

Wisconsin is doing great work, and is away up among the leaders; 235 is a splendid gain for one month.

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New York always does well. Though second, it has a fine record for the month; 346 accepted applications means steady, thorough work.

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Michigan is ahead of Quebec, and that is always gratifying to Michigan, but only ahead for the month, with the substantial margin of 101. Quebec, beware!

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An esteemed brother writes us complaining that members do not read the Constitution and Laws. He claims that "the book is too large and contains too much." He does not, however, point out what sections are superfluous, and what clauses could be abridged.

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Five months more and the Supreme Court will be in session. Will we have a membership of **150,000**? We will, if every brother will do his duty. Loyalty to the Order implies that we, at least, try to increase its numbers and extend its influence.

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People who succeed are usually credited with being specially gifted, those who fail with lack of ability. Longfellow, however, was right when he said: "The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well, and doing well whatever you do."

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No better demonstration of the excellence of the I.O.F. system of selecting risks could be desired than is furnished by the fact that whereas, according to the Combined Experience or Actuaries' Table of Mortality, 919 deaths should have occurred during the year 1897, the actual number was 632.

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The premier province of Ontario still gives the I.O.F. its largest monthly addition. For March the applications numbered 618; the Centre gave 297, the West 162, and the East 162; in all, 289 more than for the same month a year ago. Long experience of the Order increases the confidence of the people.

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In spite of the excitement of a keenly contested provincial election, Ontario did well for February; 434 applications were received. This shows the popularity of the Order where it is best known, and where it has carried on its operations longest. We expect to see applications from Ontario rise to 1,000 per month.

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Some brethren found the winter too cold to attend the meetings of their court or do anything for their Order. In a couple of months the same

brethren will be finding the heat too oppressive for active effort. Now is their opportunity, when the weather is a little like themselves, neither cold nor hot.

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Don't defer your good deeds till you have time to do them. The busy people are the most benevolent. We owe to them the success of missionary and charitable enterprises. The men who are doing the most for the I.O.F. are busy men, but in the press of business they find odd moments in which to commend the principles and benefits of the Order.

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One of the great needs of the world is more work and less talk. This is true in all departments of activity. It is specially true in fraternal organizations. There is talk that is work—the talk that convinces a man of his need of the benefits of the I.O.F., and that persuades him to fill out an application for membership. That work-talk is always welcome.

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When we say to a member, "Secure an application," he is apt, among other things, to answer, "Oh, I have had that advice before." His position is all the less excusable; a man in the possession of good advice should act upon it. Those who have been profiting by the hard work of others should bestir themselves and do a little work on their own account.

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Members can scarcely find a more profitable exercise than recalling the conditions of the obligation to which they subscribed when they became members. All that brotherhood implies is promised. To alleviate the needs, protect the honor, and advance the interests of a brother is a brother's part. Is it always remembered and acted upon are questions every Forester should frequently ask himself.

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The man who is living up to the last dollar of his income would be just as well provided for if he took *one dollar* a month less to live on. If he should die and the income of his family cease with his existence, the dollar monthly that he had saved to carry \$1,000 benefit in the I.O.F. would prove a good investment for those he left behind. Every wage-earner *can*, if he *will*, save enough to pay for the benefits of our Order.

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The court room is the place to discuss the business of the court and of the Order. There are some things which should never be discussed elsewhere. Sometimes we hear on the street of things that were supposed to be considered under the sacred seal of confidence. Not a little mischief has been caused by careless talk about matters that