

ledged the honor extended by His Honor the Mayor, and then proceeded to explain the objects and principles of the Order.

Following the address of the High Chief Ranger there was provided a most interesting programme consisting of music, both vocal and instrumental, recitations, declamations etc., by some of the most noted talent of the City of Fresno, after which the assemblage was honored by a most interesting and eloquent address by Supreme Secretary Bro. John A. McGillivray, which gained the highest appreciation of all present.

On the afternoon of the 19th, the entire membership were treated to a free excursion, tendered by the good citizens of Fresno, over the local lines of the Southern Pacific Co., which said lines run through the largest raisin and wine vineyards in the world. Several stops were made at the large packing houses, and a pound package of table raisins was presented to each member of the Order. A stop of 15 minutes was made at the famous Kearny Wineries, where each member of the party was presented with a bottle of sparkling California Wine. It was noticed that Bro. McGillivray carried away three quart bottles of "Kearney's extra dry Sherry," but what he intended to do with them is, as yet, an unsolved mystery, inasmuch as he had addressed the High Court, during the morning, on the value of a temperance life.

A resolution, emanating from one of the Courts of the jurisdiction, praying that this High Court adopt resolutions recommending the Supreme Court to reconsider its recent legislation with reference to the rates of assessment, was tabled without debate.

A petition to admit Companions to representation in the High Court met with a similar fate.

On the recommendation of the High Chief Ranger, the High Court Dues, for the current year, were reduced from \$1.00 to 80 cents.

The election and installation of the officers for the current year took place at the night session of Thursday the 19th. The following is the list of High Court officers :

H.C.R., Gen. G. McElfresh, Los Angeles; 9th term; P.H.C.R., F. M. Parker, Los Angeles; H.V.-C.R., S. L. Hogue, Fresno; High Sec'y, W. H. Perry, Los Angeles; 9th term; High Treas., Wm. E. Reavis, Los Angeles; High Phy'n, J. C. Stinson, M.D., San Francisco; High Coun., F. D. McClure, Visalia; High Auditors, G. W. Hood, Los Angeles; and W. M. Johnson, M.D., Los Angeles; High Orator, Rev. J. M. Pratt, Butte City; High J. Sec., S. R. Kellam, Los Angeles; High S. W., P. L. Archibald, San Francisco; High J. W., G. D. Goldman, San Diego; High S. B., J. S. Hurry, San Francisco; High J. B., F. M. Packard, El Rio; High Marsh., L. Kroner, Brentwood; High Condr., D. A. Kollog, M.D., Placerville; High Mess'r, A. A. St Clair, Gilroy; High Organist, E. E. Miller, Sebastopol.

The installation of the officers elect was performed by the Supreme Secretary, Bro. John A. McGillivray, and after the High Court had decided upon the place of meeting for the year 1900, (Santa Cruz,) the brethren, led by the Supreme Sec'y, joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne," followed by "America."

The High Chaplain was called upon for the closing benediction, and the session of the High Court, for the year 1899, was declared closed.

## HIGH COURT OF MAINE.

### Official Circular No. 15.

#### To be Read in Open Court.

OLD TOWN, MAINE, Oct. 2, 1899.

BRETHREN,—The High Standing Committee are desirous of interesting every member of our Order throughout the state in the work of securing new members, new Courts and upbuilding the Order generally.

In our last circular letter, as an inducement to our deputies and members to engage in organizing work, we offered for a limited time the full charter fee of \$100 for a commission. As a further incentive to the securing of new members in Subordinate Courts, we are pleased to refer you to Official Circular No. 7 of the Executive Council, giving Dispensation to remit the Certificate and Registration Fees on all new members secured during the months of October and November, and a further Dispensation to all Courts to initiate at Charter Rates during said months.

You were informed in our last circular letter that it was the intention of your committee to give the services of a Deputy to every weak Court in the state for such time as might be deemed necessary. 'Tis now the time for all Courts, and especially weak ones, to make special effort to increase their membership, as under the Dispensation new members may be admitted by payment of Medical Examination Fee only.

Your committee have been very fortunate in securing the services of Forester A. A. Campbell, D.S.C.R., an experienced Deputy of the Supreme Court, to assist in the work of extending the Order throughout the state. Forester Campbell is now engaged in work in Bangor and vicinity. After completing his work in this field, he will devote a few weeks to other sections in the eastern part of the state, and will then work westward. You should arrange to secure the benefit of services while he is in your vicinity.

We also wish to call attention to a special Dispensation for the organization of Companion Courts which has been granted to Sister A. A. Campbell, the wife of Deputy Campbell, and which may now be taken advantage of. Under this Dispensation, Courts may be instituted by Sister Campbell upon payment, by the Charter Applicants, of the Medical Examination Fee only.

If Foresters or ladies who are interested in seeing a Companion Court instituted in their section, will secure a sufficient number of applicants for a Charter, Sister Campbell will meet with them, complete the work and institute the Court. We hope to see many new Courts instituted during the next two months.

You may be interested to know that during the year 1898 we secured, without the aid of a paid officer, more new members in the State of Maine than any other society, and only two Insurance Companies, with their army of paid agents, succeeded in securing as many members in this State as did the I.O.F.

You are reminded that you are a member of the wealthiest and best managed Fraternal Beneficiary Society in existence. We have passed the \$3,500,000 mark with our surplus funds. You are an equal sharer with every other brother in this accumulation of golden treasure, and as a common-sense business proposition for yourself, should you