

tion ceremonial was carried out, and greatly appreciated. Votes of thanks were passed for attendance of the three visiting officers, who each gave a short address. Afterwards matters of interest were discussed by pertinent questions put to the chair.

Courts "First North Staffordshire," No. 2,131, and "Sutherland," No. 2,106, Hanley, joined hands on the evening of the 21st Oct., to give warm welcome to Bros. Gerring, H.V.C.R., and Pyatt, H.V.C.R., and Wilkinson, H.S., expected visitors. There were educational advantages in the visit, and these were enhanced by the pleasing manner of the H.C.R. when conducting ceremonies as presiding officer. All untold, the members learned, as they saw the H.C. deputation deftly doing the work of court officers, that the attention to detail really added to the pleasures of the time spent in court meeting. The business of the courts, conducted in ordinary times in good form, will be brightened hereafter by the contact with these High Court officers. An address by the H.C.R., a time of conference, or kind of confab, on the proper interpretation in the Constitutions and Laws, a talk over adjacent places suitable for opening courts, and thanks to the deputation so rendered as to prove their heartiness, all combined to satisfy the H.C.R. and co-workers that there was enthusiasm and energy amongst the brethren in the Potteries which would bear fruit in the shape of new members and new courts.

On September 30th, in the Liberal Association Room, Headingley, Leeds, four brethren from neighboring courts attended to assist in the institution of a new court. The court-room was well-lighted, comfortably warm, pedestals draped. A small organ was provided to accompany the Foresters' odes. Brothers J. T. Jackson, H.V.C.R. of Central England, presided, and conducted the ceremonies, Bro. Martin, P.H.C.R., acting as V.C.R.; Sergeant-Major L. Watson as S.;— Youle as Chaplain. The unwritten work was given by Bro. Martin, P.H.C.R. It was decided to name the court "Headingley." The officers were duly installed. Bro. Watson, Chief Ranger, thanked the friends for helping on our grand Order. Though their numbers to-night were small when compared with some of the new courts on the new continent, yet he hoped they were the acorn seed of the king of the forests. Their progress might be slow, as from a small beginning, but still within their court there was the vigor and life of the oak. It was his desire that each officer should master the work, so that they would not be behind their Canadian or American brethren in the conduct of the business of the court in correct fashion. The social element should be prominent. Give brotherhood first place, and relegate the monetary advantages to fifth place, as in the Constitution. The comfortable room in which they met was kindly granted them free, save cost of gas and cleaning. They had the sympathy of the clergy in the shadow of whose edifice they were assembled, and the president of a successful Young Men's Union had approved

and was desirous of helping. Altogether their prospects were very bright. They must not fail in a united effort. Refreshments, thanks to visiting High Officers, due to them for their presence and their pleasant discourse upon the means to be used to bring success, and a hearty rendering of the Foresters' "Auld Lang Syne," brought the session to a close.

At a preliminary meeting held a few evenings since, a new court of the Independent Order of Foresters was started by Mr. A. T. Blamey, D.S.C.R., acting for the Supreme Court. On 7th Oct. the first officers were installed at the Alexandra Hotel, Marmion-road, Southsea. Mr. Blamey took the chair, and introduced Messrs. R. D. Child, C.R., and G. E. Buckle, R.S., of Court No. 2,112, at Landport. Mr. Child conducted the ceremony of initiation, rendering the whole ceremony verbatim in a most masterly and impressive manner. Officers were then installed by Mr. Blamey, D.S.C.R., who was assisted by Mr. Buckle, acting as Marshal, and Mr. Child as V.C.R. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded Messrs. Child and Buckle for their assistance. Mr. Child, in responding, gave a short account of the work and history of the Order, and stated that 19,329 applied for membership during last year, 18,000 being accepted. He advised them to take no notice of the statements made by those who might consider it their interest to oppose the good work we were doing. He considered the Order the grandest institution in the world. Mr. Buckle spoke of the fraternal advantages of the Order. They were bound together man to man to give assistance to each other in time of need.

The last meeting of Court Streatham, No. 2154, held on the 15th Oct., was specially blessed with "new features." First of all the members met in an enlarged Court-room, containing no less than six musical instruments, viz., two Grand pianos, one upright ditto, a cello, a violin, and a musical box. Is it any wonder, then, that so much "harmony" prevails in this court, and that visiting brethren express themselves highly gratified with the results of their visits? In the second place, and yet it really should come first, the court was honored by the presence of Dr. M. Ward, H.C.R., who delighted the brethren by his kindness and geniality, and whose "little speech" on the progress of our beloved Order was quite cheering and refreshing, and helped the brethren to still further realize the advantages of Forestry. A third event of the evening was in the form of a presentation to Bro. Barnard, who had recently taken unto himself a wife. During the evening Bro. Slocombe proposed the Rev. J. A. Grant for membership, and it is hoped to initiate him at the next meeting, for which great preparations are being made by the brethren of this enterprising court. As usual, after business refreshments were handed round, and the brethren settled down to enjoy "the music," which has become so prominent a feature of Court Streatham under the management of Bro. W. G. Stott, High Treasurer and Chief Ranger of No.