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Book of Instruction
for
Minnesota Jurisdiction
D. E. S.

Sallie Mae Weddington

BOOK OF INSTRUCTION
for
EASTERN STAR CHAPTERS
MINNESOTA AND ITS JURISDICTION
(Prince Hall Affiliation)



Recommended in 1935 by
BRO. GEORGE L. HOAGE, JR., W. G. P.

Compiled by
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Approved by the
GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE
EASTERN STAR

MINNESOTA JURISDICTION
(Prince Hall Affiliation)

AUGUST 20TH, 1936

ROSA MOORE—*Worthy Grand Matron*
JAMES WATSON—*Worthy Grand Patron*
MITTIE B. CANNON—*Worthy Grand Secretary*

PREFACE

The compilers of this Book of Instruction have endeavored to supply a want, which has long existed in this Grand Jurisdiction. The use of two books for opening and closing has caused much confusion. It has been our aim to eliminate the conflicting parts and to beautify the work, by reproducing the entire line of March, Opening and Closing services together with some changes in the Funeral service, useful Preliminaries, not found in the McCoy Ritual for the enlightenment of our members, all in one book. A strict observance hereto will place the work in all Chapters on a higher standard.

This book is dedicated to our beloved Grand Chapter, in the sincere hope that every member will be able to obtain this work for their help and enlightenment.

PRELIMINARIES

These instructions provide for eighteen officers, viz.: Worthy Matron, Associate Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Patron, Secretary, Treasurer, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Chaplain, Marshal, Organist, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa, Warder and Sentinel.

THE ALARM

When giving an alarm at the door five distinct raps (5) shall be given which shall be answered by five raps from the outside. These will be followed by one from each side. Raps to be given in the following manner: xx xx x and are answered in like manner.

THE GAVEL

The gavel should not be used by a presiding officer in calling up an individual member or officer. One blow of the gavel calls the members to order; two blows of the gavel calls up the officers; and three blows calls up the Chapter. One blow seats the Chapter.

The presiding officer shall always rise during the opening and closing ceremonies of the Chapter and when addressing an officer in the chapter room.

When the Chapter is in session, officers and members, after receiving permission from the presiding officer, in passing from one place to another in the chapter room, shall proceed in straight lines, turn square corners. When passing from one side of the room to the other, they should always pass back of Esther's chair. No one should pass between the Altar and the East except during the Initiation, Installation and Floral work.

During the opening of the Chapter, Adah, Ruth and Esther shall take one step to the right of their

chairs. Martha and Electa one step to the left of their chairs, forming parallel lines.

THE CHAPLAIN

The Chaplain shall be in the East at the right of the Worthy Matron.

THE MARSHAL

The Marshal shall be in the East at the left of the Worthy Matron.

ASSOCIATE PATRON

The Associate Patron shall be in the West at the left of the Associate Matron.

REGALIA FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Sisters who are Present and Past Grand Officers, Matrons and Past Matrons shall wear a purple sash. The sash must be worn from left shoulder to right side. Jewels of office can be worn in addition. All other officers and members to wear scarf of five colors of the order, the blue to be worn next to the face, said scarf to be worn from right shoulder to left side.

The officers representing the points on the star to wear the appropriate colors to their point on the star.

Past Matrons when filling a station in any chapter must wear the regalia belonging to the station they are filling, and no two sets of regalia can be worn at one and the same time.

The dress for Sisters of the Eastern Star shall be white uniform, white gloves, white shoes and white stockings (*white rose in hair on Esther Day*). Present and Past Patrons shall wear a purple badge or jewel of office. Brothers of the order shall wear a badge of five colors, dark clothes and white gloves for all brothers.

TEST OATH

In examining strangers the committee shall require the one seeking admission to give the signs and passes belonging to each degree of the Order; also to require the Test Oath to be repeated with right hand on the Bible. Each visitor shall be examined separately.

TEST OATH

I,, in the presence of Almighty God and these witnesses, do most solemnly affirm upon my honor that I have been regularly initiated in a legally constituted Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and that I am in good standing in the Order and am not under sentence of suspension or expulsion and know of no reason why I should be excluded from the privileges of the Order (*kiss the Bible*).

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE GRAND CHAPTER. O. E. S.

The following oath of allegiance must be given all members joining any Chapter of this Jurisdiction, who come from any Sister Jurisdiction. Said oath to be given by the Worthy Patron.

You will repeat your name and say after me:

I,, in the presence of the Grand Master of the Universe and of this respectable assembly, hereby solemnly renounce any former connection that I may have had with other Sister Jurisdictions, promising to obey the general regulations of the Minnesota Jurisdiction, its constitution and by-laws, the by-laws of this Chapter and so far as in me lies, to support the Minnesota Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, acknowledging said Grand Chapter the proper authority to disseminate the Eastern Star work in this Grand Jurisdiction: So help me God.

INITIATION

The Minnesota Grand Chapter recognizes Robert McCoy's Adoptive Ritual as the proper work to be disseminated in this Jurisdiction, under such rules and regulations as may be by law, prescribed. Said book shall be used for all initiation ceremonies.

ALTAR SERVICE

To be used during opening and closing ceremonies.

When the Chaplain leaves her station to approach the Altar for Prayer, she proceeds far enough to the West, by way of the North so that when she turns she will advance in an oblique line to the Altar between the chairs of Esther and Martha, raising her hand in attitude of prayer (*fingers interlacing each other; thumbs pressing each other across and upon the breast*); after offering prayer she steps back between Esther and Martha, back of Martha, remaining there until seated by the Worthy Matron.

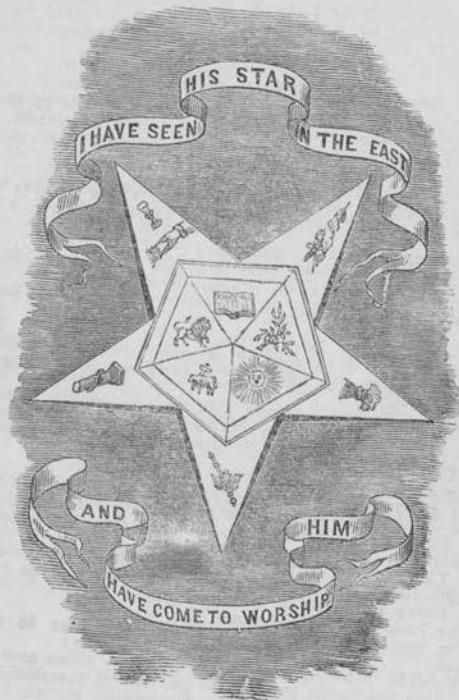
When the Worthy Patron offers prayer he enters to the Altar by way of the South, advancing on an oblique line to the Altar between the chairs of Ruth and Esther; after prayer he steps back into line between Ruth and Esther, behind Ruth until seated by the Worthy Matron. When the Patron offers prayer the Associate Conductress attends the Altar instead of the Conductress.

When the Chaplain offers prayer the Conductress attends the Altar, thus keeping the two lines balanced at all times.

At the conclusion of prayer the Chapter responds, "So May It Ever Be."

LINE OF MARCH

During the Opening Ceremony in the Retiring Line of March, all officers retire except the Worthy



SYLLABUS.

EASTERN STAR.

I.—The SIGN OF JEPHTHAH'S DAUGHTER is made by three motions. First cover the face with a veil or handkerchief.

1. Take the veil in the hands at the lower corners, raising it as high as the forehead.

2. Drop and raise it again as before.

3. Drop and raise it as before, then throw it over the head to the back of the neck, holding the ends firmly in the hands.

The PASS—"Alas, my daughter!"

For explanation of the SIGN, etc., see Ritual, page 56.

II.—The SIGN OF RUTH is made by three motions. Take in each hand something to represent a handful of barley straw.

1. Let the hands hang perpendicularly at the sides. Then raise and hold them out horizontally forward, the elbows pressing against the sides of the body, as if showing the barley straw.

2. Bring the hands nearly side by side on the breast, a little way under the chin, letting the heads of the barley straw (or their substitute) fall gracefully over the shoulders.

3. Cast the eyes upward.

The PASS—"Who is this?"

For explanation of the SIGN, etc., see page 61 of the Ritual.

III.—The SIGN OF ESTHER is made by three motions.

1. Raise the right hand, the palm downward, a little over the head, as if touching a crown there.

2. Throw the hand forward, as if touching a sceptre held by opposite person, the hand on a level with the eyes.

3. Carry the hand to the left breast.

The PASS—"What wilt thou?"

For explanation of the SIGN, etc., see page 66 of the Ritual.

IV.—The SIGN OF MARTHA is made by three motions.

1. Join the hands together at the tips of the thumbs and fingers, forming the figure of a triangle.

2. Raise the triangle thus formed directly above the eyes.

3. Raise the eyes, looking through the triangle.

The PASS—"Believest thou this?"

For explanation of the SIGN, etc., see Ritual, page 67.

V.—The SIGN OF ELECTA is made by two motions.

1. Cross the arms over the breast, the left arm over the right, the ends of the fingers on the shoulders.

2. Cast the eyes upward.

The PASS—"Love one another!"

For explanation of the SIGN, etc., see page 73 of the Ritual.

VI.—The GRIP is given in two motions.

1. Taking the right hand of the opposite person in the ordinary manner of shaking hands.

2. Move the thumb to the fleshy part of the hand, between the thumb and forefinger, and give a slight pressure.

VII.—THE CABALISTIC WORD upon the block of the star are the letters F. A. T. A. L. Each letter is the initial of a word which together make up the special motto of the degree—"Fairest Among Thousands Altogether Lovely." On examination these letters or the words they represent are given alternately, by the person and the examiner, the person being examined giving the first letter or word.

VIII.—GRAND HONORS. Cross the arms over the breast, the right arm over the left, the ends of the fingers resting on the shoulders, and making a graceful bow.

EXPLANATION OF BLANKS ON PAGE 85:

First blank—"I have seen his star in the East."

Second blank—"What do you here?"

Third blank—"I have come to worship him."

Fourth blank—"I have six signs, five passes, and two mottoes, one a general, the other a special motto, a word and a grip."

The Passes and Signs are described by each character above, and at their respective points.

Blank on page 86, twenty-fifth line from the top:—SIGN OF SALUTATION is made by interlacing the fingers of the right and left hands.

Same page, bottom line:—GENERAL MOTTO—"I have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him."

Page 87:—SPECIAL MOTTO—"Fairest Among Thousands Altogether Lovely."

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH.

The Palace is called up.

The following obligation is then recited, when each person who has taken the obligation is required to hold up the right hand during the recital:

1. Ladies in the presence of these witnesses, and in addition to your former obligation, you pledge the sacred honor of a woman, and you, my brethren, the honor of a Master Mason, to the faithful performance of the conditions of this obligation.

That you will not be present nor assist in conferring this degree on any man not Masonically known to you to be a Master Mason, nor on any lady not vouched for as being the wife, widow, mother, sister, or daughter of a Master Mason, and having received the Eastern Star degrees in a legal manner.

The Palace is called down.

The secrets of the degree consist of a *Hailing Sign*, the *Answering Sign*, the *Pass*, and the *Counter Pass*.

2. The *Hailing Sign* is for the lady to raise her left hand and cover her chin.

3. The *Answering Sign* is the same, made with the right hand.

4. The *Pass* for the lady is SOLOMON, The *Counter Pass* for the gentleman is SHEBA.

The *Symbolical Chart* has the Camel and the Palm-tree. The Camel is an emblem of the land over which Sheba ruled; the Palm-tree the land over which Solomon ruled.



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ALTAR SERVICE

To be used during opening and closing ceremonies.

When the Chaplain leaves her station to approach the Altar for Prayer, she proceeds far enough to the West, by way of the North so that when she turns she will advance in an oblique line to the Altar between the chairs of Esther and Martha, raising her hand in attitude of prayer (*fingers interlacing each other; thumbs pressing each other across and upon the breast*); after offering prayer she steps back between Esther and Martha, back of Martha, remaining there until seated by the Worthy Matron.

When the Worthy Patron offers prayer he enters to the Altar by way of the South, advancing on an oblique line to the Altar between the chairs of Ruth and Esther; after prayer he steps back into line between Ruth and Esther, behind Ruth until seated by the Worthy Matron. When the Patron offers prayer the Associate Conductress attends the Altar instead of the Conductress.

When the Chaplain offers prayer the Conductress attends the Altar, thus keeping the two lines balanced at all times.

At the conclusion of prayer the Chapter responds, "So May It Ever Be."

LINE OF MARCH

During the Opening Ceremony in the Retiring Line of March, all officers retire except the Worthy

Patron, Associate Patron, Associate Conductress, Chaplain and Organist. On retiring or entering the chapter room, in the line of march, the officers may retire or enter by either door but always in two files. The hour for opening the chapter having arrived the Worthy Matron and Patron ascend the dias (*East*). The Worthy Matron with one blow of the gavel calls those assembled to order and proceeds as follows:

Worthy Matron—"All members present come to order and if there are persons present who are not members of the order, please retire." (*Pause*) "All officers present resume their stations." (*If any officers are absent the Worthy Matron will appoint members present to fill stations and proceeds as follows*): "Worthy Patron, the officers are now ready to retire." (*Presents gavel to Worthy Patron.*)

Worthy Patron gives two blows of the gavel which calls up the officers, at that time the Worthy Matron descends from the dias and stands directly opposite the Marshal facing the West in the North Line of March. The Warder advances from her station in the South line of March back of Ruth and stands directly opposite Esther, who has moved from her station back of Martha, in the North line of March facing East.

Worthy Patron—"The officers will now retire for the opening ceremonies of the chapter! Sister Marshal." Marshal—"Worthy Patron."

Worthy Patron—"Will you take charge of the line of march?"

Marshal—"I will Worthy Patron." (*Music*) Retire as follows:

Marshal and Worthy Matron advance West in line of march directly opposite each other. As they start, the Secretary and Treasurer move from their stations and stand in line of march; the Secretary in the South line as far back of Adah as Adah is from Ruth, facing

West; the Treasurer in the North line as far back of Electa as Electa is from Martha, facing West. Each remain standing until the Marshal and the Worthy Matron meet at the back of Esther's chair. In retiring, immediately after the Marshal passes Adah's station in the South line of march, Adah steps to the right of her chair, turns to the right and faces the West; and immediately after the Worthy Matron passes Electa's station in the North line of March. Electa steps to the left of her chair, turns left and faces the West; each remain standing in position for retiring and as the Marshal and Worthy Matron pass the other officers in the line of march, they also turn in the same manner and face West in position to retire. When the Marshal and the Worthy Matron meet at the back of Esther's station, the Marshal stops and remains standing, dividing the lines of march; the Worthy Matron advances in the march to the Associate Matron's station, where she is joined by her on the right, they retire together, leading in the retiring line of march. As soon as the Worthy Matron starts from Esther's station the other officers advance immediately and retire in couples in the same manner. Immediately after the Secretary passes the Conductress joins in the line of march and advances in like manner to where the Marshal is stationed, and is joined on her right by the Marshal, they retiring together, concluding the line of march.

(All having retired, the door of the Chapter is closed. The officers hold their places, turn to the right and face East in position for the entering line of march.)

ENTERING THE CHAPTER ROOM

Worthy Patron—"Sister Associate Conductress."

Associate Conductress—"Worthy Patron."

Worthy Patron—"Invite the Worthy Matron and other officers to enter the Chapter room." *(Associate Conductress advances West from her station in the re-*

tiring line of march, South to Esther's station, West to Associate Matron's station, then South and West to the door. On opening the door she addresses the officers as follows.)

Associate Conductress—"By order of the Worthy Patron. I invite the Worthy Matron and other officers to enter the Chapter room."

(As they proceed to enter the Marshal advances in front of the line of officers [leading] and the Associate Conductress takes the Marshal's place at the left of the Conductress at the head in the North line of march.) Worthy Patron gives three blows of the gavel, which calls up the Chapter. *(Music)*

Enter Marshal leading, the officers in couples, turning square corners as in retiring. They march to the front of the Associate Matron's station, then back of Esther's station, where the Marshal turns West, and with a wave of her hand, palms out, separates the lines. As each couple approaches, one line leads South led by the Conductress, followed in line by Secretary, Adah, Ruth, Warder and the Worthy Matron, which forms the South line. The other line turns North, led by the Associate Conductress, followed by Treasurer, Electa, Martha, Esther and the Associate Matron. The Conductress and the Associate Conductress advance in line to the East, remain standing until the Worthy Matron and Associate Matron meet at the proper position, half way between Esther's station and the Associate Matron's station, a little to the South and North respectfully. The Marshal then turns and passes to a position in front of the Associate Matron's station facing East and in the rear of the Worthy Matron, and the Associate Matron, forms with these two officers an "Equilateral Triangle" in the West. The other officers form lines outside the star officers chairs and spaced equally distant, stand facing the East, form the "Hollow Square" about the Altar, the correct position of the

officers assumed for the opening of an Eastern Star Chapter. *(All standing.)*

Worthy Patron—"Sister Conductress, you will escort the Worthy Matron to the East."

Conductress turns to the right and marching West on the outside of the South line of officers advances to the Worthy Matron and, offering her left arm, escorts the Worthy Matron to the East in a direct line between the Altar and Martha and Electa stations.

On arriving at the rostrum the Worthy Patron extends his right hand to the Worthy Matron, assisting her to ascend, bows and, placing her in her station, presents her with the gavel, then steps to his station at her left. The Conductress returns to the West again by way of the North and there forms together with the Marshal and the Associate Conductress an "Equilateral Triangle."

The Associate Conductress in the meantime escorts the Associate Matron to her station in the West, returns and stands behind the Conductress and Marshal to complete the "Equilateral Triangle."

All officers remain standing until seated by the Worthy Matron.

Worthy Matron—"The officers will resume their stations and prepare for the active duties of the Chapter."

(Worthy Matron waits until officers arrive at their stations before sounding the gavel to seat the Chapter.)

OPENING THE CHAPTER

The Sentinel closes the door and sees that the ante-rooms are secure. When all is in readiness the W. Matron will say:

W. M.—Sisters, Brothers and Visitors of Chapter No. Order of the Eastern Star, the hour has arrived for us to resume our labors. To open our Chapter in a manner that will insure the solemnity of our work, and to secure the best results, I must

require your uninterrupted attention and assistance. Sister Associate Matron, ascertain whether all present are members of the Order of the Eastern Star, or entitled to be present. *(As each officer is addressed by the W. M., she rises without further signal, and remains standing during the ceremonies of opening.)*

Associate Matron—Sister Conductress and Associate Conductress, ascertain and report if all present are members of the Order of the Eastern Star and entitled to be present. *(W. M. is seated. Associate Matron takes charge, stands.)* When the Associate Matron can vouch personally for all present as members of the Order she may so declare. When the Conductress and Associate Conductress are taking the pass, all members must stand and give the pass and the grip of the degree. Conductress and Associate Conductress are requested to report if all present are members of the order. They start from their stations and march directly East, collect Pass from W. M. and W. P., keeping abreast, and collect the Pass from all in the East, South, North and West, and last the star officers, then turning square, meet at the back of Esther's station, facing each other. If either officer should find a person not known to her personally to be a member of the order, she will request that person to stand and give the name and number of the Chapter to which she or he is a member, and will say: Conductress—"Sister Associate Matron, a stranger." If the Associate Matron can vouch for the stranger, she will say: Associate Matron—"Sister Conductress or Associate Conductress, the sister (or brother) is vouched for." If she cannot personally vouch for the stranger she will say: Associate Matron—"Is there a member present who can vouch for the stranger?" If no one present vouches for the stranger, she or he should be requested by the Associate Matron to retire for examination. The Associate Matron should not receive a voucher from anyone not known

by her to be a member of the order, unless such person is vouched for by another whom she knows to be qualified. If the Worthy Matron requests the committee to examine the stranger after the Chapter is open, and satisfactory examination is passed, the committee with visitor in charge will return, and proceeding in front of the Associate Matron's station make the usual salutation and present the visitor, giving the name and number of the Chapter to which the visitor is a member. It is courteous and proper for the Worthy Matron to call up the Chapter and in a few words welcome the visitor and invite her to be seated.

When the presiding officer responds to the salutation sign, given by visitors on entering the Chapter while in session, she or he should politely direct them to be seated.

Report of Conductress and Associate Conductress: Associate Conductress—"Sister Conductress, all on the North are members of the Order" (*if not, report as instructed, and after reporting they proceed to the Associate Matron's station*).

Conductress—"Sister Associate Matron, we find all present members of the Order of the Eastern Star." (*After reporting they immediately face the East.*)

Associate Matron—(*stands*) "Worthy Matron, all present are members of the Order of the Eastern Star and entitled to be present."

Worthy Matron—(*stands*) "It is well." (*Pause; Conductress and Associate Conductress, keeping in line, return to their stations.*) "Sister Warder."

Warder—"Worthy Matron."

Worthy Matron—"You will instruct the Sentinel that we are engaged in the solemn ceremonies of opening our Chapter and direct her (*him*) to permit no interruptions to be made while we are thus engaged." The Worthy Patron will assure himself that the brothers present are entitled to seats in the Chapter, and so an-

nounce the fact to the Worthy Matron. Warder in due order goes to the door, gives five (5) raps (xx xx x), and is answered by the Sentinel, after which the Warder opens the door.

Warder—"Sister (*or Brother*) Sentinel, we are about to engage in the solemn ceremonies of opening our Chapter. You are directed to let no interruption be made while we are thus engaged."

Sentinel—"The order will be obeyed, Sister Warder."

Warder—"Worthy Matron there will be no interruptions from without."

Worthy Matron—"Sister Associate Matron." (*All officers stand as they are called on during the opening ceremonies and remain standing until seated by the Worthy Matron.*)

Associate Matron—"Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What number of officers constitutes a complete Chapter in the Minnesota Jurisdiction?"

A. M.—"A complete Chapter requires eighteen." Their titles are: Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Associate Patron, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Warder, Sentinel, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa, Chaplain, Marshal and Organist.

W. M.—"Where is the Sentinel stationed?"

A. M.—"Outside the closed door."

W. M.—"What are his duties? and explain his badge of office."

A. M.—"To protect the Chapter against the introduction of improper persons. His badge of office, the Cross-swords within the star, emblems of protection, admonishes him that upon his watchful care depends our security against interruption, without which the solemnity of our proceedings would be destroyed and all secrecy lost."

W. M.—"Where is the Warder stationed?"

A. M.—"At the Southwest entrance of the Chapter, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are your duties, Sister Warder? and explain your badge of office."

Warder—"To act in conjunction with the Sentinel in protecting the Chapter from the intrusion of improper persons. My badge of office, the Dove within the star, an emblem of peace, admonishes me that a state of harmony and serenity becomes all our proceedings, and that I should use my utmost endeavor to promote it."

W. M.—"Where is the Associate Conductress stationed?"

Warder—"In the North, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are your duties, Sister Associate Conductress? and explain your badge of office."

A. C.—"To receive and prepare candidates for initiation, and to assist the Conductress in the active duties of the Chapter. My badge of office the Baton within the star, an emblem of direction, admonishes me that good discipline is essential to the success of our society. My own attention to the directions of my superior officers will be the measure of respect which others will pay to me."

W. M.—"Where is the Conductress stationed?"

A. C.—"In the South, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are your duties, Sister Conductress? and explain your badge of office."

C.—"To ascertain if all persons are entitled to be present at the opening of the Chapter, and to conduct candidates during their initiation. My badge of office, the Scroll and Baton, emblems of prepared plans and their fulfillment, admonishes me that the first impressions made upon a candidate, when entering our Chapter, are permanent, and should be for good; and that it depends greatly upon the manner of conducting her

through the mazy labyrinth of our rite, to make these impressions lasting and what we desire they should be."

W. M.—"Where is our Secretary stationed?"

C.—"In the Southeast, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are your duties, Sister Secretary? and explain your badge of office."

Secretary—"To carefully observe the proceedings of the Chapter; to record that which is proper to be written; to receive all moneys due the Chapter and pay the same to the Treasurer, taking her receipt therefor. My badge of office, the Cross-pens within the star, emblems of power and intelligence, admonishes me that as a faithful record is kept by an invisible pen of all our thoughts and actions, so I must be faithful to my trust, that the good deeds of my companions may not go unrecorded, and that the money intrusted to my hands shall have proper record and direction."

W. M.—"Where is our Treasurer stationed?"

Sec.—"In the Northeast, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are your duties, Sister Treasurer? and explain your badge of office."

Treas.—"To receive all money from the Secretary, giving her a receipt therefor, and to pay them out only upon order signed by the Worthy Matron and Secretary. My badge of office, the Cross-keys within the star, emblems of security, admonishes me to the strictest fidelity in the preservation and disbursement of the funds intrusted to my keeping. The relief of the distressed and the necessary expenses of our Chapter would be forfeited by a violation of the sacred obligations assumed by me."

W. M.—"Where is Adah stationed?"

Treas.—"At the first point of the Star, Worthy Matron."

(Adah, Ruth and Esther standing one step to the right of their chairs, Martha and Electa standing one step to the left of their chairs.)

W. M.—“Sister Adah, communicate to us the duties of your station, and explain the color and emblems appropriate to the blue point of our central Star.”

Adah—“To make known to all proper inquirers the light, knowledge, and beauty of the blue ray, which represents the clearness of the sky, when all clouds have vanished, and symbolizes chastity, loyalty, fidelity, and a spotless reputation. My emblems are the Sword and Vail, emblematic of the heroic conduct of Jephthah's Daughter, whom I represent.”

W. M.—“Has this degree a sign?”

Adah—“It has, Worthy Matron, and it is given in this manner.” (*Gives sign according to Secret Work.*)

W. M.—“Sisters and Brothers, when you see this sign given, what response have you?” (*Chapter responds by giving the Pass of the Degree.*)

W. M.—“Where is Ruth stationed?”

Adah—“At the second point of the Star, Worthy Matron.”

W. M.—“Sister Ruth, communicate to us the duties of your station, and explain the color and emblem appropriate to the yellow point of our central Star.”

Ruth—“To make known to all proper inquirers the light, knowledge, and beauty of the yellow ray, which symbolizes constancy, purity, and the lustre of great brightness. My badge, the Sheaf, is an emblem of plenty, which being composed of distinct and minute parts, is gathered together by patient industry. Such was the generous labor of the humble gleaner Ruth, whom I represent.”

W. M.—“Has this degree a sign?”

Ruth—“It has, Worthy Matron, and it is given in this manner.” (*Gives sign according to Secret Work.*)

W. M.—“Sisters and Brothers, when you see this sign given, what response have you?” (*Chapter responds by giving Pass of the Degree.*)

W. M.—“Where is Esther stationed?”

Ruth—“At the third point of the Star, Worthy Matron.”

W. M.—“Sister Esther, communicate to us the duties of your station, and explain the color and emblems appropriate to the white point of our central Star.”

Esther—“To make known to all proper inquirers the light, knowledge, and beauty of the white ray, which symbolizes light, purity, and joy. My badge, the Crown and Scepter united, is an emblem of royalty and power. In the exercise of high authority, we should be governed by the purest principles of justice and moderation. It was by the practice of these attributes that Esther, whom I represent, saved her people from extirpation.”

W. M.—“Has this degree a sign?”

Esther—“It has, Worthy Matron.” (*Gives sign according to Secret Work.*)

W. M.—“Sisters and Brothers, when you see this sign given, what response have you?” (*Chapter responds by giving Pass of the Degree.*)

W. M.—“Where is Martha stationed?”

Esther—“At the fourth point of the Star, Worthy Matron.”

W. M.—“Sister Martha, communicate to us the duties of your station, and explain the color and emblem appropriate to the green point of our central Star.”

Martha—“To make known to all proper inquirers the light, knowledge, and beauty of the green ray, the purity and freshness of which are emblems of delight, the beauties of nature, symbolizing hope and immortality. My badge, the Broken Column, is typical of the death of a human being, cut off in the vigor of manhood, and expresses the sisterly grief of Martha, whom I represent.”

W. M.—“Has this degree a sign?”

Martha—"It has, Worthy Matron, and it is given in this manner." (*Gives sign according to Secret Work.*)

W. M.—"Sisters and Brothers, when you see this sign given, what response have you?" (*Chapter responds by giving the Pass of the Degree.*)

W. M.—"Where is Electa stationed?"

Martha—"At the fifth point of the Star, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"Sister Electa, communicate to us the duties of your station, and explain the color and emblem appropriate to the red point of our central Star."

Electa—"To make known to all proper inquirers the light, knowledge, and beauty of the red ray, symbolically representing ardor and zeal, which should actuate all who are engaged in the holy cause of benevolence. My badge, the Cup, is an emblem of the bitter draught, of which we are constantly partaking through life; but, however distasteful, will, in the end, overflow with blessings, rich, abounding, and eternal."

W. M.—"Has this degree a sign?"

Electa—"It has Worthy Matron, and it is given in this manner." (*Gives sign according to Secret Work.*)

W. M.—"Sisters and Brothers, when you see this sign given, what response have you?" (*Chapter responds by giving the Pass of this Degree.*)

W. M.—"It is well, and when a member of the Order hails us with any of these signs, we will recall the merits of the heroine whose sign is given and respond with proper attention."

W. M.—"Where is our Associate Matron stationed?"

Electa—"In the West, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are your duties, Sister Associate Matron? and explain your badge of office."

A. M.—"To assist the Worthy Matron in the discharge of her duties, and to preside during her absence.

My badge of office, the Refulgent Sun within the Star, an emblem of brightness, admonishes me to assist the Worthy Matron, by my counsel, as the rising sun enlightens the day, being ever ready to assume her station, should she be absent."

W. M.—"Where is the Worthy Patron stationed?"

A. M.—"At the left of the Worthy Matron in the East, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"What are his duties? and explain his badge of office."

A. M.—"To preside during the conferring of degrees and at other times when requested to do so by the Worthy Matron; to act as her advisor and see that the officers are proficient in the work and exercise a general supervision over the affairs of the Chapter; his badge of office, the Square and Compass within the Star, an emblem of the relationship existing between the Masonic fraternity and the Order of the Eastern Star."

W. M.—"Where is the Worthy Matron stationed?"

A. M.—"In the East, Worthy Matron."

W. M.—"Explain her duties, responsibilities, and badge of office."

A. M.—"To preside over the deliberations, and see that the purposes of the Chapter are properly conducted. Her badge of office, the Gavel within the star, the highest emblem of authority, admonishes her that upon her judgment and discretion rests the government of this Chapter, and the prosperity of our beautiful Order in this place. Her responsibilities to God for the faithful discharge of her duties in this Chapter, and to her Sisters for the dissemination of light and knowledge, should ever prompt her to do her work in the spirit of faith and prayer."

W. M.—"It is in this spirit that I propose to open our Chapter, and perform whatever duties may devolve upon me; and that we may have the needed grace to do our work well, let us pray."

The Worthy Matron calls up the Chapter, when the Chaplain (or Patron) offers the following. (*use form adopted.*)

PRAYER

O Lord of all mercies and blessings! commend us, we beseech Thee at this time, in taking upon ourselves the work of extending the reign of peace and love upon earth. Grant us, first, a willing mind which Thou wilt accept according to that which we have; and then, such ability from Thy hand that we may add honor to the noble cause we have here espoused. Bless our humble labors to the promotion of truth and love, unity and peace. Make all grace to abound toward us. Enrich us in everything to all bountifulness, that through us, there may be thanksgiving unto Thee, our God. Amen. "So May It Ever Be."

W. M.—"You have all spoken well, my Sisters, and given utterance to noble sentiments. The pleasing thoughts, so beautifully expressed, are embodied in our Opening Hymn, in which I request you all to join."

OPENING ODE

Air—"One day nearer Home."

Begin the work of praise, The joy of song begin;
And bid the mys-tic-al ray To enter in, The gleaming light, the guiding light, The light that shines a-far!
It yields a radiance pure and bright, The beautiful, beau-ti-ful Star.

It tells of deathless Love, And Faith and Hope sublime; It lifts the soul above All things of time.

Cho.—The gleaming light, etc.

Then let the song of praise Our evening task begin;
And bid the mystical rays to enter in.

Cho.—The gleaming light, etc.

At the conclusion of the singing the Worthy Matron says:

W. M.—"In the name of the departed heroines

whose virtues we should strive to emulate; in the name of our great Sisterhood, knit together in bonds of charity and sincere friendship, and in the name of our Heavenly Father who hath assured us that He loveth a cheerful giver, I declare Chapter No.

. Order of the Eastern Star, open and in due order for the dispatch of business. Sister Warder, you will so instruct the Sentinel. Sister Conductress (or Associate Conductress) attend the Altar."

The Warder informs the Sentinel that the Chapter is open; the Conductress opens the Bible on the Altar. (*Matthew, second chapter.*)

In opening the Chapter, the sign is given after opening the Bible. In closing the Chapter, the sign is given before the Bible is closed.

The Conductress remains standing in position directed until seated by the Worthy Matron. Chapter is seated and business proceeds.

CLOSING CEREMONIES

The business of the Chapter being completed, the Worthy Matron proceeds as follows:

W. M.—"Sister Associate Matron, does any work of charity or benevolence remain unperformed?"

A. M.—"None, Worthy Matron, within my knowledge."

W. M.—"Then, Sister Warder, you will instruct the Sentinel that we are about to close this Chapter, and permit no interruption to be made while we are thus engaged."

Warder in due order gives the alarm (xx xx x).

Warder—"Sister Sentinel."

Sentinel—"Sister Warder."

Warder—"We are about to close the Chapter and you are directed to permit no interruptions while we are thus engaged."

Warder—"Worthy Matron, your order has been obeyed."

W. M.—"It is well. Let us unite in singing our Closing Ode." (*Calls up Chapter.*)

CLOSING ODE

Air—"Home, Sweet Home."

The Star we have followed now sinks in the West,
But leaves in our hearts all its mem-o-ries blest.
As spring yields to sum-mer, yet fades not its bloom:
So bear we these mem-o-ries joyfully home.

Refrain

Joy-ful-ly home. Home, home, sweet, sweet home.
We praise Thee, our Fa-ther, who giv-eth a home.
When called from earth's labor to lands far away,
Where sorrow is pleasure and darkness is day,
May all now departing in harmony come.
And bloom in God's presence with angels at home.
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
We praise Thee, our Father, who giveth a home.

CLOSING PRAYER

Holy and Merciful God, Who answereth prayer and doth not scorn the petition of the humblest of Thy children, bestow upon us in our parting that spirit of affection which can resist the selfishness of the world and cause us to remember our obligation to each other and to Thee. Grant that we may all be permitted with loving hearts to assemble here again for our instructions for Thine honor and for the good of our fellow-men. All of which we ask for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

Response by Chapter—"So May It Ever Be."

Chaplain then steps back between Esther and Martha, and back of Martha, remaining in this position until the Chapter is closed.

W. M.—"Sister Conductress, you will attend the Altar."

Conductress approaches the Altar as in opening and with sign of salutation, which is responded to by Worthy Matron, closes the Bible and places it in position on the Altar; then with slight bow steps back between Ruth and Esther, and back of Ruth, remaining in this position until the Chapter is declared closed by the Worthy Matron. At the conclusion of the prayer, the Worthy Matron says:

W. M.—"Sisters and Brothers, we go forth into the world, not knowing the things that shall meet us there, save that trouble and trials everywhere abound in the labyrinth of human life. Let us never be dismayed, for our Heavenly Father has promised to strengthen us, to help us, and to uphold us with the right hand of His power."

Farewell!

All reply, Farewell!

W. M.—"I now declare Chapter No. closed; Sister Warder, you will so instruct the Sentinel."

Warder, without any raps, opens the door and informs the Sentinel—"Sister Sentinel the Chapter is now closed."

Worthy Matron gives one blow of the gavel, which closes the Chapter.

RECEPTION OF GRAND OFFICERS AND VISITORS IN GRAND AND SUB-ORDINATE CHAPTERS

Grand Honors shall be given to all Sisters and Brothers entitled to receive them.

All Grand Matrons, Grand Patrons, Past Grand Matrons, and Past Grand Patrons shall be presented at the Altar between the Altar and Esther; all other officers elective or appointed shall be presented between the Associate Matron and Esther.

It is the duty of the Marshal to introduce Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and Visitors.

Immediately after the Chapter is declared open if a Grand Officer is present the Worthy Matron will say: "Sisters and Brothers, we are honored by a visit from our Grand or Past Grand"

"Sister Marshal."

Marshal—"Worthy Matron."

Worthy Matron—"You will present our Worthy Grand" (Music.)

Marshal advances in line to the Worthy Grand, offers her or him her right arm and passes between the stations of Adah and Ruth, approaches the Altar and presents the visitor in the following manner:

Marshal (*salutes*)—"Worthy Matron I have the honor to present Sister or Brother Worthy Grand of the State of O. E. S." (*Visitor does not salute.*)

Worthy Matron—"Sister (*or Brother*) in behalf of Chapter I bid you welcome. Sister Marshal escort Sister (*or Brother*) to the East."

If the visitor is a sister, the Marshal in leaving the Altar passes between Martha and Electa and advances directly to the East where the Worthy Matron extends her right hand and receives her upon the rostrum. Calls up Chapter.

Worthy Matron—"Sisters and Brothers I have the honor to introduce Sister (*or Brother*) Worthy Grand of the State of O. E. S. and you will salute her (*or him*) with the Grand Honors." (*All salute. Marshal remains standing until after Grand Honors are extended.*)

If the Worthy Grand is a Brother the Marshal approaches the Altar in the same manner as a Sister between Adah and Ruth presented in the same form, the Marshal leaving the Altar between Martha and Electa, will turn to the left, proceed West and cross

the room back of Esther's station and advance East by way of the South to the rostrum, where he will be received by the Worthy Patron and the same form of introduction be observed. The distinctive honor should be shown by presenting the Worthy Grand Matron and Grand Patron separately. No Past Grand Officer, except Past Grand Matrons, and Past Grand Patrons should be presented at the Altar. All other Grand officers should be introduced and invited to a seat. They may be presented at the same time if desired, from west of the Altar between Esther's station and the Associate Matron's station.

INSTALLATION CEREMONIES OR ASSOCIATE PATRON, CHAPLAIN AND ORGANIST

(Not contained in McCoy's Ritual)

Marshal may arrange chairs in semi-circle about the Altar for officers. The Matron-elect should be given the Matron's Administrative degree before being installed as Matron.

PRAYER

After Prayer:

Installing Officer—"Sister or Brother Marshal."

Marshal—"Worthy Grand"

Installing Officer—"You will call the roll of the officers elected and appointed, who, as their names are called, will form a semi-circle on the West side of the Altar, facing East." The Worthy Matron on the extreme South, followed by the other officers to be installed, as follows: Worthy Matron, Associate Matron, Secretary, Treasurer, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Chaplain, Marshal, Organist, Warder, Sentinel, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa, Worthy Patron, Associate Patron. After the officers are arranged in a semi-circle:

Marshal—"Worthy Grand, the officers-elect are in order and wait your pleasure."

Installing Officer (*calls up officers*)—"Sisters and Brothers, behold those who have been selected as officers to serve you for the ensuing year. Do you still desire that they shall fill the positions to which they have been elected and appointed?"

Answer by Chapter—"We do" (*Calls up Chapter*).

Installing Officer—"Officers will repeat after me the following Obligation. Raise right hand."

Obligation—"I solemnly and sincerely promise, in the presence of the members of this Chapter, that I will, to the best of my ability, faithfully and impartially perform all duties belonging to the office for which I have been selected. That I will conform to the By-Laws of this Chapter and the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and do all in my power to promote the welfare and prosperity of our Order." Chapter and Officers will be seated. (*Now use McCoy Ritual, page 134, Annual Installation of Officers.*) After the Associate Conductress, use the following:

Installing Officer—"Sister Marshal, you will present the Worthy Chaplain for installation." The Marshal shall in presenting each officer for installation approach the Altar between Adah and Ruth's station and leave between Martha and Electa's station.

Marshal—"Worthy Grand, I have the pleasure to present Sister who has been appointed Worthy Chaplain for the ensuing year."

Installing Officer—"My Sister, we recognize our dependence upon the Source of all Wisdom and Strength, and often invoke the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon our work. It will be your duty to lead the Chapter in its devotions and perform such other duties

as are appropriate to your office. Sister Marshal you will invest our Sister (*or Brother*) with the badge of her office." (*Marshal responds.*)

Installing Officer—"My Sister, your badge is the Bible within the Star, a symbol of the word of God, admonishing you to walk circumspectly that your life may be void of offence toward God and man. Sister Marshal, you will conduct our Sister to the East at the right and in front of the Worthy Matron."

Installing Officer—"Sister Marshal, you will present the Marshal for installation."

Marshal—"Worthy Grand, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister, who has been appointed Marshal of this Chapter for the ensuing year."

Installing Officer—"My Sister, the position assigned you is one of honor and responsibility. It is your duty to superintend and marshal all processions, conduct and proclaim the officers at the time of their installation, and perform such other duties as pertain to your office. Sister Marshal, you will invest our Sister with the badge of her office."

Installing Officer—"Your badge is the Cross-Baton within the Star, an emblem of direction, admonishing you that courtesy and promptness are essential to the discharge of your duties. Sister Marshal, you will conduct our Sister to her station in the South-East, in front of the Worthy Patron. Sister Marshal, you will present the Organist for installation."

Marshal—"Worthy Grand, I have the pleasure to present Sister, who has been appointed Organist of this Chapter for the ensuing year."

Installing Officer—"My Sister, your duties are embodied in the name of your office. To make the Initiation Ceremonies as impressive and effective as we desire, it is important that you should be faithful to your

trust. Sister Marshal, you will invest our Sister with the badge of her office."

Installing Officer—"Your badge is the Lyre within the Star, an emblem of Music and Poetry, admonishing you that harmony with our Mystic Rite the impressions will be far more lasting. Sister Marshal, you will conduct our Sister to her station."

(At the conclusion of the Worthy Patron's installation, Ritual page 153, the following may be used.)

Installing Officer—"Sister Marshal, you will invest our Worthy Patron with the badge of his office. Your badge is the Square and Compass within the Star, an emblem of the relationship existing between the Masonic Fraternity and the Order of the Eastern Star, and admonishes you to be mindful of your obligation to the Order. Sister Marshal, you will conduct our Brother to his station in the East at the left of the Worthy Matron."

Installing Officer—"Sister Marshal, you will present the Associate Patron for installation."

Marshal—"Worthy Grand, I have the pleasure of presenting Brother, who has been elected Associate Patron of Chapter No. . . . for the ensuing year."

Installing Officer—"My Brother, the duties of your position are embodied in the name of your office. You are the assistant of the Worthy Patron in all branches of his responsible charge, and in his absence will respond to all his duties and prerogatives. It is necessary, therefore, to make yourself familiar with the duties of the office, in order that you fill it with credit to yourself and honor to your Chapter. Sister Marshal, you will conduct the Associate Patron to the West, to be seated at the left of the Associate Matron."

The officers having been installed, the Installing Officer resumes the ceremony of completing the installation of Matron (*page 153, McCoy Ritual*).

FUNERAL SERVICES

No Sister or Brother should be buried with the formalities of the Order of the Eastern Star, unless it be at her or his own request, or that of some of their family, communicated to the Matron or Patron of the Chapter of which they belong.

The Order should not turn out to conduct a service, unless they have complete charge (*Masonic excepted*), and should always be last with their service, the Masonic family having the last rite over their dead. It is important that the Burial service be rehearsed before going into public. Without a complete knowledge of the service the Order is often criticized as unworthy of the great Order of the Eastern Star, and the impression left on the public's mind can not be favorable. This service may be performed in a church, or at the house of the deceased, with proper change of language, etc.

The Marshal must arrange her lines to the very best advantage, space and conditions to be taken into consideration.

For the purpose of eliminating undue confusion we have eliminated all except the active officers who take part in the service, forming around the casket. When the time comes for the Order to take charge of their services the Worthy Patron at the left of the Worthy Matron take their places at the head of the remains, to the right of the Patron at the side are Adah, then Ruth; at the foot (*to the left of Ruth*) is Esther, to Esther's left is the Chaplain, to the right of the Matron at the other side are Martha and Electa. These eight (8) officers will conduct the services, the members having been called up stay in their places until escorted around the remains for view, by the Marshal. Adah, Ruth, Esther, Chaplain, Martha and Electa step back two steps from the casket to allow the members to pass between them and the remains. The Matron and

Patron hold their places at the head, until the services are over.

The foregoing arrangements being completed, the Patron will commence the services by saying:

Patron—"Friends, we are now assembled around the final resting place of these mortal remains, and are about closing the solemn duties of respect we owe to our departed sister (*or brother*). A few reflections, therefore, applied to the solemnities of this occasion, instructive and impressive as they should be to the living, may, with propriety, be offered on this sacred spot—a spot hallowed with the memories of departed friendship, which linger around the heart, awakening a thousand melancholy, yet pleasing reflections.

"We are often told that in the world of matter all bodies are subject to the laws of mutual attraction and repulsion. The Stars that fill the vault of heaven, the drops that make the ocean, the atoms that form the universe, are all controlled by a simple but mysterious power that renders the perfect isolation of even a grain of sand impossible. No human being can pass away into death without the knowledge or sympathy of some one. We cannot, if we could, live or die wholly unto ourselves. An individual may fall, unseen, unwept, unhonored, and unsung, but when he drops like a pebble into the ocean of eternity, a little ripple is created which must forever widen toward the limitless shore. The fashion of this world of sadness and sorrow, of error and vain regret, of hopes that wither like leaves, the fears that become cruel realities, of being sick and disappointed, of the aching hearts and bodies that need the rest of death.

"Our Father who is in heaven hath again reminded us of the brevity and uncertainty of human life, and hath warned us also to be ready for that day which comes at last unto all, when our bodies must return unto the dust from which they come, and the spirit

unto Him who gave it. Again our heads are bowed down and our hearts are heavy. The lesson of the present is full of deep and significant meaning. Our beloved sister has fallen in life's battle, acknowledged the supremacy of death, yielded to a victor whom none can resist, and entered upon the sleep that knows no waking. Her star is set in this world, and she has passed into the light that is beyond the valley of the shadow of death. With her we have traveled the pilgrimage of life, and sympathized in its vicissitudes and trials. She is now removed beyond the reach of our praise or censure. That we loved her our presence here evinces. As she in her life exemplified the virtues of those chosen servants of God—the lovely characteristics of the Order—so surely shall be her reward. The memory of her virtues linger in our remembrance, and reflect its shining lustre beyond the portals of the tomb. Sisters, brothers and dear friends, let us henceforward improve the remaining span of life, and be prepared to obey our heavenly Grand Patron's call, and go from our labors on earth to everlasting happiness in the world to come. Let us pray."

The Chaplain gives the following:

PRAYER

O merciful and loving Father, who hast made our present life but temporary, and thus decreed that the sorrow we endure shall not be perpetual, we thank Thee for the consciousness which Thou hast implanted in us that Thou dost exist, and that the grave is not the end of life. Pity and forgive the errors of the living, so that the evil consequences of sin may not follow them into the other world. May we endure the crosses of life patiently, as resting in hope of a blissful reward. And may we so labor upon the instructive designs of our Order that Charity, Friendship, Good

Counsel, and Morality may animate all our doings, and render us well pleasing in Thy sight. Amen.

"So May It Ever Be."

Hymn.

After singing the Patron takes the Floral Star, and says:

Patron—"This floral emblem of the Eastern Star, wrought in Nature's own hues and from her own materials, instruct us with an eloquence beyond that of words. Who does not love flowers? They not only please and gratify the senses, but also speak impressively and eloquently to the soul of heavenly things, and are the monitors of truth and righteousness. Flowers are the smiles of Nature, and earth would be a desert without them. In the ritual of our Society, flowers bear an important part. They suggest, through their colors, the fragrance and matchless forms, the brave lessons and womanly graces of the five heroines of the Eastern Star. It is proper, therefore, that in this, our most solemn ceremonial, we should introduce our traditional flowers, with their appropriate lessons and I shall call upon the immediate representatives of these heroines to remind us of the lessons they contain.

"Sister Adah, draw from these mute monitors of truth that portion of the Floral Star which suggests your particular place, and impart to us its signification." (*He hands her the Floral Star, she pulls from it the blue flower, and holding it up says*):

Adah—"This blue flower, symbolizing universal friendship, teaches the lesson of Undying Love. In the belief that true love is undying, I deposit this memento of our love with the remains of our departed sister."

Patron—"Sister Ruth, select that portion of the Floral Star which suggests your particular place, and impart to us its signification." (*He hands her the Star, she pulls from it the yellow flower, and holding it up says*):

Ruth—"This yellow flower, symbolizing interested kindness, teaches the lesson of Unending Possession. In the belief that true love is unending, I deposit this memento of our remembrance with the remains of our departed sister."

Patron—"Sister Esther, select that portion of the Floral Star which suggests your particular place, and impart to us its signification." (*He hands her the Star, she pulls from it the white flower, and holding it up, says*):

Esther—"This white flower, symbolizing truth and innocence, teaches the lesson of Heart Purity. In the belief that no word of God can be lost, I deposit this emblem of our reverence for the will of God with the remains of our departed sister."

Patron—"Sister Martha, select that portion of the Floral Star which suggests your place, and impart to us its signification." (*He hands her the Star, she pulls from it the evergreen, and holding it up, says*):

Martha—"This evergreen, symbolizing immortality, teaches the lesson of Undeviating Sincerity. In the belief that true love is ever sincere, and our faith in the blessed immortality, I deposit this emblem of our hope with the remains of our departed sister."

Patron—"Sister Electa, select that portion of the Floral Star, which suggests your particular place, and impart to us its signification." (*He hands her the Star, she pulls from it the remaining red flower, and holding it up, says*):

Electa—"This red flower, symbolizing fervency, teaches the lesson of Unfading Beauty. In the belief that sincere friendship is eternally beautiful, I deposit this memento of our friendship with the remains of our departed sister."

Patron—"Worthy Matron, at this solemn hour we have spoken from the five points of our Emblematic

Star, but our departed Sister (or Brother) hears us not. Will you now present your Floral Emblems as a tribute to the lasting memory of our departed Sister?"

Worthy Matron, with small bunch of appropriate loose flowers in her hand and a white rose in her bosom, approaches the casket.

Worthy Matron—"It is a natural wish that flowers should spring from the graves of those we love. In Paradise, we believe, they never wither. God has given us manifold and wondrous truths in the stars of Heaven, but the revelation of His love is not less plain in the flowers that are the stars of the Earth.

'Emblems of our Great Resurrection,
Emblems of that brighter, better land.'

"We strew them over the body of our departed Sister (*strewing flowers over the deceased member*) as an apt manifestation of our affection, equally of hope and reliance on that Beneficence of which they are the eloquent impersonation. (*Taking White Rose from her bosom and holding it up, says*): The White Rose, the queen of flowers, the perfection of the beauty and fragrance, is from its spotless purity a symbol of our belief that there is a purer and better state of existence beyond the grave. The pall may spread its velvet folds, and the sable plumes bow in stately bloom over the dead; but a single 'White Rose,' drooping amid its verdant foliage, speaks of our reliance on Divine promise that we shall be like a watered garden, when the bodies of those who sleep in the Lord shall come forth from the grave, radiant in the transfiguration of evangelic luster. Lord of all power and might, all Thy works praise Thee. We give thanks to Thee for Thy great love and do commend the spirit of our departed Sister to Thy keeping, that in the final judgment she may stand before Thee in glory." (*Presses the Rose to her lips and drops it into the casket.*) Then repeats:

"Until then, beloved, rest in peace." (*Steps back into line at right of the Worthy Patron.*)

Patron—"How instructive are these lessons! Love undying and unending, animating hearts that are pure and sincere, will inherit the unfading beauty of which the Holy Spirit hath spoken. In this belief, I deposit what remains of the Floral Star with the deceased sister. The duty we owe to the dead is performed. It remains that we who are living should so live and by our actions attend the coming of the day of fate, that we may neither be surprised nor leave our duties imperfect, nor our sins uncanceled, nor God unappeased; but that when our bodies, in their turn, descend to their graves, our souls may ascend to the regions of eternal light. Whatever fate is to befall us in this world, let the motto of our lives be, 'For the past, Charity; for the present, Hope; and for the future, Faith.'" (*Prayer by Chaplain.*)

PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, infinite in wisdom and goodness, extend to us the riches of Thy everlasting favor, make us grateful for the benefits we enjoy, and crown us with immortal life and honor. Thou hast decreed that we all shall die and come to dust. Thou hast also decreed that we shall rise from the death to everlasting life. In that faith may we live, ever remembering that here we have no abiding-place. In that faith may we die, ever believing that when our earthly house is dissolved, we shall be welcome to that glorious mansion not made with hands eternal in the heavens. Aid these mourning friends to feel that the ties of kindred, affection and friendship are not broken by death, and that the family in heaven and on earth are the same. Forgive our transgressions, strengthen us to perform our duties, comfort us in our sorrow,

and take us at last unto Thyself in heaven. Amen.

Chapter—"So May It Ever Be."

Hymn.

Members review remains.

At the grave the members of the Chapter sing one verse of our closing Ode, "The Star we have followed now sinks in the West," etc.

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