

Stray Foresters.

We copy from the Syracuse Times the following very sensible item regarding THE INDEPENDENT FORESTER not being received at times in that city:—

“Some of our city courts complain that THE INDEPENDENT FORESTER is not regularly delivered, as every member is justly entitled to a copy. Now, in some instances the fault may be attributed to the FORESTER mailing department, as every month it sends out all of 140,000 copies, and our Supreme officers are watchful over that matter, yet find many other causes to complain of, as they have made investigation time after time. All complaints can be remedied if Court Deputies will supervise the court list monthly, cut off all ‘dead wood,’ and add names and addresses of new members, sending the corrections directly to Mr. Daniel A. Rose, Temple Building, Toronto, Canada. If members don’t get the FORESTER regularly, go at once to your Court Deputies and punch them into doing their duty and you will have less annoyance.”

War Mortality.

As some of our brethren will likely be affected by the war between the United States and Spain, the following mortality statistics will be of interest to Foresters as well as to fraternal beneficiary society men generally:

Campaign and Date.	Annual Rate of Mortality per cent.
France in the Crimea, 1854-5.....	10.3
France in campaign of 1859.....	5.6
Italy “ “ “.....	5.5
Austria “ “ “.....	4.7
Prussia in campaign of 1891.....	3.3
Austria “ “ “.....	4.0
Italy in campaign of 1866.....	4.0
Prussia “ “ “.....	3.1
Bavaria “ “ “.....	5.1
Austria “ “ “.....	5.6

Leaving out the French figures for the Crimean War, which, on account of severe climatic conditions, were specially heavy, the results vary from 3½ per cent. to 5.23 per cent., the latter rate being similar to that brought out by Mr. Brown as the War Mortality of the British Army during the Napoleonic Wars.

Some of the Special Benefits of the I.O.F.

Not unfrequently when a Deputy is presenting the benefits of the I.O.F., and enumerating among others the “sick benefit” and the “total and permanent disability benefit,” the desired applicant shrugs his shoulders and remarks that he is not likely to need either of these, at any rate, not for many years to come. Experience, however, shows that these very benefits are being enjoyed constantly by an increasing number of members. For the

month of March alone \$15,300 86 were paid for sick claims, and \$1,000 in funeral benefits. There were also paid in total and permanent disability claims \$5,500, and for old age disability \$900. In every instance this meant increased comfort at a time when comfort was needed. To the man totally disabled, the receipt of an amount varying from \$250 to \$2,500 is a great boon, and may be the only thing standing between his loved ones and himself and necessity.

Those who have enjoyed these benefits commend them most highly; they know whereof they speak. A brother in Minising, Ontario, wrote the other day saying: “When I joined the Order I thought the ‘total and permanent disability benefit’ might be for some one else, but not for me. So I think my case is an example of how uncertain health and life are, and also the benefit of belonging to a society like the I.O.F.”

Another brother from Winnipeg writes saying: “I consider this provision of the most valuable of the several valuable ones that the Order provides.”

From the wards of one of our hospitals an afflicted brother writes: “This is the third time that ill-health has laid me aside since I became a member of your great Order, and this is the third time I have experienced the great advantage of being enrolled in the sick department. The benefit has been a great boon to me and my little ones. When I add to that the care of the Court Physician and the sympathy of the brethren, I can truly say the I.O.F. has scattered blessings and sunshine along my path.” Such is the tenor of letters we are receiving daily. When people say there is no direct or personal advantage to them in being connected with the Order, they speak without due consideration of all the facts. The I.O.F. is the best Order we know, “a good one to tie to,” and to stay with. One does not need to die to win—he wins many valuable advantages in his lifetime by being connected with the best fraternal society in the world.

Practical Fraternity.

We give with more than ordinary pleasure the communication that appears below. It shows how the benevolent and fraternal spirit of the Order is being exemplified, and that in a most helpful manner. It is delightful to find, in an age that has been designated as selfish, so fine an example of the brotherly and unselfish spirit as that manifested by the brethren of Saginaw. Their deeds will be a strong argument in favor of the I.O.F. What they did so generously is only one illustration of what may be expected in other cases when the necessity arises. We sincerely hope that Bros. Marshall and McDonald may be completely restored to health, and that they may be privileged for