

California.

To our regret, we have heard but little from the Golden State of late.

Will High Chief McElfresh, or High Secy. Perry, or some brother or brothers of High or intermediate degree, send us monthly an account of what is being done?

For Nov., California is credited with 167 accepted applications. A fair showing, but the greatest jurisdiction on the Pacific Coast will do still better for 1898. Every brother will secure a new member.

Court Sutter, Sacramento, one of the most active courts of the State, has in a history of six years had its first loss by death in the person of E. C. Mead, a worthy charter member. The widow acknowledges gratefully the prompt payment of the mortuary benefit of \$2,000, and the many acts of kindness shown her by the members of the court.

We were pleased to meet Bro. G. A. McElfresh, H.C.R., at the opening of the Temple and conference of High Officers and Executive Council, in Toronto. The jurisdiction has in Bro. McElfresh a capable and energetic leader and worker.

Pennsylvania.

The court at New-Castle met on Dec. 9th, for the election of officers and the transaction of general business. The presence of Bro. Strickland, H.C.R., added interest to the proceedings. An excellent staff of officers was chosen for the year. They were duly installed by Bro. Dr. D. P. Robins, High Journal Secretary. The H.C.R. spent a few days in the town, and secured several members for the court.

New Jersey.

For November and December the applications were 88 and 76 respectively. For 1898 we expect larger gains than ever.

In the State where the Order was first planted it continues to make gratifying progress. The more the I.O.F. is known the better it is appreciated.

Court Hoboken, No. 1487, is one of the most active courts in the State. The concert and ball on Dec. 4 was a brilliant and enjoyable affair. The arrangements were very complete; the various committees did their work well. Bro. Joseph P. Zirwes, R.S., was master of ceremonies. Court Hoboken can be counted on to do its full share to make the membership 150,000 by Sept. next.

Iowa.

Iowa is one of the jurisdictions that is going to come prominently to the front in 1898.

For November the accepted applications were 40. The applications monthly will be in three figures ere long.

The membership is not large, but the quality is excellent. "Count on every man of us bringing in his man;" so writes a brother who knows.

High Chief Ranger Bro. D. Fleu recently visited Le Mars and addressed a special meeting of the court, gave the brethren full instructions in the work as well as explaining the principles and benefits of the I.O.F.

Nebraska.

Should any brother Foresters visit Omaha during our Exposition year, they will find a cordial welcome waiting them from the local brethren.

All the other courts in the jurisdiction are busy over their annual election of officers—presumably too busy to supply your correspondent with news.

For November Nebraska did not do as well as we expected. The December record is better, and each month in future will be an improvement on the preceding one.

Court Aksarben, No. 3358, is making rapid strides forward these days. With a membership of only 22, which had been stationary for nearly a year, the boys suddenly aroused from their lethargy and during the present dispensation 33 new applications have been presented, making an increase of 150 per cent. in less than two months. Bro. Smith Arnelt holds the record, and writes up applications while he has the candidate at his mercy in the barber's chair. 23 applications are the result of his personal efforts, and he talks Forestry to every man he shaves. The members of Aksarben are congratulating their worthy V.C.R., G. W. Plattner on taking to himself a partner in life, and wish him health, wealth and happiness.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The tide of prosperity in the Old Land has set in.

For November 145 applications were accepted in the isles beyond the Atlantic.

The Order has won its way and is now received on its merits by the cautious, conservative British people.

For the first time since the I.O.F. was introduced into England the applications for one month have gone into three figures.

We hear with interest and pleasure from more than one source of the cordial way in which Bro. Lawless, A.S.C.R., is received by his brethren of the Old Land.

We congratulate our brethren on the courage, patience and skill with which they pushed the interests of the I.O.F. and successfully overcame prejudice and opposition.

ENGLAND.

HANLEY.—The November meeting of Court Sutherland, No. 2166, held on the 18th inst., in the Lecture Hall of the Y.M.C.A. Institute, Hanley, was made memorable by the presence of Bro. James Marshall, S.D.S.C.R., who kindly attended to initiate six new members. The Chief Ranger, Bro. E. J. Powell, opened the meeting, Bro. Marshall afterwards conducting the business with Bro. Wain, C.R., and Bro. Horne, C.D.H.C.R., both of Court Castle (Newcastle, Staff.), acting as V.C.R. and S.W. respectively. The initiation was made specially impressive and interesting in the hands of Bro. Marshall.

At the conclusion of court business the meeting was thrown open to friends, and a most enjoyable evening was passed by a thoroughly appreciative audience numbering about 50, and including Bro. C. Merrit, C.D.H.C.R., of the Stoke Court. Bro. Wain, of Court Castle, presided during the first part of the programme, after which he was compelled to leave, Bro. Marshall taking the chair.