

New York.

Court Bold Forester has shown unusual activity during the past year. Just one year ago they had only 24 members and now they number 79. An increase of 55, fifteen of whom were initiated in December.

Court Hennipen, organized in 1892, has to record the fact that they have experienced their first loss in the death of the late Bro. William Kilpatrick, and the widow of the deceased gratefully acknowledges her appreciation of the prompt payment of the claim.

Court Rochester, one of the most progressive courts in the State, initiated 25 new members during December. Bro. Geo. E. Cripps, Superintendent of Construction in the Water Works Department of the Bureau of Public Works of Rochester, is the new Court Deputy, succeeding High Court Auditor, Bro. Thomas Baker.

We are not only pleased to note, after two years' faithful services as C.D.H.C.R. of Court Watertown, Bro. D. E. Sweet retires with the good-will and hearty endorsement of the membership, but that he is succeeded by Bro. Jno. E. Folsom, the popular Alderman, who is equally proficient and deserves the well-earned preferment.

The High Secretary desires to return his thanks to the many courts which have invited him to be present at public installations, hops, oyster parties, candy pulls, smokers, musicales, entertainments, soirees, balls, etc., etc., and to say that he appreciates all such kindly feelings and wishes he might have the time to indulge in such an abundance of pleasures.

The re-election of Bro. Samuel Gompers as President of the American Federation of Labor recently, at Nashville, Tenn., reminds us that under the regime of the early days of the I.O.F., he served two terms as Supreme Marshal under appointment by the then Supreme Chief Ranger, Col. A. B. Caldwell. Bro. Gompers continues his faith in the I.O.F. as being "the safest and best insurance or

Bro. G. P. Martin, D.D.H.C.R., is to be complimented upon the selection of his staff, and for the excellent work done by them. We doubt if Buffalo, or any other city, has ever before seen such efficient work as done by this staff. With a new and brilliant regalia, when they file in to install the officers of any court, we doubt if there is a better looking D.D.'s staff in the I.O.F.

The staff is comprised of the following brothers: P.H.C.R., C. A. Kendall; H.M., F. Sehl, P.C.R. of Court East Buffalo, and is now serving his second term as its R.S.; H.V.C.R., Bro. Wiseletter, V.C.R. of Court Walden; H.T., E. Ess, the C.R. elect of Court Confident; H. Cond., R. H. Connor; H.R.S., W. W. Mitchell, the R.S. elect of Court Confident and H. Chaplain, F. L. Ende, C.D. and C.R. elect of Court Columbian.—*The N.Y. Ind. Forester, Buffalo.*

Court East Buffalo has indeed suffered a loss in the death of our personal friend, Bro. John J. Lund, who so efficiently filled the chairs of Fin. Secy. and Chief Ranger, and was, to a great extent, the main support of the court in its early days. We are in receipt of a letter of thanks from his bereaved widow, expressing her many thanks for the prompt payment of her policy, to the officers and members for many kind attentions and acts of

sympathy in her bereavement, and desires also to extend her gratitude and personal thanks to C. J. Reynolds, M.D., the Court Physician, for his unceasing attention and faithfulness.

Alas! after 14 months of continued successful leadership in the great race of High Courts, the State of New York gracefully droops her flag in respectful recognition to the High Court of Quebec and its popular High Chief Ranger, Bro. Peter Strathearn. It is true it is but a matter of four points (Quebec 186, New York 182), nevertheless it proves the rule we are fallible. Let us gird on our armor and work the harder to convince other High Courts they have no easy thing of it to beat us. Let our war-cry be "Excelsior," and everyone secure a new member. Now, Peter, don't let this thing occur again.

Court Genesee, with its usual enterprise, held their annual Reception and Ball at Royal Arcanum Hall, Rochester, January 20th. The decorations were appropriate and of beautiful design, the music exquisite, the refreshments the best the caterer could produce. The participants in the Reception performed their parts excellently, the ladies looked and dressed their prettiest, and everything was enjoyably fine from beginning to end. We are indebted for all this information, as well as a complimentary invitation to attend, to our friend and brother J. Ravnisen, Secretary of the Committee of Arrangements, for which we feel truly grateful, and only regret we were unable to be present.

The increasing labors of the "Founder," Bro. Col. A. B. Caldwell, P.S.C.R., are bringing forth good fruit. He has under way two courts in Syracuse, and is about to institute one in Auburn. He has been suffering of late with an unruly foot, whether of the gout, or the result of the extermination of some canine, our despatches do not make clear. It is evident, however, he is in favor with the Lady Companions of Syracuse, yet it is quite apparent they intend making him live up to the law he entrusts them with, as a newly-installed Sister died the other evening after he had imparted the secret work, by calling him down for not giving the regulation salutation on addressing the Chief Companion, who evidenced especial ability, and who caught the "old boy" napping, creating unusual amusement. Colonel, beware of the "wimmin'!"

Pennsylvania.

The Court reporter in Erie:—"It is seldom that you have a communication from this neck of the woods, and Court 768 has voted on me as a reporter. This oldest and largest court in the Keystone State was organized in March, 1891, and so far has never recorded a death. Our first court physician, Dr. J. R. Phillips, has been very ill since New Years, and Dr. J. T. Lawrence, our dentist, has been for several weeks in a Buffalo hospital.

Pennsylvania Court recently had an entertainment on which they realized \$30 profit.

About the last of January, No. 768 entertained the Foresters of North East Court, and on the 20th of this month it has invited South Erie and Oliver Courts to become its guests. These social greetings are proverbial with our Erie Foresters and the Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition, not only in Erie, but our High Court officers and deputies have given a decided impetus to Forestry in many cities of the Keystone State,