

THE FORESTER

English Department

The Forester

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STE-CUNEGONDE, FEBRUARY, 1895

NOTICE

On account of unavoidable delay in the distribution of the first number of our journal, a great many Courts have not been able to receive it before their last meeting in February and decide to subscribe for the same. For that reason, we now mail again the second number to every Forester in this Province, either personally to those of whom we have the private address, or by the channel of the Court Deputies for the others; but in the future, those alone who shall have remitted the amount of their subscription through the Financial Secretary of their Court shall have their names entered on our mailing list.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Courts will please take notice that the dispensation granted to initiate members at charter rates has expired with the time fixed for the competition; after the first day of March, applicants will have to be charged with the ordinary initiation fees.

COMPETITION PRIZES.

All Courts or members who are entitled to any of the prizes offered by the High Court during the time of the competition must file their claims on the required form, with the High Secretary, John W. Stocks, at Sherbrooke, before the twentieth day of March, or shall *ipso facto*, forfeit their claims.

VICTOR MORIN, H. C. R.

JOHN W. STOCKS, H. S.

JOHN W. STOCKS, H. S.

All the members of this Province know the popular High Secretary, at least by name. Our readers will be pleased to see his likeness on the first page of this issue.

Bro. John W. Stocks, was born on March 12th, 1853 in Sherrington, County of Napierville, P. Q.

When the subject of our sketch was but eleven years old, his father died leaving to his care his widowed mother who had five children, of whom John W. was the oldest.

His grand father and father having come from England and being the first settlers in that neighbourhood as farmers, the duties of carrying on the farm to support his mother and brothers devoted principally on him. At that early age he had to give up the idea of attending school, thus neglecting his education except what could be learned evenings.

At the age of 18 becoming weary of farm life, and having a desire to learn a trade, the farm was left to the care of the younger brothers, and we next find him in the City of Troy, N. Y., serving a three years apprentice to a carpenter trade.

At the age of 21 he is married to Miss Libbie M. Oliver of Troy, N. Y., by whom he has 2 sons and 2 daughters; his oldest son being a printer by trade has just sent in his application and expects to be a member of the great I. O. F.

He belongs to many Fraternal Societies, but his earnest devotion and time is given to the Independent Order of Foresters in preference to all others.

He has served in the Fire and Police departments of the City of Sherbrooke for several years in active service with marked ability.

Bro. Stocks prides himself and very justly on being a self educated man a member of the English Church and in Politics a liberal-conservative; during the last 18 years he has resided in the City of Sherbrooke and has filled several callings to the entire satisfaction of his employers.

He first became a forester on

April 17th, 1885, being a charter member and organizer of Court Prince Albert, No. 149; was commissioned the first Court Deputy holding that office for 2 years, recording Secretary 2 years, and Financial-Secretary for the past 6 years, not missing one meeting since the Court was organized.

Being elected a representative to the Supreme Court meeting held in Montreal on August 20th, 1887, to petition the Supreme Court to establish a High Court for the Province of Quebec. There being at that time only 10 Courts with a membership of 280, and the few representatives, showed but little interest in the question of forming a High Court, not more than one half being in favor. However the High Court was instituted and in selecting officers to run the High Court, he was unanimously chosen to fill the responsible position of High Secretary, an office to which he has been annually and unanimously re-elected. Being a man of fertile resources, he is admirably adapted for his position and has been largely instrumental in putting the High Court, as well as his Subordinate Court in their present flourishing condition.

During the seven years he has discharged the duties of his important office with marked acceptance and ability, successive High Chief Rangers and High Auditors have spoken in terms of unqualified praise of the manner in which the work of the High Secretary's office has been promptly done. He is justly called the silent orator of the High Court of Quebec, but having an abundant love for the Order, he is willing to devote 24 hours per day, if necessary to the great cause of Forestry.

May the High Court long enjoy the loyal services of its High Secretary.

We have received a few personal subscriptions; this is right enough from parties who are not members of the Order, but as to members of a Court, they should apply to their Financial Secretary, as otherwise mistakes may happen.