by the various investments. £13,263 was in the Post-Office Savings-Bank, and £28,095 in other banks. The average interest on the latter was $4\frac{7}{10}$ per cent. £731 was on deposit with companies, &c., at an average interest of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; £75,936 was on mortgage of freehold property, yielding on an average $8\frac{1}{10}$ per cent.; £7,648 was invested in Government and municipal debentures, at an average of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; £3,561 in shares in companies, &c., yielding about 8 per cent.; and £875 on securities other than those above mentioned, at an average of $8\frac{1}{10}$ per cent.

QUINQUENNIAL STATISTICS OF SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

22. In the year 1881 a report was issued by the department on the sickness and mortality experienced by New Zealand friendly societies during the five years ended 31st December, 1877. This report was based on the quinquennial returns supplied to the Registrar during 1878 in accordance with the Friendly Societies Act of the previous year. By the Amendment Act of 1878 an annual return of sickness and mortality, and an annual set of cards for members newly admitted, were substituted for the quinquennial returns previously in use. These returns and sets of cards have been supplied to the Registrar year by year, and it follows, therefore, that in 1883 the materials for a second quinquennial tabulation had been accumulated. It was found impossible, owing to excessive pressure of work, to enter upon this compilation during the year 1883; but at the present date the work is well in hand, and the Registrar subjoins herewith a summary table showing the percentages resulting from that portion of the statistics which has already been completely dealt with.

Ages of Members.	Percentage of Members experiencing Sickness during a Year.				Average Number of Weeks' Sickness experienced per Annum.								Rate of Secessions per cent. per Annum (including Transfers).	Rates of Mortality per Annum per 1,000 Members.		Percentage of Members admitted in each Period.
					Per Member.				Per Member Sick.					Of Members.	Of Members' Wives.	
	All Sickness.	First Six Months of Sickness.	Second Six Months of Sickness.	Sickness protracted beyond Twelve Months.	Total.	First Six Months.	Second Six Months.	After Twelve Months.	All Sickness.	First Six Months of Sickness.	Second Six Months of Sickness.	Sickness protracted beyond Twelve Mo's.				
Under 20 ..	10.56	10.56	..	..	.40	.40	..	..	3.81	3.81	..	..	5.8	7.07	..	12.37
20 to 25 ..	10.95	10.86	.23	.09	.44	.40	.04	..	4.06	3.71	13.61	3.83	13.6	3.63	0.92	32.11
25 to 30 ..	10.31	10.18	.21	.07	.46	.41	.02	.03	4.51	4.10	7.94	44.00	9.5	2.81	2.80	28.05
30 to 35 ..	11.29	11.02	.47	.41	.70	.50	.06	.14	6.21	4.40	13.69	33.83	8.8	1.35	2.03	16.52
35 to 40 ..	13.58	13.34	.58	.29	.84	.62	.08	.14	6.20	4.29	13.13	46.84	7.5	4.65	6.96	9.07
40 to 45 ..	15.72	15.10	.80	.62	1.15	.81	.10	.24	7.34	3.35	11.91	39.05	3.5	10.71	3.55	1.60
45 to 50 ..	17.21	16.18	1.06	1.24	1.73	1.02	.15	.56	10.04	6.34	13.72	44.93	3.2	10.70	5.32	0.09
50 to 55 ..	13.55	13.01	..	.55	1.01	.73	..	.28	7.49	5.62	..	52.17	2.8	..	..	..
55 to 60 ..	22.38	19.58	5.59	4.20	4.47	1.57	1.26	1.64	19.97	8.02	22.50	39.06	1.4	28.37	..	..
60 to 65 ..	22.22	16.67	2.78	5.56	5.13	2.15	.08	2.90	23.08	12.89	3.00	52.17	..	..	..	..
65 to 70 ..	28.57	21.43	..	7.14	4.80	1.07	..	3.73	16.79	5.00	..	52.17	..	..	..	..
70 and upwards ..	23.53	11.77	..	11.77	8.24	2.10	..	6.14	35.00	17.83	..	52.17	..	117.65	..	..
Unspecified ..	12.62	11.23	1.33	1.33	1.73	.89	.31	.53	13.70	7.87	23.00	40.25	6.2	..	..	.19
All ages ..	12.86	12.44	.56	.46	.88	.61	.08	.19	6.84	4.91	13.79	41.39	8.2	5.05	3.37	100.00

23. During the year 1883, and to a still greater extent during the current year, much dissatisfaction has been expressed by societies at the requirement, imposed by the Act of 1878, to supply these sickness returns and sets of cards. The feeling among the complaining lodges has usually been that the department might reasonably demand an annual return of the finances and numerical