

CLOSING.

When the order of business is completed, the President gives two raps, and says:

Pres't. Brothers: Let us hope that we have well and faithfully performed our duties, and upheld the principles enjoined upon us by our obligation. We are about to separate to mingle again in the pursuits and temptations of life. Let us be firm in our resolve to march steadily and unflinchingly on as united men, until the success of our holy cause has relieved us from our labors. Ever remembering that our enemy is crafty and powerful, and will require our mightiest efforts to overcome him. Be careful, then, that not even by a whisper, or any act of ours, should we betray the high and noble purpose for which we are banded together as brothers.

* * * reposes confidence in the devotion and patriotism of her exiled children, and for her sake let us—with sealed lips, but with brave hearts—be ever ready to do and dare in her cause. With ardent hopes and faith strong that success will crown our efforts, by being true to ourselves, to * * * to the Organization, the God of eternal justice will smile on our cause and guide us to victory.

RITUAL.

1892.

GENERAL REMARKS.

THE D. A., in furnishing the Ritual for the use of C**ps, does so with the expectation that both officers and members will become perfectly familiar with every portion of it. The efficiency of the C**p, the utility of the ceremonies of Initiation and their impressiveness, depend entirely on the manner in which officers render their separate part of the work. Officers should commit to memory their part of the Ritual. It is an indispensable qualification for the position of President, Vice-President, and Past President, that members holding or aspiring to such positions should be good readers, capable of delivering their charges in an impressive—animated, but not hurried—manner, making it evident that they understand what they are teaching, and that they feel the importance of the sentiments they have to convey. C**ps may elaborate the Ritual with appropriate vocal or instrumental music, at opening or closing, where local opportunity and available musical talent will permit. The use of triangles or gongs by the President and Vice-President will be found impressive, by those officers striking the same in cadenced time, during the admission of candidates and their circuit to the various chairs. The ceremony of initiation should be made—as it is intended—

a source of instruction and not a meaningless formula, impressing, interesting, and refreshing the minds of the old members in their obligations and the principles of the Organization, as well as to instruct candidates, who usually fail to comprehend during the progress of initiation all that is conveyed to them; but in participating in, or observing, subsequent initiations they will gradually acquire that perfect knowledge of the scope and discipline of the Organization of which every member should be possessed.

The Past President may be elected to that position; but where this is not done, the President may select any brother to occupy the position.

The President should urge upon competent brothers the importance and necessity of learning and becoming familiar with the Ritual, so that no impediment to the efficient operation of initiation may be occasioned by vacancies. Officers should acquire a thorough knowledge of the Constitution, By-Laws, workings, and orders of the D. A. relative to any and all their duties, and at C**ps of instruction they may be questioned in relation to them. Ignorance will be no justification or extenuation of neglect of duty.

At "Good of the Order," the consideration of means for the extension of the Organization and its influences, the holding of literary or social exercises, re-unions or monthly meetings, or any thing that may be found instructive, dignified, or entertaining, will be proper; but nothing of a personal character, or of a nature foreign to the cause, should be permitted to come before any meeting of the C**p.

The Ritual, which is the private work of the Order, shall never be publicly quoted or exposed to non-members; and officers, upon retiring from office, must immediately transfer to their successors all Rituals and Constitutions in their possession.

C**ps can obtain new Rituals only through "B" of D. A. Those requiring new copies must return the old ones, or furnish satisfactory evidence that they were destroyed. Where C**ps have not a place of security in their halls for Constitutions, Rituals, or documents, provision should be made for their absolute safety from being tampered with or pried into.

All elective officers will wear on their left breast, at all C**p meetings, the rosette designated for their office.

The Supervisor in each District should visit, or designate some brother to visit, each C**p in his District, to insure uniformity of working, observe that the rules of the Order and provisions of the Constitution are properly enforced and complied with, and that the books, accounts, and funds of C**ps are kept systematically and properly.

Upon the death of a member, his C**p will don the usual emblems of mourning for five meetings. The system of mourning shall be to wear crape on the officers' rosettes, and have the gavels, sword, and centre altar trimmed with crape.

The President of each C**p will at all times furnish every facility to intelligent brothers of his C**p, or to those designated by the D. A., for the purpose of effecting the formation of new, or the reorganization of old C**ps.

All affidavits made by members—relating to, or in way connected with the T. H., or bearing on its interests—shall be made before a President or Vice-President, or chairman of a trial committee. Any member resorting to, or invoking the authority of the land, on account of matters transpiring in this Organization, shall be deemed guilty of Treason and be expelled, never to be restored to membership. The T. H. will administer its own laws, protect its own efficiency and interests, and the rights of any of its members, when required.

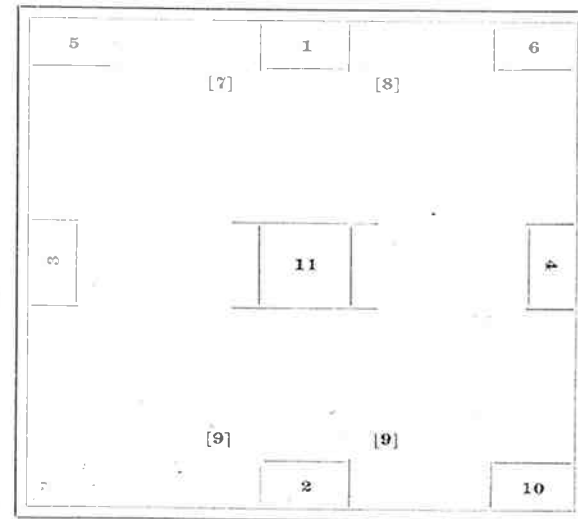
Each C**p will adopt some local public cognomen, to mask its workings and real character.

All elections for offices and positions of trust in the T. H. shall be conducted by formal and informal ballots. No *viva voce* nominations shall be made.

Members entering or retiring while the C**p is in session will salute the President or Vice-President.

Suspension for any offense shall not release members from their financial duties to the T. H. It deprives them of a vote or voice in the business of the C**p, or attendance thereat; and if a change of instructions occurs during the period of suspension, it precludes them from receiving same until the period of their suspension expires.

DIAGRAM, SHOWING POSITION OF OFFICERS.



1. President—Green and Yellow Badge, White Pendants.
2. Vice-President—Green and White Badge, Yellow Pendants.
3. Past President—Blue Badge, Yellow, Green and White Pendants.
4. Treasurer—Green Badge, Yellow and White Pendants.
5. Recording Secretary—Green Badge, Yellow and White Pendants.
6. Financial Secretary— " " " " " "
- Trustees—Green Badge, Yellow and White Pendants.
7. Guardian, " " " " " "
8. Warden, " " " " " "
9. Tellers, " " " " " "
10. Sentinel, " " " " " "
11. Centre Table, draped with Green, White and Yellow Flag.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Guardian's Examination.
2. Opening.
3. Reading Minutes of Previous Meeting.
4. Roll Call of Officers.
5. Reception of Committee Reports on Candidates.
6. Balloting for Candidates.
7. Initiation.
8. Propositions for Membership.
9. Reports of Committees and Officers. Reading Documents.
10. Collection of Dues—always in order.
11. Unfinished Business.
12. New Business.
13. Interchange of Signs and Tests by President and Vice-President.
14. Good of the Order.
15. Roll Call.
16. Receipts of the Evening.
17. Closing.

OPENING.

The President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, before calling the meeting to order, shall order all present who have not the current Instructions to retire to the ante room. The officers will take their respective places, wearing the insignia of their office. Vacancies are filled by appointment of President. A sentinel will be detailed for the outer and inner door; a Guardian will act as W., when the President will give one rap with the gavel, and say:

Guardian, examine those present and ascertain if they have the P. W.

If those who have retired are found to be in good standing, the President will instruct the Guardian to give them the P. W., and they will be admitted immediately in the regular form. The Guardian then proceeds to the centre of the room, holds up his right hand, and announces:

G. Mr. President, all present are T. H.

P. [Two raps.] This C**p of the T. H. will come to order.

When all present will arise.

Mr. Vice-President, what are the duties of your position?

V. P. To assist you in the duties of your office; take charge of the C**p in your absence, and care-

fully observe that no unworthy person is admitted to our meetings, and that those entering or retiring shall do so in a proper manner.

P. Sentinel, what are your duties?

S. To allow no person to enter who is not a T. H., and having the proper P. W.

The President shall then appoint a member to relieve the O. S., whom he shall, on his return to the room, address as follows:

P. Brother, the secrecy of our deliberations depends very largely upon the fidelity with which your duties are performed. You must allow no one to enter who has not the outside P. W., nor must you allow any person to loiter where they may observe or overhear any of the proceedings while this meeting is in session.

The President will then rise once with his gavel and address the brothers, as follows:

Brothers: We have of our own free will assumed duties and responsibilities of the noblest and gravest character, pledging ourselves to work devotedly and honestly for the complete independence of * * * Here we assemble as brothers, united in a holy cause, with an unselfish and single purpose. With a purity of heart must we labor, forgetting anything and everything that would mar the relations of love that should ever dwell amongst us. Let us, therefore, exercise a care over our thoughts, that no ex-

pressions of ours shall disturb the harmony or retard the good work we have undertaken. May we be enlightened and strengthened in our undertaking, that our actions and conduct will be influential in blending our people in union, to accomplish the liberty of a land, the elevation of our race!

All members present will raise their right hand and declare:

We solemnly renew our pledges.

INITIATION.

Perfect silence should prevail during the initiation—nothing else should occupy the attention of the members. The Guardian will see that the C**p is not disturbed during the ceremony, and let each member avoid any needless movement or word. At such a time a whisper may disturb or annoy a candidate or an officer, and mar the impressiveness. Each should endeavor to make the ceremony what it is designed to be—solemn and impressive. When it is ascertained that candidates are in waiting, the President will ask the Recording Secretary:

P. Mr. Secretary, have these candidates been duly elected?

S. Mr. President, they have.

The President will then instruct the Guardian to retire and examine the candidates, and administer the following obligation:

I, ———, do solemnly swear, that I will not reveal the fact of my coming here, the names or descriptions of any person whom I may hear or see, or any matters which I may learn in any way, from the moment of my entering this building to my departure therefrom, to any person whatever, until I am released from this obligation. I swear that my presence here is due to an unselfish desire to assist in bring-

ing about the independence of * * * ; and I furthermore swear, that I am not the emissary of any party desiring to obtain information. I fully recognize the heinousness of perjury, and I believe that no punishment can be too severe for any one who commits it.

After the candidate has taken the preparatory obligation, the Guardian will interrogate him and record his answers:

G. What is your name, age, birthplace (in detail), address, occupation?

G. Have you ever been a member of this Organization?

Answer: Yes or no.

G. Do you believe in the existence of a Supreme Being?

Answer: Yes or no.

G. As you have been made acquainted that our object is to assist in the accomplishment of the independence of * * * , by whatever means may be deemed necessary, are you willing to assist us in our purpose and take our obligation, without mental reservation?

Answer: Yes or no.

G. Will you obligate yourself that you will be willing to make any reasonable sacrifice in your power for the advancement of that cause, when called upon to do so by your superior officer?

Answer: Yes or no.

The Guardian will then report to C**p the names and addresses of the candidates, and if they have answered all questions satisfactorily, he will be instructed by the President to retire and prepare the candidates for initiation. The President will detail enough brothers to act as escort to the candidates.

The Guardian shall then obtain his sword, retire to the ante-room, and blindfold the candidates. He will then give three knocks at the door, as a signal for his associates to retire, one assistant conductor being selected for each candidate, who shall take a position on his right. The Guardian shall direct the march and station himself at the head of the escort. At the entrance door he shall give three distinct knocks with the sword. The door having been opened, the escort shall pass inside, when the door shall be closed. When the escort has advanced three paces, the Sentinel halts the Guardian abruptly, thus :

S. Halt ! Who come here ?

Escort halts.

G. Friends, who desire to unite with us in the cause of * * *

S. [To P.] Friends of * * * freedom ! Shall I permit them to proceed ?

P. Advance, friends.

G. Forward, march !

The Guardian will lead the escort and candidates to within three paces of the Past President, and shall command "HALT !" The candidates shall be aligned by the assistants, facing Past President. The Guardian will then say :

Sir : I present you these friends for instruction.

Past Pres't. My friends, animated by love, duty, and patriotism, you have sought affiliation with us. We have deemed you worthy of our friendship and our confidence. The men who are present have taken the obligation of our Order, and are endeavoring to fulfill its duties. These duties must be cheerfully complied with or not at all undertaken. We are * * *, banded together for the purpose of freeing * * * and elevating the position of the * race, and we believe that the first step on the road to freedom is *secrecy*. We aim to unite the moral, intellectual, and patriotic of our race in our cause. Be prepared, then, to cast aside with us every thought that may impede the growth of this noble feeling among * * * for once a member of the Organization, you must stand by its watchwords of *Secrecy*, *Obedience*, and *Love*. With this explanation, are you willing to proceed ?

Answer : Yes or no. If the answer is satisfactory, the Past President will say :

Conduct our friends to the President.

The Guardian having placed the candidates before the President, he shall say :

Sir : I present these friends for further instruction.

P. My friends, I welcome you on the path to freedom—many have gone the same road. As has been explained to you, the leading object of this Organi-

zation is the complete independence of * * * We come to this work with hearts of love for our stricken motherland. * * * has been deluged with the blood of her patriots. The widowed tear—the orphaned cry—the burned homestead—the famine graves, and the low, sad wail of agony and torture coming from our imprisoned countrymen in D—g dungeons—the peasant evicted from his habitation and made homeless and destitute by the roadside:—all appeal to us for justice, vindication, and liberty. To accomplish our purpose, we should move in perpetual harmony and subordination, and we require unquestioned obedience from the highest to the humblest member. *Secrecy* guards our workings from the stranger and the enemy; *Obedience* insures harmony and efficiency; and *Love* for the cause—love for one another—will concentrate our efforts and lead us to success. Our corner stone which we built on is *Secrecy, Obedience, and Love!*

Every one here has taken a solemn oath to be true and faithful to the trust we repose in him. This oath, however, does not conflict with any duties we owe to God, to our country, or our neighbors. It is an obligation earnest in its nature, imperative in its requirements, and lifelong in its duration. With this explanation of our principles, are you prepared to assume our obligation and our duties?

Answer: Yes or no.

If the answers are correct, the President will say:

Conduct our friends to the proper officer for obligation.

After marching to front of Vice-President, the Guardian shall halt the escort and say:

Sir: I present these friends to you for obligation.

Vice-Pres't. In the awful presence of God, I, ———, do solemnly swear that, animated by a sincere desire to labor for the independence of * * * , I will be a loyal member until death of the T. H., and that I will with unhesitating obedience carry out the orders of its officers; and that neither hopes, fears, rewards, nor punishments, shall ever induce me to reveal, directly or indirectly, to any person or persons, other than those duly authorized to know them, the secrets of this Order. I do not now belong, and will never become a member of, or give support to any organization antagonistic to the T. H. I believe that any violation of this oath is infamous, and merits the severest punishment. So help me God!

Kiss the book. (Assistants then retire.)

Vice-Pres't. Brothers, you now stand bound by the obligation of our Order, binding you to the performance of a three-fold duty, namely, the practice of *Secrecy, Obedience, and Love*; and as you start on your mission as T. H., it is my duty to impress on you what this chair will ever remind you of: *SECRECY*. We work unknown to the world, and in your own breast must the knowledge of the Order be buried.

This is the Vice-President's chair; its distinguishing color is white, implying the purity of motive and singleness of purpose with which we ought ever to stand by our obligation. You have to-night, of your own free will, sworn to be true to * * *, to the Order, to your race; that oath will have to be kept to the letter and spirit. While you respect it, those around you will be your friends; violate it, and wherever our C**ps are stationed, you will have sworn enemies. Let your conduct then be such that we will have no reason to regret admitting you this night to our Order.

(To Guardian.) Conduct the brothers to the President.

The President greets the new brothers by shaking their right hand, saying:

Pres't. I greet you, and welcome you to our ranks. The forms used in your initiation, though simple, are significant. You were blindfolded to veil our members from exposure to strangers. The sword used is to impress on you that * * * freedom can be secured only by force—that our duty is to nerve and strengthen ourselves to wrest by the sword our political rights from D — — c. Your restoration to light and freedom is typical of the mission this Order has to accomplish for our country. May God strengthen you to work with zeal and fidelity in what you have undertaken. Be mindful to make the cause of * * * the cause of Union and Fraternity; cast

aside all petty jealousies and sectional views, with one object ever in mind— * independence.

The name of this Organization is the T. H. Our branches are called C**ps, and are known by numbers; this is C**p No. ——. Our object is to cooperate and secure the concentration of * * * everywhere in establishing a republican form of government in * * *, to elevate the position of the * race, and to cherish and foster among ourselves fraternity, honor, truth, intelligence, and sobriety.

It being essential for the safety and efficiency of our Order to envelop it with the strictest secrecy, you must not mention the name or anything relative to the T. H. to any one, except members in good standing. Should you desire to secure some worthy person for membership, you will first have him proposed, and if elected, then indirectly ascertain his sentiments on the subject of secret * national organizations. If his views be favorable, you might then intimate to him that there is a secret Organization in existence working for * liberty, and that you can secure his admission therein—but no further information must you convey to him, nor mention the name of any person connected with the Order.

It has already been explained to you that the three cardinal virtues of our Order are *Secrecy*, *Obedience*, and *Love*. Ever bear these in mind. This is the President's chair, the guardian and director of the C**p. Its colors, orange and green, denoting that

* * * alone, not faction or prejudice, animate us. The distinguishing duty learned from the chair is Obedience. Should doubt or dissatisfaction arise, our laws prescribe the mode of redress; but, until revoked by the governing authority of the Order, the decision of this chair binds you to obedience. Its emblem is the gavel, ever the symbol of authority. Its stroke will call to your mind your duty of subordination. One rap of the gavel enforces silence and attention; two raps cause every brother to rise, and to remain standing until one rap is given, as a signal to sit down.

To enter a C**p when in session, you first give two distinct knocks at the door, which are answered by the Sentinel, and when he opens the slide, he hails: "Who comes there?" This you answer in giving your C**p and number, which he announces to the Vice-President, who directs him to admit you if correct; you next give him the P. in full. Upon being admitted you proceed at once to the centre altar, face the President, raise your right hand, at the same time striking your right heel against the floor, which when he notices, by raising his right hand, you take your seat. Should the President be occupied, face the Vice-President, and do likewise. The object of this is to direct the attention of the brothers present upon you, to guard against the possibility of any unworthy person securing admission, and also to remind you of the obligation of membership which you have just taken, and by which you are admitted to fellowship

amongst us. On passing an Outside Sentinel, he will throw you the hailing sign, which you will answer before passing to the inner door. (Describe signs.) Signs should be used as little as possible, the general means of recognition among members is by test words—two questions and two answers—by which in conversation you can recognize or test brothers, or they you. (Describe test words.) The pass word is the key of the Order; it is never to be spoken above the breath, nor given or received by any brother but the President, who alone has the power to instruct brothers therein, personally, or through the Warden and the Sentinels, who only receive it.

Three black balls reject a candidate. In proceeding to cast your ballot, you stand in front of the ballot box, facing the President, raise your right hand, at the same time striking your right heel against the floor, and announce your number, to remind you that by your oath you must exercise your privilege of voting fearlessly and impartially, neither permitting yourself to be influenced by motives of friendship or personal prejudice in reference to any candidate. General voting is done by raising the right hand.

Particular care is taken to avoid the use of names in this Order. Each brother is distinguished and known by his number, which you will receive from the Recording Secretary. Should you offer a motion, or take part in any debate, you will preface your remarks by holding up your right hand, addressing the President, and stating your number; also designating

RECEPTION OF A TRANSFERRED MEMBER.

When a transfer has been presented to the President, and he is satisfied that the brother presenting the card is entitled to be received as a member of the C**p to which the brother seeks admission, he will have the member retire to the ante-room, where the Guardian will follow, ascertaining the name of the member, the location and number of his C**p, which he reports to the President. If everything is satisfactory, the President instructs the Guardian to retire and present the member, which he does by marching linked with the member, and introduces him to the President, as follows:

G. Mr. President: I have the pleasure of introducing to you a brother who has been faithful to his obligation and true to the cause in seeking affiliation with us.

The President will welcome the member, and say:

P. With pleasure we welcome you amongst us, and trust that your experience in the Organization may increase your usefulness as a fellow member. You will give your name and address to the Financial Secretary, and be assigned your number upon our roll of membership. You are now received as a member of C**p ———, and we expect your attendance and assistance hereafter.

OBLIGATION FOR SUPERVISORS.

When a Supervisor has been appointed, he will appear before his President or Vice-President, and take the following obligation:

I, (name,) sincerely promise and swear that I will support the constitution of the T. H.; that I will implicitly obey and comply with all constitutional orders coming to me from the D. A., and, as far as

my power and influence extends, will make the members in my District do the same; that I will maintain discipline, and preserve and extend the Organization to the best of my ability; that on retiring from the position of Supervisor, I will transfer to my successor in office all property and documents that I may have in my possession, and will give to him my obedience and cordial support; that I will never enter into any conspiracy to destroy the T. H., or impair its efficiency as an Organization; and, finally, I swear that I will never reveal the names of the D. A. to any person or authority, under fear of punishment or hope of reward—*so help me God!*

OBLIGATION FOR RETIRING OR RESIGNED MEMBER.

I, (name,) do hereby promise and swear, in the presence of God and the members assembled, that I will during my entire life keep strictly secret the name, workings, and purpose of the T. H., and in all things which I know or have learned in relation to the same, and that I will never knowingly be a party to the injury of the Organization or any of its members.

OBLIGATION OF DELEGATES AT CONVENTION.

I, (name,) do solemnly swear, that I will never reveal to any persons or authority, either orally or written, the names of the D. A. elected at this convention; that I will give them my unhesitating obedience in all things bearing on the Organization, and that I will make known to them anything which I may learn that would be either beneficial or injurious to the Organization.

others in C**p by number, when addressing or referring to them.

President to Guardian: Conduct the brothers to the Past President.

Past Pres't. Brothers: It is my pleasing task to explain to you the particular duty which makes all our others light—that of *Love*. The grand primary object of all our efforts is to spread abroad an evangel of love amongst * * which will bind them heart to heart inseparably for * * * Disunion, with its concomitants of party and prejudice, has held our motherland in chains when she might be free; it is our work, then, to hasten the glorious day that will see us all brothers for * * * sake. History teaches that creed or clan are no sure tests of worth or love, and that the hell-fanned fires of faction have burned in breasts that should have beaten with tolerance and love. We make no political or religious tenet a test in our order. We work for * * * and we welcome every worthy son of hers, no matter at what altar he kneels to our common Father. If at any time you have allowed prejudice or passion to sway you, forget it; and remember, that if sometimes you are disposed to feel irritated at the actions of some of your countrymen, bear in mind your duty of love. Whatever may have been your feelings heretofore, to-night you join with us in banding * * in love, devoting yourself unceasingly to that duty. The color of this chair is blue, emblematic of harmony—as beneath the prism it blends all rays

of light into its own unchanging hues of fidelity and love; and it is thus that we, in looking through eyes of love, must ever blend faults, failings, and virtues of each other into one feeling of forgiveness and forbearance.

Conduct the brother to the President for the final instructions.

Pres't. Brother: Our centre altar, before which every brother stands on entering C**p and in voting, is draped with a tri-color—the emblem of republican aspiration. By the green and orange, we wish to represent the two warring elements that have weakened our country in the past, held together by the pure white of peace, by which we proclaim an eternal truce among all who love * * * It stands prominently in the centre of our C**p—a silent monitor, to remind us of our country, its aspirations, and our duty as * revolutionists. The financial obligation of this C**p is \$2.00 initiation fee and —.

Be careful you do not make improper use of these instructions, and let not the cause of our country, or the interests of the Order suffer through any want of prudence, perseverance, and courage on your part, while traveling onward on the path of freedom.

Brothers: I am happy to introduce to you our new brothers.

The P. will be given privately to new brothers, when convenient, before C**p closes.