

lently worded address in book form from the officers and Knights of the Temple Encampment, No. 60, of the Royal Foresters.

But a still more delightful surprise had been held in reserve, and the Supreme Chief Ranger's cup of happiness was full to overflowing when Mr. E. S. Cummer, the oldest member of the Supreme Court staff, rose and presented him with a gavel and an address. This was a spontaneous expression for their Chief on the part of the entire staff. From the Deputy Chief Ranger down to the office boy, they had conspired together to prepare this surprise against Dr. Oronhyatekha's return. The Doctor was deeply touched by this unaffected mark of affection. It was inscribed to "Our Chief Beloved," and was the happiest possible testimony to the esteem and admiration that the members of the staff all entertain for the grand and good Doctor. The address graphically referred to the recipient's recent travels, to the breaking of new ground in Norway and other countries of Europe, to the admirable relationship that exists between all the members of the staff, and to the admiration and love entertained for the Supreme Chief, concluding by requesting Dr. Oronhyatekha's acceptance of a beautiful and artistically-wrought gavel, the workmanship of an ingenious brother in Forestry, and by expressing the hope that the Doctor might be spared for many years.

#### THE GAVEL A WORK OF BEAUTY.

The gavel itself, which was made by Ambrose Kent and Sons, is of such beauty as to merit description. The mallet head is of ivory with enrichments of silver and gold. Both sides of the mallet head are tastefully enriched. On one side the enrichment consists of the coat of arms of Canada in enamel, with our two-cross flags above them and the Bible surmounting the same. Alongside of this centre is the emblem of the Companions of the Forest on one hand, and on the other the I.O.F. emblem. On the reverse side of the mallet head is the American coat of arms, surmounted by the flag and Bible, with the clasped hands emblem on one side and on the other the Forestric emblems, the bow and arrow and the horn. On the top of the mallet is the crown. The handle is entwined with maple leaves, bearing the words: "Liberty, Benevolence, Concord, Lustre, Beneficence, Charity," and terminates in four Maltese crosses, forming a square. These are the emblems of Royal Forestry.

Then Miss Ethel Patterson, the youngest member of the staff, handed the Supreme Chief a choice bouquet of roses, and the presentations were over. Dr. Oronhyatekha requested a few minutes' grace to collect his thoughts and suppress the beatings of his heart after the manifestation of such an excess of kindness.

#### THE SUPREME CHIEF RANGER'S REPLY.

At the termination of the first part of the programme the Doctor made his speech. It was short, well-measured, and to the point all the way through. The Supreme Chief, by the way, is a master in the art of replying to addresses. Speaking with much emotion, he commenced by referring to the brilliance and hearty spontaneity of the reception that had been extended to him. Addressing himself first of all to the staff, he assured the fifteen male members and ninety lady members thereof that they had never been absent from his thoughts. He remembered them in Palestine, he remembered them in the presence of the Sphinx

and on the sands of Arabia, and he remembered them in every waking hour. His thoughts were forever on the Temple and its inmates, and the grand work they were doing. The most excellent Doctor told the following story, which is too good not to give in full: "When in the land of the Pharaohs," he said, "I went from the Pyramids to the Sphinx upon a donkey, and returned from the Sphinx to the Pyramids upon a camel. I thought, on both occasions, 'What would my staff say if they could see me now?' (Laughter.) When I was wandering through the hallowed places in Palestine my thoughts were more frequently upon you and upon the work that the Order was doing than upon the scenes I was beholding for the first time in my life. In the streets of Jerusalem I rode upon a donkey. It was not a large donkey, and I am not a small man. When riding upon that donkey I remembered a little lesson I used to read, I think in the second book of the old Irish National School Series. At any rate those of you who have read it will probably, like me, never forget it. It was about the old man and his donkey. I came to the conclusion that if you had seen me upon that beautiful little donkey you would have thought in your minds that man is better able to carry that donkey than the donkey is to carry him. (Laughter.) Coming out of the judgment hall of Pilate, the building known as Ecce Homo, I remounted my donkey. As my coat caught under me on the saddle I raised myself in the saddle and pulled out my coat-tail, and in coming down, the poor donkey came down also on his knees. (Laughter.) I had a most admirable Arab for a dragoman, and he had excuses for everything that occurred. 'Sir, you must excuse the donkey,' he said, 'he is a Mussulman; it is just 12 o'clock, and you know that all Mussulmans at 12 o'clock get down on their knees and pray.' (Laughter.) Under those circumstances I had to excuse the donkey."

#### THE SUPREME CHIEF'S COMPLIMENTS.

The Supreme Chief continued by saying he would not offend on such a joyous occasion by making a speech. Turning to Bro. McCaughan, he thanked the City Courts, Sherwood Forest, Lithos, Lebanon, Christopher Columbus and Parkdale for their appreciation, their thoughtfulness and their welcome. He then told how much confidence he had in the officers he had left behind, in the Supreme Physician, Dr. Millman; in Bro. Collins, whose duties as a Mystic Shriner kept him elsewhere; in Bro. Harper, the greatest constitutional crank in the world; in "Silent" Bro. Lawless, whom the Supreme Chief was pleased to say was the brains of the Order, "for which I get the credit. I will not, however, be able to say all I want to as he is here to-night; as well as all the remaining members of the staff, both in and out of the Temple." And then the Doctor briefly reviewed the work of the Order. He said:

#### WORK DONE.

"The Independent Order of Foresters during 1897 issued 32,528 new policies. There are fifteen old-line insurance companies of Canadian origin doing business in Canada to-day, and during 1897 these fifteen Canadian old-line companies issued 33,322 new policies, less by two or three hundred than the number issued by the Independent Order of Foresters alone. Now, what is still more remarkable is the fact that the 33,322 policyholders in the old-line companies carried only \$37,000,000 of insurance, as against \$39,000,000 of insurance