

oh my, ain't we getting rich—over two and a half millions of dollars! I don't suppose that on the 17th June, 1874, that you pioneers had any idea that the institution you were inaugurating would ever possess such a large bank account.

When in Toronto I had the pleasure of seeing much of our Supreme Auditor, Bro. Charlie Fitzgerald, your High Secretary, and I am indebted to him for many kindnesses shown to me. I am pleased to note the progress of the Order in your State, and the good work that you are doing. With the earnest wish that you may be long spared to continue in your noble efforts in behalf of the Order,

I am as ever,

Yours in L., B. & C.,

G. A. McELFRESH,

H.C.R.

### The Growth of the Order in Great Britain.

What was becoming more and more evident from the monthly reports is now fully confirmed by Bro. T. Lawless, A.S.C.R., who has just returned from a visit to the old land. By him we are assured that the Order has fully passed the experimental stage in Britain, that it has successfully stood the test of searching investigation and unfriendly criticism, and to-day stands firmly established in the confidence of the British public. The proof of this we have in the steadily increasing number that is from month to month seeking admission into the Order. The termination of the great engineers' strike will cause a great revival of business in many industrial centres, and with good times the number of applications always increase. We are told that the character of the members already in the Order is exceptionally good. They represent largely the intelligent thrifty, middle class. They are in the I.O.F. to stay. Throughout different parts of the British Isles great interest is manifested in Independent Forestry. The officers and deputies are finding it much easier to secure members. The Mother Country will contribute her fair quota to bring the membership up to 150,000 by August next.

### Foresters to the Front.

As time advances and the membership of the I.O.F. increases, the number of brethren that will be found occupying positions of trust and importance will be proportionately large. Among the members of the Legislature of Ontario, during the last parliamentary term, were many Foresters, all of whom acquitted themselves with advantage to the country and credit to the Order. Among the candidates nominated in the pending Ontario elections we notice many well-known brethren. We are interested in them as brother Foresters; we will rejoice over their election; we will be sorry if

any of them go down among the vanquished. That they are good men and will make good representatives, irrespective of party, none but extreme partisans will doubt. We fear that in a few instances members of the Order will be arrayed against one another. That shows how thoroughly free from anything like party entanglements the Order is. Our regret will be that both cannot be elected, and that they will not be permitted to exemplify the fraternal spirit by representing the constituency in turns. Among the brethren that we know to be seeking the suffrages of their fellow-citizens are the Hon. G. W. Ross, Hon. E. J. Davis, Hon. J. M. Gibson, and Messrs. J. B. Whitney, Q.C., G. F. Marter, J. W. St. John, W. Beatty, J. Longford, A. Currie, W. Little Jamieson, H. Carscadden, Q.C., Thomson, Chapple, Bieard, Caven, Haycock, Stokes, Caldwell, J. D. Hodgins, Campbell, Bridgeland, C. Calder, and Miscampbell. We have no doubt there are others, from whom we will be glad to hear after their election, when we purpose giving the photos and brief sketches of our brethren in the Ontario Legislature.

### Men Die, but the Mortgage does Not Die with Them.

The men who have amassed a competency are few. The majority are not only without a competency, but are more or less in debt, possibly with the home or farm mortgaged. Given life and health, a man of enterprise will pay off his indebtedness and probably accumulate a competency for his old age, or for those dependent on him that he may leave behind. But life is uncertain; it may come to an end here any day, or health may at any time become so impaired as to leave the individual practically disabled. A man dies; the debt against his name and property remains. He could not pay while he lived; are his widow and children likely to be better able to pay it than he was? Certainly not. They will have to give up the struggle and surrender all, unless in his lifetime he secured membership in the I.O.F. or some similar institution. Then the amount of his benefit may not only wipe out all the indebtedness, but leave a little that will yield some income to supplement the earnings of the family, or the proceeds of the business or farm. Time and again cases have come under our notice where the husband and father was taken from the family, but the protection that he carried either in some Fraternal Society like ours, or in some life insurance company, saved the home and enabled the bereaved ones to face their changed circumstances without anxiety for daily bread. Provide for the payment of the mortgage and the saving of the home by joining the I.O.F.,