

Regain the Loss.

In every organization there is a measure of loss that is inevitable. The "wear and tear" of time is manifest everywhere; some of it is avoidable, much of it unavoidable. In any case, if prosperity is to be maintained and progress made, the loss must be regained and the injury repaired. This is vitally true of our Order, and all similar orders. "Eternal vigilance" is the price that we must be ready to pay for stability and growth. Time is irresistibly bearing our membership on to "the country from whose bourne no traveller returns." Every vacancy in our ranks is loss till it is filled up. It can be converted into a gain by placing in it a younger and more active brother than the one who occupied it. The rivers that empty into the sea would run dry in their course thither were they not fed by the rainfalls and the melting snows and glaciers in the mountains. The fruit tree yields up each season much of its life in broken twigs and torn branches, but every season it is repairing the loss by putting forth new shoots. Day by day the men who toil with brain and hand impair their vigor, but day and night they recreate the waste by food and rest. So the Fraternal Order suffers daily by time and the suspensions, sickness, disability and death that time is ever bringing; but the Fraternal Order can gain all that it lost, and more, from the young generation that time brings, and brings in ever-increasing numbers to replace the old. Let us bring in the new members as fast as we lose old ones, and the Order will be maintained as strong and as vigorous as it is now. Let us continue bringing in young men faster than old ones drop out, as we have been doing since the organization of the Order, and we will be constantly improving the condition of the Order. Meeting these possible conditions, the Order will continue prospering while humanity lasts. When humanity ceases, its occupation will be gone, the need for it will be at an end, and it can go out of the business. Meantime it is doing business at the old stand, and it means to do a growing and therefore profitable business.

The Supreme Secretary Retires from Active Politics.

After a year's experience of political life, Bro. Jno. A. McGillivray, Q.C., has taken leave of active politics. In that brief time he has had a more varied experience than falls to the lot of much older parliamentarians. He has in two sessions been a member of two different parliaments, and in the House with three different Premiers. We do not regret his determination to quit the arena of party politics. It will prevent any one from saying that the Order has even the appearance of party prefer-

ence. We did not hold with those who affirmed that the Order would be injured by his entering public life. As a matter of fact, the contrary was the case. When the I.O.F. was seeking legislation a year ago, the presence of the Supreme Secretary in the House was of immense advantage. The fact that one of the leading constituencies of Ontario had chosen one of our officers as their representative was an honor to the Order and attracted attention to it, and led directly to many members of Parliament joining our ranks. While Bro. McGillivray was in Parliament, I.O.F. interests gained instead of suffering, and the constituency that honored him with the highest position in their gift had in our John A. an able and zealous representative.

The Chief at Peoria, Illinois.

The "Chief" yielded to the urgent invitation of the brethren of Peoria, and visited them on the 17th December. He was greeted with a bumper house, and his able and brilliant address was listened to with the closest attention. Bro. A. E. Stevenson, H.C.R. of Illinois, who accompanied him, also spoke and was accorded a cordial reception. At the close of the meeting a banquet was tendered the "Chief," to which over 100 sat down.

The following letter shows concisely the effect of the Doctor's visit:

COURT GLEN O. K., No. 3027,

PEORIA, ILL., Dec. 29th, 1896.

Dr. Oronhyatekha, S.C.R.,

Toronto, Canada.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,—We wish to report the following progress towards the 350 mark set for us by you and the H.C.R. We have already initiated 32 this month, and will initiate at least 20 more to-morrow evening, and have 56 applicants not yet examined. Although you and Bro. Stevenson placed the mark high we will reach it.

Trusting that these lines will find you strong and hearty, and wishing you a Happy and Prosperous New Year and Many Returns of the Day, I am,

Yours in L., B. and C.,

C. H. GILLIG, F.S.

That's the way to do it! Well done, brethren!

The Rev. W. J. McCaughan, of Belfast, H.C.R. of Ireland, has been called to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Toronto. The congregation is one of the first in the great Presbyterian Church, counting among its members many of Toronto's most influential citizens, and for many years leading in contributions to the missionary schemes of the church. The stipend promised is \$4,000 and manse. Should Mr. McCaughan see his way clear to accept, he will receive a warm welcome to Toronto.

The members of Court Pocahontas, No. 1474, St. Joseph, Mis., express their sympathy with Bro. Geo. H. Winslow on the death of his wife,