

paratively early age of 24. To the profession of law he has devoted his attention ever since. He practises in his native state, and is a member of the well-known firm of Wisner, Lee, and Aitken, of Flint, Michigan. In his profession, Bro. Aitken has secured a large practice, that is steadily increasing, and his reputation as a skillful lawyer and successful pleader is one of which he may be justly proud, and that speaks eloquently of his ability and integrity.

The Supreme Vice-Chief Ranger only became a Forester a year ago. His promotion has been unusually rapid; very few have attained to such high distinction in so short a time. He was elected by his Court in Flint, a representative to the High Court of Michigan, and by the High Court of his native state he was chosen a representative to the Supreme Court that met at Detroit last Sept., and by that representative and influential body he was chosen for the high office he now holds. His election by a body, the majority of whom were Canadians, shows the international and fraternal nature of the Independent Order of Foresters. His capacity for business was practically demonstrated by the valuable service that he rendered on the Finance Committee, and his address on the question of admitting women into the Order, showed him to be a clear and logical reasoner, and a persuasive speaker.

In his native state he enjoys wide scope for the extension of the principles of FORESTRY, in which he is an enthusiastic believer. In Michigan the INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS has met the most pronounced opposition, and also won some of its most signal victories. The membership is steadily growing in the state. Of the 32,000 members of this great Order between 6,000 and 7,000 are in Michigan, and among the various High Court jurisdictions Michigan comes next to Ontario. The withdrawal of one or two disappointed members, and their attempt to start a rival organization, offering lower rates, and no further medical examination tempted but very few INDEPENDENT FORESTERS from their allegiance, and the Order is to-day progressing in Michigan at a rate unequalled in its history. This is due to the fact that it is better known and, as a result, more appreciated; and also to the able advocacy of men of high standing like Bro. Aitken, the members of the high standing committee, and scores of other well-known citizens and prominent Foresters.

Bro. Aitken is a well-known member of other fraternal and benevolent societies. He is Supreme Counsellor for K.O.T.M., a position that he has held since the organization of that Order. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum, a prominent Mason and a Knight of Pythias. As might be expected, he has given a good deal of attention to the laws affecting fraternal service.

Politically he is a "Genuine Michigan Yankee by birth and habits," and here is no room to doubt his republican leanings, as his sympathies are "red hot." Never a candidate for office himself, he has given time and means to promote the success of the candidates of his party. For six years he held the non-political office of city attorney, being appointed to it by the city council. He is a member of the Episcopal Church.

In 1877 he was married to Miss Ada E. Long, of Milburn, N. J. They have no children. Our Supreme Vice-Chief Ranger seeks repose from the toil and distraction of the legal profession, in Cincinnatus-like following the plough. He owns

one of the finest farms in the state, and manifests great interest in the cultivation of the soil. He is president of the Industrial Fair Society of the district.

His home in Flint is a spacious and comfortable one. Its hospitality is well-known, and the brother wants it to go aboard, that to brother Foresters the "Latch-string" is always out, and within there is a Forester's welcome.

Every member of the Order will cordially unite in the wish that the distinguished Michigan brother may long enjoy his prosperity and his honors; and that the Order may long enjoy the service of his eminent abilities.

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## Children's Corner.

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### If I Were a Girl.

If I were a girl, a true-hearted girl,  
Just budding to fair womanhood,  
There's many a thing that I would not do,  
And numberless more that I would.  
I never would frown with my mouth drawn down,  
For the creases will come there and stay;  
But sing like a lark, should the day be dark—  
Keep a glow in my heart, anyway!

If I were a girl, a bright, winsome girl,  
Just leaving a childhood behind;  
I would be so neat, from head to my feet,  
That never a fault could one find.  
So helpful to mother, so gentle to brother,  
I'd have things so cheery and sweet  
That the streets and their glare could never compare  
With the charms of a home so replete.

If I were a girl, a fond, loving girl,  
With father o'erburdened with care,  
I would walk at his side, with sweet, tender pride,  
With ever a kiss and a prayer.  
Not a secret I'd keep that could lead to deceit,  
Not a thought I should blush to share;  
Not a friend my parents would disapprove—  
I would trust such a girl anywhere!  
—Linnie Hawley Drake, in *Golden Days*.

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### From Country to City.

The first thing for a boy coming to a great city to do is to take pains to start with right associations. In every such town there are innumerable circles of society. The community is too large for everybody to know each other, and therefore it divides up into many circles of common acquaintances, and in each of these the members are as well known to one another as are the inhabitants of a village. They are good and bad, evil in their influences and injurious in their tone and spirit, or salutary and helpful.

Where, then, shall the country boy go for society? The best place is to a church. In these days a city church is the centre of many social no less than religious activities. It is a life of industry in which men and women engage, so that something is going on ceaselessly, something to interest and to give scope for the ability of a young fellow and to satisfy his social instincts and de-