

THE ROYAL ARCANUM.

There are few organizations of this city or elsewhere which can make a better showing than our local council No. 1066. It began the year with 55 members, but young blood at the helm in the person of C. H. Baker as regent, with suitable associates. They set out to add to the membership largely and make every meeting a success. Mr. Baker informs us that Orator Edwin H. Brown has done his full duty in this respect and no matter what the weather, every member has known in advance that he would have a profitable evening at his Arcanum meeting, hence the attendance has been large. A general interest in the order has been awakened and the original 55 membership has gone up to 96, so that this council leads all others on this north shore. Early in the year a strife sprang up between ours and the Winnetka council as to the largest increase, to furnish a fine supper for both councils and the losing one to pay the bills. The Highland Park Council has been about 73 per cent and the Winnetka about 16 per cent and our boys have sent word to their Cook County fellows that they are about ready for that dinner.

This Council has also won the prize of \$15.00 from the grand council for its years record. The officers propose to make the meetings of '97 superior to those of the past year and may have some public meetings with talent from abroad. It has got so now that many of our best men wish to join chiefly for the social and fraternal aspects of the order. All classes of our citizens are represented in it except the halt, the lame and the diseased, for their medical examinations are very rigid and hence the order is everywhere composed of select men.

The order is fully 20 years old and therefore tried and tested and found safe and solid, constructed on business principles throughout. They have paid five losses here of \$3000 each, of untold value to some of the families. Death losses are paid within 20 to 30 days if it is all right. The younger a man gets in the low

er his rate of assessment. This council proposes to have a membership of 150 by January, 1898. No man who can, should fail to join the order at once.

The Club's Military Reception.

The great social function of the season thus far, was the Highland Park Club's reception to the officers and their ladies of the Fourth Infantry, at the club house New Year's eve. The soldiers had a special car all to themselves, through courtesy of the Northwestern. The reception began a little after eight o'clock, the committee on receiving consisting of Messrs. James H. Shields, George D. Boulton, Francis C. Brown and L. G. Yoe aided, of course, by Col. and Mrs. Robert H. Hall. The reception continued till about ten o'clock when the dancing began. Refreshments were served in the cozy dining room upstairs accommodating about twenty couples at a time, all under the charge of the Club steward. The hall, library, reception and billiard rooms were beautifully and profusely decorated with United States flags, holly, and evergreen and the officers all being in uniform, the scene was a gay and brilliant one. All the resident members of the Club were present and most of those who are spending the winter in Chicago, with their wives. Of the military present there were besides Col. Hall in command at the Post, Lieut. Col. Cook, Major Viele and nearly all the other commissioned officers with their wives and daughters. Most of our Park society young ladies were present. Several former young men residents of the Park returned for this delightful occasion, among whom we noticed Messrs. Boulton and Gault.

At midnight, as the old year passed and the new one entered, the entire company formed a circle, exchanged the season's greetings hand in hand and sang "Auld Lang Syne" and other appropriate tunes. Dancing was kept up till about 3 o'clock when the gathering broke up and by general consent it was one of the most successful and thoroughly enjoyable affairs of the kind ever held in the Park. Too much praise can-

not be given President Shields and his committee for the thorough and successful manner in which everything, even the minute details, was managed. It was admirable from first to last. Let us add, the music was by Kent's orchestra, of Chicago. The Club and their guests will long look back upon it as an occasion, unique and delightful in every respect.

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