

rightly claim a high place in the front ranks—in the very vanguard of the march.

Let us, therefore, my brethren, devoutly acknowledge our deep indebtedness to Almighty God, who has not only permitted peace and prosperity to attend the footsteps of our Order everywhere, but has also overshadowed us with His gracious guidance and protection, and has preserved us in health and happiness to meet again in High Court. Let us not be unmindful at the same time of the fact that during the year many of our brethren have been summoned by the inevitable messenger. I am sorry I am not able to make their record here—but in the sweet and catholic spirit of our Christian and fraternal institution, we will all hope that, while their surviving families have felt some of the blessings which flow from our Order, their own names have been found in the Lamb's Book of Life. Let us remember also that they have only a little while preceded us; and as we trust they do now, so shall we pray that we too like them at last may enjoy the rest that remaineth for the people of God. In the meantime let us be admonished, and whatsoever our hands find to do, not alone within the circle of our fraternity but among the activities of honorable manhood and Christian citizenship, do with our might, for the night cometh wherein no man can work. So shall we live that when the shadows of eventide lengthen towards the gathering gloom of descending night, "sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust" in the merits and mercy of our Elder Brother, we may pass with joy beyond the stars into the ineffable radiance of the unbroken circle of Concord in the courts of our Father, to go no more out forever. "And there shall be no night there."

I now leave you to your deliberations. Let Liberty of thought and speech characterize your labors; let Benevolence in its full and benign influences animate and direct you; and let Concord, the very bond of peace and the best and surest cement and support of every estimable society, soften and chasten both thought and language even in your most independent criticism and differences of opinion, if and when they arise. Above all I commend you, and our Order everywhere, to the Divine benediction.

The reading of the address was followed by prolonged applause, and during the delivery of the third paragraph as above the whole court remained standing.

HIGH SECRETARY'S REPORT.

High Secretary Emmerson's report showed that he had received during the year ending June 30th, 1898, for supplies, High Court dues and charter fees the sum of \$4,882.64. There was due the High Court from Subordinate Courts on that date \$3,390.84. The following are extracts from the report:

"Since we met at Campbellton last year Bro. Kinghorn has instituted six new courts, viz.: Court Bayside at Woodpoint, Westmorland county; Court Rocky Glen at Armstrong's Corner, Queens county; Court Glen Avis at Middle Southampton, York county; Court Fish River Rapid at Clair, Madawaska county; Court Manguerville at Manguerville, Sunbury county; and Court Cross Creek at Cross Creek, York county.

"Bro. LeBaron Coleman has organized one court,

viz., Court Midgie, at Midgie, and the High Secretary has organized four courts, viz., Court Alnwick at Church Point, Court Fairhaven at Loggieville, Court Verndale at Black River Bridge, and Court South Esk at Red Bank, all in Northumberland Co. We have now 152 Subordinate Courts in New Brunswick, with about 5,700 members—an increase of 10 courts and 600 in membership in the entire province since we met at Campbellton last July. The increase in membership has been chiefly in weak and existing courts and not in the organization of new courts.

"While we have been growing both in membership and in the number of our courts, the angel of death has not been idle. Many of our courts have been called to mourn for beloved brothers, among whom were two who at several times have been active representatives at our High Court. I refer to Bro. Thomas Miller, of Court Loyalist, and Bro. Wm. McConnell, of Court Hillsboro. Both of these brothers were active Foresters and great workers for the Order they loved so well. Bro. Miller was with us last year. All the endowment claims of our deceased brothers were promptly paid by the Supreme Court. Several of our brothers have received the Total and Permanent Disability Benefit in the province."

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Inspector Kinghorn reported that he had during the year instituted six new courts, held 93 public and 13 private meetings, taken 193 applications for membership, and visited 19 courts and held meetings. He had visited all but sixteen of all the courts in the province and had done all in his power to advance the interests of the Order. He reported that on the whole he found the courts in a good working condition. The courts organized were on a good, solid basis. He could have organized three others, but refused to do so until they could be firmly established.

HIGH TREASURER'S REPORT.

The report of High Treasurer Eastman showed the receipts of the year to be \$4,882.64, which with the balance on hand from former year made in all \$6,302.72. The disbursements up to 30th June were \$5,633.75, leaving a balance on hand 1st July \$668.97.

After some other routine work had been completed the High Court adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The reports of certain of the standing committees were presented and discussed. The arrival of the Supreme Chief Ranger was announced and the court proceeded to receive and welcome him in right royal Foresteric style. He was introduced by Bro. Creed, P.H.C.R., and greeted with immense applause. After words of welcome by the High Chief Ranger he was invited to take the chair and address the members.

Dr. Oronhyatekha said he was glad to meet with them, and trusted that their deliberations would be for the good of the Order. He brought greetings from the West and the assurance that the Order never stood stronger than it does to-day. He had heard most gratifying reports from New Brunswick. Last month the Order added the largest sum to the surplus ever added in any one month in its history—over \$70.00. The surplus is now \$21 per capita, and it looked as if they were on the threshold of a reduction in the cost of their