

Cleveland Foresters are Aroused.

The Independent Order of Foresters celebrated the 25th anniversary of the fraternity, Sunday, June 18th, by attending service at the Epworth Memorial church in the afternoon.

The church was handsomely decorated, and an eloquent sermon was delivered by Rev. W. B. Pickard.

After the services the 700 Foresters present met. Charles Melbourne presided. Hon. Charles E. Bowman was presented and made an address, bearing on the big consolidated strike. A committee consisting of Mr. Bowman, Charles Melbourne and Dr. E. J. Wunderlich drew up the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"Resolved, That we, the members of the Independent Order of Foresters of the city of Cleveland, in mass meeting assembled, unanimously condemn the arbitrary and un-American treatment of its employees by the Cleveland electric railway company, commonly known as the 'big consolidated,' in refusing to treat with its employees, or arbitrate the differences between them; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we demand, as citizens and taxpayers, that the city authorities take such immediate action as will tend to a peaceful settlement of the street railway troubles, and use their influence in behalf of arbitration; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we hereby extend to the late employees of the said big consolidated railway company our moral and financial support in their struggle for recognition and the betterment of their condition as citizens and taxpayers.

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the various newspapers of the city with the request that they be published, and a copy of the same mailed to the president of the Cleveland electric railway company."

Gloomy Occurrence in Cleveland.

THE VIGILANTES CAST A SHADOW OVER BRO. VOGLER.

Thursday evening, June 22nd, Bro. John Vogler was on the lawn trying to find a cool breeze after the extremely warm day, when his wife came out and asked him to come in and see the nice present she had for him. She led him to the parlor where he found a number of his friends and Brother and Sister Foresters, who informed him that they had come to help him celebrate his birthday. Bro. Vogler is one of the most trusted members of Court Vigilant, and there were several Courts represented in the gathering: Courts Buckeye, Banner, Ohio, Vigilant, and Companion Courts Oronhyatekha and Good Will. Bro. Plattell, of Court Banner, presented Bro. Vogler with a beautiful silk umbrella, but Bro. Vogler was too overcome to say more than a few words. The evening was spent in music and card playing. An elegant lunch was served and the friends retired wishing Bro. Vogler many happy returns of the day.

Twenty-fifth Anniversary at Circleville.

Court Pickaway, No. 1406, attended services at the Evangelical Church Sunday morning, June 18th. Rev. Mr. Vandersall, pastor of the church, took for his text "This thing I do," and preached an able and eloquent sermon.

A letter of acknowledgment of the prompt payment of \$1,000 mortuary benefit of the late Bro. W. A. Welch has been received through Court Butler, No. 1380, Hamilton, Ohio.

Mrs. Weigler, widow of the late Bro. W. D. Weigler, of Hamilton, Ohio, has, through the medium of Court Butler, No. 1380, acknowledged the promptness with which his benefit certificate was cashed.

ONTARIO.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY

AT

FORESTERS' ISLAND PARK.

It is by no means uncommon for friendly or fraternal societies to complete a quarter of a century of more or less useful existence. Quite a number of those operating to-day have had that privilege. But probably none of all that have turned the quarter century mark have celebrated a semi-jubilee with a better record of work accomplished or a more auspicious future before it than the Independent Order of Foresters, the first quarter century of whose existence was completed on the 17th of June last. When Col. Caldwell and his associates on the 17th of June, 1874, at Newark, New Jersey, severed the bond between themselves and the parent organization, it may be doubted whether his most ambitious hope for the future of his "independent" Order at all approached the actual achievements of the quarter century that it has lived. When Dr. Oronhyatekha and his colleagues, in June, 1879, stepped between the Order and ruin and practically rebuilt it, not even his masterful determination to make it the "best fraternal benefit society in the world" gave him the courage to expect that so large a measure of success would be the reward of the hazard and the work then undertaken. An organization that had no existence prior to the 17th of June, 1874, and five years later, owing to a combination of unfavorable conditions, could only muster 369 members, yet on the completion of the twenty-fifth year of existence could point to a membership roll of well-nigh one hundred and fifty thousand and an accumulated fund of almost three and a half millions of dollars securely invested, after having paid seven millions of dollars for benefits to members or their widows and orphans or other beneficiaries, besides all management and propagation expenses, may well be pardoned for feeling jubilant over the result; and if with the rejoicing there was mingled an element of thanksgiving, such as found expression in the religious services which were held throughout the wide-spread jurisdiction of Independent Forestry on the third Sunday in June, it would only be such an acknowledgment of divine favor as one naturally expects of the Order.

It has been the custom of the Supreme Chief Ranger, the Executive Council and the Head Office staff for several years past to celebrate the anniversary of the Order in some appropriate manner at Foresters' Island Park, near Deseronto, Ontario. This year, mindful of the semi-jubilee character of the occasion, the management took special pains with the preparations, that there might be nothing lacking for thorough enjoyment and true thankfulness. The excursion of the office staff arrived in Deseronto on Saturday, June 17th, about 12.30 o'clock. There were about 150 in the party.