

THE INEFFABLE DEGREES

**The Official
RITUAL**

OF THE

LODGE OF PERFECTION



Compiled by

THE UNITED SUPREME COUNCIL

of Sovereign Grand Inspector-Generals of the
Thirty-Third and Last Degree of Ancient and
Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry for the
Southern and Western Masonic Jurisdiction,
United States of America, its Territories
and Dependencies

Organized April 5, 1869

Holy See Is The Grand Orient of Washington, D.C.

WILLIAM R. DAMES 33°

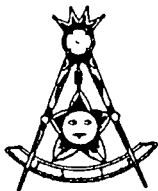
M.P.S.G.C.

Revised 1982

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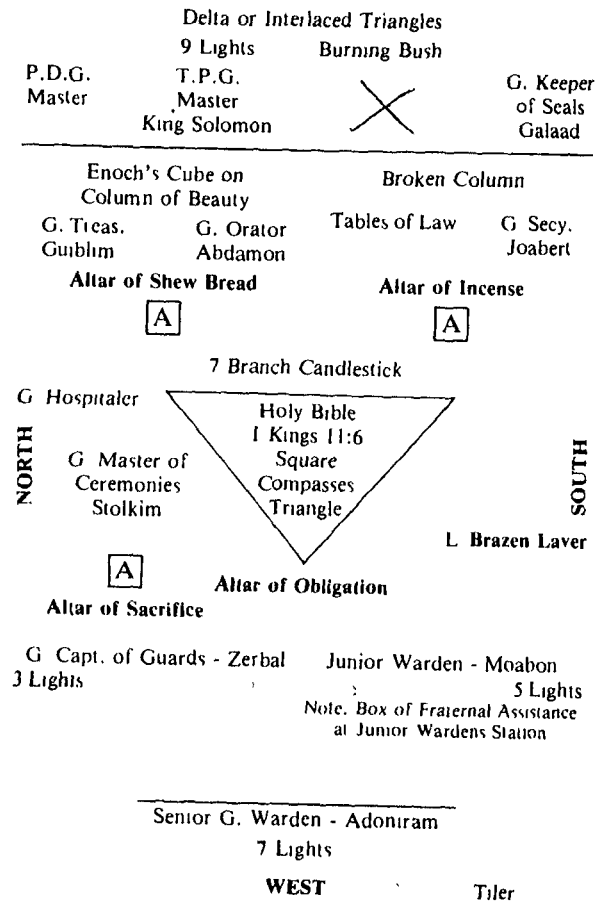
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EAST



THE INEFFABLE DEGREES

The Fourth and Secret Masters Degree deals with the appointment of 7 Secret Masters to take the place of G. M. H. A. to guard the Sanctum, one to be on duty at a time. The mysterious 7 alludes to the

- 7 degrees of happiness
- 7 cardinal virtues
- 7 laws or principles of Noah
- 7 days of the week (the last set aside for *secrecy & silence*)
- 7 Eastern churches
- 7 Seals

Fifth—Pfect Masters, *Funeral Degree*, calls to mind the respect owed to a departed memory. Lodge of Sorrow in A. A. S. R.

Sixth—INTIMATE SECRETARY Joabert, Solomons Lieut. of the Guards, through zeal, was accused of spying on H.K. of T. Joabert was afterward appointed as Confidential Secretary in place of H.A.

Motto: BEWARE OF EAVESDROPPING.

Seventh—PROVOST AND JUDGE Judges were appointed to administer justice among the Temple workmen, during the mourning period. Tito and others were appointed to replace Hiram.

Motto: JUDGE NOT . . .

Eighth — INTENDANT OF THE BUILDINGS (Architect and Director) Replacing GM HA. Five were appointed, one for each department of the Arch.

1. Adoniram - Pres., Board of Architects
2. Stolkim (Hebrew) Chief Carpenter
3. Joabert (Phoenecian) Chief Artificer in BRASS
4. Selec (Giblemite) Chief Stonemason
5. Gareb (Hebrew) Chief worker in silver, gold, and engraving.

Motto: CHARITY AND BENVOLENCE

Ninth—Knights Elect of Nine ELU OF NINE. First of three Elu Degrees Reward the zeal of a favorite of the King who brought justice to a craftsman. Beware of Excessive Zeal; Motto: DO NOT TAKE THE LAW IN YOUR OWN HANDS.

Tenth—Knights Elect of 15. ELU OF 15

Deals with arrest of remaining assassins. Justice will prevail, and the guilty will be punished. Ambition and Fanaticism, enslavers of mankind are overthrown and dispelled by the sword of FREEDOM. Bengabar discovered in quarry of Ben-Dekar in Gath. (15) Eleus sent to King Maaka to have criminal delivered. Zerbal, Stolkin and others discovered two assassins among the workers.

Eleventh—**SUBLIME KNIGHTS ELECTED**
(ELU OF 12)

The Faithful will be rewarded. Be Earnest, honest and sincere, protect against impositions. 12 of 15 elected as Governors of the 12 Tribes as reward. Called Princes Emeth or True men, collectors of revenue with supreme control.

They illustrate the details of detection and punishment by chosen and elect brothers.

Twelfth — **GRAND MASTER ARCHITECT**
School of Temple workmen - dwells with rules of Architecture, Liberal Arts, etc. Elaborates Fellow Craft Degree. VIRTUE IS AS NECESSARY AS TALENTS, TO A GRAND MASTER ARCHITECT.

Thirteenth — **KNIGHT OF THE NINTH OR ROYAL ARCH.** The climax of ineffable Masonry — the Keystone of the Arch — Discovers what is later revealed in Degree of Perfection.

Fourteenth—**GRAND ELECT, PERFECT AND SUBLIME MASON**

Reveals and explains the Tetragrammaton Completes the Temple, and narrates the destruction of both it and Jerusalem, and the death of Solomon.

72 Triangles	10
72 Names of Deity	15
72 Attributes	21
72 Angels	<u>26</u>
72 Steps on Jacobs ladder where ZOHAR says of Enoch "for God took him."	<u>72</u>

Jewels and Dress of Officers of The Lodge of Perfection

<i>Title</i>	<i>Jewel</i>
T.P.G. Master	Sun in Quadrant
<i>Regalia:</i> Yellow Rope, Crown & Scepter	Blue Satin Mantle,
D.T.P.G. Master	Moon in Quadrant
<i>Regalia:</i> Purple Robe, Crown & Sword	Yellow Mantle,
V.S.G. Warden	Gold Trowel in a Triangle
V.J.G. Warden	Sword in a Triangle
G.K. of Seals	Ivory Key in a Triangle
G. Treasurer	Gold Key in a Triangle
<i>Regalia:</i> Blue Robe, White Ribbon for Jewel. I.V.I.O.L. (Initials on Jewel)	
G. Secretary	Gold Pen in a Triangle
<i>Regalia:</i> Blue Robe	
G. Orator	Scroll in a Triangle
G.M. of Cer	Staff in a Triangle

G. Captain of the Guard Spear in a Triangle
 G. Hospitaller Winged Rod
 G. Tyler Flaming Sword

Aprons and other regalia will be such as is legislated by the Supreme Lodge of Perfection so far as the same does not conflict with or alter the ancient custom and usages.

Note: In all meetings of this Lodge of Perfection 14° a member other than an officer may wear the regalia of any higher degree or office he may have attained in Scottish Rite Freemasonry and must be recognized and afforded honors according to his rank and dress, except that he does not receive honors unless he outranks the presiding officer in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

OPENING

T.P.G.M. Giives*** (Capt. of Guard rises)
 —Bro. Capt. of Guards, where is your station?

C.G.—In the west very close to the Sentinels.

T.P.G.M.—What is your duty?

C.G.—To see that the guards are stationed, arrange for the comfort of visiting Masons and members of the Lodge, and aid the officers in performing their duties.

T.P.G.M. (Giving him the Jewel of his office)
 —Don the jewel of your office and attend to your duty. (He salutes, does so, and retires)

T.P.G.M. Raps***** (All the officers rise except the Wardens and the T.P.G.M.)

—Bro. G. Master of Cer. Where is your station?

Gr. M. C.—In the North. T.P.G.M.

T.P.G.M.—Your duty here?

Gr. M. C.—To prepare the candidates, and to conduct them through various mysteries.

T.P.G.M.—Put on the Jewel of your office. Stand always ready to perform your duty and ask Heaven to always conduct you in your pilgrimage. (He puts on his Jewel, salutes, and retires to his station.)

T.P.G.M.—Bro. Grand Orator, where is your station?

G.O.—In the Northeast, near the Pillar of Beauty.

T.P.G.M.—Why?

G. O.—That I might give lectures illustrative of our Order, instruct the new Candidates, and explain the Mysteries of Ineffable Masonry.

T.P.G.M.—Receive the insignia of your office. You are to represent the dignified and intelligent Abdamon, of ancient times, who was very well versed in the hieroglyphics and symbols, and well prepared in resolving various problems and enigmas. (The G.O. puts on his official jewel, salutes, and retires to his post.)

Γ P.G.M.—Bro. G. Sec'y, where is your station?

G.S.—In the South, near the Altar of Perfumes.

T.P.G.M.—Why?

G. Sec'y—To execute the Correspondence of the Lodge, by direction of the T.P.G.M. to notify the members of the Meetings, to keep the Minutes of our deliberations and to report all of the members that are alien and contrary to virtue and the virtuous.

T.P.G.M.—With the zeal and discretion of our ancient and dignified brother Johaben, whom you represent. Discharge faithfully the duties of your office. Receive the jewel of your office, and take your station. (He takes his jewel, puts it on, salutes, and takes his station.)

T.P.G.M.—Bro. Grand Treasurer, where is your station?

G.T.—In the North, in front of the altar of Shew Bread.

T.P.G.M.—Your duty there?

G.T.—To represent our brother of ancient times during the building of the Temple of Solomon by safeguarding the funds of the Lodge, carrying out orders given to me, and giving a strict account of all that comes in and is expended.

T.P.G.M.—Receive then, this Key of Gold, insignia of your station, and occupy your station.

T.P.G.M.—Bro. Grand Keeper of the Seals, where is your station?

G.K.S.—In the East, at the Left of the T.P.G.M.

T.P.G.M.—Why?

G.K.S.—To act as the representative of our Brother Galaad, and by guarding the archives of the Lodge.

T.P.G.M.—Let the Jewel of your office remind you of your duty. (Puts on jewel and takes post.)

T.P.G.M. raps*****

T.P.G.M.—Venerable Junior Warden, where is your station in the Lodge?

J.G.W.—In the South, in front of the Brazen Laver.

T.P.G.M.Z—Why?

J.G.W.—In order to preside over the Lodge when my three superiors are absent, and to represent the ancient brother who performed difficult and dangerous tasks for the glory and honor of the Fraternity.

T.P.G.M.—Venerable Brother, What is the hour?

J.G.W.—The sun is at its zenith, T.P.G.M.

T.P.G.M.—What is the purpose of this?

J.G.W.—That the Sun has reached its full height at Meridian, and diffuses its brilliant rays above us.

T.P.G.M.—It is time, then, that we get the benefit of this Light. Take your sword and receive the insignia of your office. Reward the just and punish the traitors and wrongdoers.

T.P.G.M.—Venerable S.G.W. Where is your station in the Lodge?

S.G.W.—In the West.

T.P.G.M.—Why?

S.G.W.—To aid the T.P.G.M. at all times in the discharge of his duties; preside over the Lodge in the absence of him and his Deputy, and act like the representative of Adoniram who held his tours of inspection over the workers at the Temple of God, in testimony of which, this Trowel is the symbol of my office.

T.P.G.M.—Venerable Bro. S.G.W. What brought you to this place?

S.G.W.—My obligation, my love of Masonry and the desire for reaching Perfection.

T.P.G.M.—What are the qualifications for acquiring that which you desire?

S.G.W.—A contrite spirit, an innocent heart, and a sincere love of virtue.

T.P.G.M.—How are we to behave in this place?

S.G.W.—With profound respect.

T.P.G.M.—How come it that rich and poor, Prince and subject are here always friends and brothers?

S.G.W.—Because there is something in that
D E L T A

(pointing) repeated on the pedestal and firmament, that is *greater than you*.

T.P.G.M.—Why is the DELTA the subject of your respect?

S.G.W.—Because it contains the Sacred name of the Eternal God, known, revered, and exalted in Heaven and on Earth by the name Great Architect of the Universe.

T.P.G.M.—What age are you?

S.G.W.—Three times three, the perfect number eighty-one when properly repeated by our mysterious calculation.

T.P.G.M.—How, my Brother, can you demonstrate this?

S.G.W.—I am a Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Mason, my travels are finished, and it is now time for me to reap the fruits of my labor.

T.P.G.M.—What did you contract when you were made a Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Mason?

S.G.W.—An alliance with virtue and the virtuous.

T.P.G.M.—What mark do you have to show for this?

S.G.W.—This gold ring, a symbol of Purity.

T.P.G.M. - Raps *** *** ALL RISE!—Where is the station of my beloved Hiram King of Tyre in this Lodge, Bro. Senior Grand Warden?

S.G.W.—In the East at your right, T.P.G.M.

T.P.G.M.—What is his duty?

S.G.W.—To act as your confederate, companion, and Deputy in order to demonstrate to the members the Royal Art, that happiness, resulting from an allegiance with virtue and the virtuous.

T.P.G.M.—Bro. of Tyre, where's my station?

S.G.W.—In the East, T.P., for the purpose of inspecting and governing this Lodge and sustaining and complying with its laws and the Constitutions, statutes and regulations of Ineffable Masonry.

T.P.G.M.—Bro. S.G.W., what hour is the clock?

S.G.W.—High twelve.

T.P.G.M.—What do you understand by that?

S.G.W.—The sun at its zenith darts its rays perpendicularly into this lodge, intimating the time to work efficaciously to the end of our perfection, and to profit by its generosity.

T.P.G.M.—Where will you find materials?

S.G.W.—In the treasurer and virtue of the perfect Masons, in regularly composing my actions in my heart by the square and compass of the Divine wisdom.

T.P.—Where is that Divine wisdom displayed?

S.G.W.—In the hearts of the worthy upright brethren who compose this respectable lodge, of which you are the supporter.

T.P.G.M.—Bro. S.G.W., Instruct the Capt. of the Guard and Master of Ceremonies to receive the Pass, from all Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Masons present and communicate it to the East.

S.G.W.—Your order will be obeyed. Bro. Capt. of the Guards and Master of Ceremonies, pass around the lodge and receive the pass from each of the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Brethren and communicate it to the East. (DONE)

T.P.G.M.—My Brethren, since we are all G.E.P.

and Sublime Masons, let us pray to the Great Architect of the Universe that he may enlighten and inspire us, let us all face the East and pray (right knee on the ground).

(After Prayer)—And now, my respectable brethren, I am going to enforce your designs to this effect. Brother Senior Grand Warden, announce that I am going to open this lodge of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons by the mysterious numbers, 3-5-7-9.

S.G.W.—Brethren, you will please take notice that the Thrice Puissant Grand Master is going to open this Lodge of Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Masons by the mysterious numbers 3-5-7-9.

Junior Warden*** All rise.

Senior Warden*****

Thrice Puissant*****

Thrice Puissant*****

Brethren, attend to the Signs.

T.P.G.M.—To the Glory of the Grand Architect of the Universe, and under the auspices of the United Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals of the Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern and Western Masonic Jurisdiction of the U.S.A., its Territories and Dependencies, Holy See is the Grand Orient of Washington, D.C. and by virtue of the authority on me conferred by this Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection, I declare its works thereof now opened.

S.G.W.—Brethren, this Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection is opened.

T.P.G.M.—Bro. Gr. Master of Ceremonies, attend to the altar and display the FOUR GREAT LIGHTS OF INEFFABLE MASONRY (I Kings 11:6). Bro. Capt. of Guard, inform the Sentinel. Together, Brethren (all make salutation sign [MM penalty], and be seated.

LODGE OF PERFECTION 14° ORDER OF BUSINESS

T.P.G.M.—Bro. Secretary, please proceed with the roll call of officers. (DONE)

Venerable Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, please request the Brethren in your valleys to listen attentively to the ENGRAVED TABLETS of our last communication.

S.G.W.—Elus is my valley, the Thrice Puissant Grand Master requests that you listen attentively to the Engraved Tablets of our last Communication, for information.

J.G.W.—(The same)

Asst. Grand Secretary reads Engraved Tablets.

T.P.G.M.—Brother Grand Hospitaler, do you know of anyone in this or any other Lodge who is sick or in distress?

If so, gives report and recommendation
Brother Grand Secretary, are there any communications?

Petitions

Candidates to be balloted for.

Old Business

New Business

Bills

Candidates in waiting, and for what degree.

In the A.A.S.R., the box of Fraternal Assistance must be passed at each convocation, and any member leaving prematurely must deposit his contribution in the box which is placed by the Junior Warden at his station. These funds are to be kept separately and disbursed by the Grand Hospitaler as he is directed.

ON ADDRESSING THE LODGE

On addresses the Lodge as follows:

Thrice Puissant Grand Master, Puissant Deputy Grand Master, Venerable Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Inspector Generals, Sublime Princess and Elus - Good Evening! Upon entering, after addressing, the sign given is the same as the penalty sign in the Master Mason's Degree.

INITIATION

Secret Master 4th Degree

Candidate is prepared as Master Mason with apron over his face and SQUARE on his forehead. M.C. leads him to door of Lodge and knocks *** ** *

Adorniram—Thrice Powerful, I hear a M.M. knock at the door of our sanctuary.

Solomon—Attend the knock and see who makes it.

Adoniram—Who knocks . . . ?

M.C.—One who knows where the Acacia grows, and would help us gather its fruit.

Solomon—Let him be admitted.

Adoniram (to MC)—Let him be admitted. (MC enters with candidate, conducts him 7 times around lodge, and then to Altar.

Solomon—While the Lord reigneth, let the people tremble, he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved; Praise ye the Lord - praise, O servants of the Lord; Praise ye the name of the Lord. Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Adoniram—I see this Master who bears the square on his head, and therefore gives assurance that reason

rules his mind, but he is yet blind; shall he who has learned to labor behold the resplendent name of God?

Adoniram—Thrice Powerful, if he is willing to pronounce the oath, which blinds us, we consent that he should be permitted to behold the mystic name.

Solomon—My brother, are you willing to comply with this condition?

Cand.—I am

Solomon—You will then kneel and contract your obligation.

REPEAT AFTER ME: I (your name) solemnly promise that I will not reveal the mysteries of the Secret Masters degree to the profane and will not unveil the wonders of the sanctuary, to the profane. I further promise to seek to know myself, and to that end will exert my mind and search my heart to discover my duty to myself, to mankind and to God: Amen!

Solomon—Together, Brethren (all clap *** ** *) (CANDIDATE IS BROUGHT TO LIGHT.)

Solomon (points to the mystic light)—My Brother, behold the resplendant luminary which now dawns upon our rite.

Heretofore the blazing star shone upon us, but its rays were scattered or dispersed: now, we have gathered them into a focus. They are now the light of the "All Seeing Eye", the omnipresence of Jehovah, whose mystic name it behooves us to know. That name can be learned only by him who knows himself and hence the circle which encloses the triangle of duty to self, to others, and to God.

Adoniram (knocks)—Thrice Powerful, a messenger

brings tidings of the remains of our departed Master Hiram Abiff.

Solomon—What tidings?

Adoniram—Agreeable to your order, his heart has been embalmed and put into an urn of the purest Gold, and the custodians of the precious treasure await your orders.

Solomon raps (** * ** *) all rise—Brethren, let us go upon a holy pilgrimage, follow me, in mournful procession to convey the precious remains of our deceased Master into the Holy of Holies.

Brothers Expert and Grand Master of Ceremonies, you will now invest the brethren with their aprons, and form a procession in the North, facing the East, with candidates and Adoniram at the head.

- Funeral Music -

Procession marches around the room - then to ante-room (door) and forms a circle around the urn which is guarded by two Secret Masters.

Solomon—Alas!

ALL—Alas! Alas! Alas! Alas!

Solomon—Oh, my brethren, well may we mourn the death of so great and so good a man, for by the deed that cut him off from us, we have lost the Word, the true name of God and the truth itself: In this Urn (take it) has been treasured up the heart of him who loved truth above all things. Let us convey it into the Sanctuary as a perpetual token of our sorrow and of our desire to recover that which was lost (gives urn to candidate). Brother, on you who have come to aid us on this memorable day we confer the honor of bearing these ashes to their sepulchre. (Procession is formed - M.C. Expert, Cand w/urn and Solomon - round the lodge and through the ante-rooms.

Solomon—O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth. Who has set thy glory above the heavens . . . Let us wash, as it were, in the Laver of repentance, put away the evil of your doings, acknowledge your iniquities, return unto the Lord, He will have mercy and to our Elohim he will abundantly pardon. Let us incite one another to practice virtue and shun vice, while our feet are walking in the way of his commandments, our hands should in like manner, work in his service. (Walking to laver) Saith the father of our Ancient Most Puissant Grand Master "I will wash my hands in innocence (washes hands) and so will I compass thine altar."

May he who beareth the keys of David, open a door of entrance to this our brother. You have hitherto seen only a thick veil which hides your view from the Sanctum Sanctorum of God's Holy Temple. Your fidelity, zeal, and constancy have won you the favor you are now about to receive of viewing some of our treasures and gaining admission into the secret or Holy place. (Procession stops at entrance of Sanctum . . . KS and Candidate and Adoniram march between columns and are stopped at balustrade by M.C.)

M.C.—This is the Holy of Holies, and none can enter it unless he opens the gate with the key of intellect.
) Have you the KEY?

Solomon—We have it, and he carries the heart of truth,, the Heart of Hiram, our regretted venerable Master.

Note: There is a table before the throne on which are placed:

The Ark of Alliance - Adaptation
Seven-branched Candlestick - Knowledge
Loaves of Shew Bread - Society
Pot of Incense - Beauty

Solomon—Here Brother, in the midst of the emblems of our desire for Society, the Light of Knowledge, of the Sense of Beauty, and the Adaptation of Man to God, let us deposit the sacred heart of our deceased venerable Master to remind us forever, that though the assassins have destroyed his body, yet, the natural law which is also the Word of God is written upon the heart of every man who cometh into the world.

(Candidate places urn)

Solomon—Let us pray! O God, we pray thee, thou G A O T U to cast thy All Seeing Eye upon this sanctuary which symbolizes the Conscience of Man and help us to use the key of Intelligence within the balustrade of reason so that we may know ourselves, link ourselves unto thee, and become fit for the immortality thou has promised.

Adoniram—Amen!

Solomon—And now, my Brethren, before we separate, I crown this Urn with the Laurel and the Olive Branch in token of the Glory and Peace which is the crown of him who fulfills his duty and loves TRUTH (Crowns Urn) Glory and Peace unto HIRAM!

All—Glory and peace unto HIRAM!

Solomon—And now, my brother, a new obligation and task unites us; as a reward for the service you have just performed, the title of Secret Master and member of this Secret Chamber I now confer upon you. Installs him by investing Ribbon, Key, Apron, and Crown of Laurel.

My dear brother, I now receive you as a S.M. and give you rank among the Levites. This laurel alludes to victory over passions, the Olive to peace, which should reign. The Ivory Key and ribbon symbolize the candor of a Secret Master. Age: 7 years. Lights: 3 x 3. Jewel -

an Ivory key with Z. engraved. Hours of work: dawn to close of day.

Motto: Secrecy, *Silence* and Fidelity. Pass-word ZI-ZON; sacred work Adonai.

PERFECT MASTER'S (Fifth) DEGREE

Candidate is prepared as Secret Master with Green Cord around his neck. Zerbal instructs him to knock****

Stolkin—Thrice Respectable Master, there is an alarm at the door.

Adoniram—Brother Inside Guardian, inquire who knocks.

Inside Guardian—(Knocks **** and opens doors) Who knocks?

Zerbal—One who has helped to build a monument to Hiram and who desires to learn the circle and its quadrature.

Adoniram—Let him be led in.

Zerbal leads candidate in by green cord into Lodge and to Altar.

Zerbal—Thrice Respectable Master, I now lead into your presence, by the green cord of hope, one who has helped to build a monument to HIRAM.

Adoniram—What Monument, Brother Zerbal?

Zerbal—Thrice Respectable Master, the plan which, agreeable to the decree of Solomon the Wise, you had the glory of designing, having been confided to me, I chose our most worthy and skillful Masters and set them at work upon the most precious materials, and we have erected a most beautiful obelisk to the memory of him who suffered such a cruel and untimely death.

Adoniram—With what tools did you work?

Zerbal—With the Graduated Compass, which enabled us to measure and limit our labors with exact precision, so that all might be justly adapted.

Adoniram—What science did you use with this instrument?

Zerbal—The Science of the Circle and Quadrature.

Adoniram—What Circle?

Zerbal—A sane mind.

Adoniram—What is the Quadrature?

Zerbal—A sane body.

Adoniram—Does the candidate possess these, fitly joined and balanced?

Zerbal—He does.

Adoniram—Then lead him with us to the mausoleum you have erected, that I may behold your work.

Adoniram—(Strikes **** All rise) Brethren, follow me.

A procession is formed—Adoniram, Stolkin, The Candidate next and the Brethren. When they arrive at the Mausoleum, they form a half circle, raise their hands in admiration, and exclaim “Jehovah!”

(Ecclesiastes XII is recited.)

Adoniram—Brother Zerbal, you will now conduct the candidate to the altar where he will kneel and take the following obligation. (Done!)

I _____ do promise and swear, in the presence of the G. A. O. T. U. and this respectable Lodge, never to communicate the secrets of this degree to any below the same unless properly authorized by my superiors. That I will defend my rights and respect the rights of others. That I will strive to regenerate and improve my physical organization so it may be a fit instrument of

a pure soul and elevated mind and be adorned by all the vigor, grace, health, and beauty it can possibly attain. I further promise to respect the dead, and finally, on earth and in my body, to build a suitable monument unto truth and Jehovah.

So may God keep me in righteousness and equity. Amen!

Adoniram—Tis well, my brothers (removes cord) I divest you of the last ligature which betokens servitude and greet you with the sign of recognition of a Perfect Master: 1. Right toes and knees meet, one hand on other's heart - bring to right side and form a square. 2. Admiration Pass - Accacia.

Adoniram—Bro. Zerbal will seat you.

Note: Obligations are sufficient in the 6th, 7th and 8th Degrees.

6th Degree

OBLIGATION INTIMATE SECRETARY'S DEGREE

I _____ do promise and swear in the presence of the Great Architect of the Universe and this respectable [Lodge] that I do solemnly bind myself by this oath never to reveal to any person, directly or indirectly what is at present to be communicated to me, especially to brothers of lower degrees.

That I will attend all the summonses of this [Lodge] and confine myself to the laws and regulations of it.

That I will seek to know the miseries and wrongs of the people and strive to find the remedy.

That I will endeavor to disseminate education and form the triple alliance of thought, affection and sensation, for the good of myself and all men. And should I betray this duty, may my body be delivered unto anatomi-

mists for dissection and its remains remain unburied. Amen.

Solomon—My brother, having contracted your obligation, and as the sense of consciousness is the intimate secretary between reason and the affections, you are charged with ascertaining the wants of the people and with the execution of measures for their education, the establishment of industry in order that from poverty, ignorance and wrong they may obtain justice, sciences and wealth.

Arise my brother, I receive you Intimate Secretary.

7th Degree

OBLIGATION PROVOST AND JUDGE

I _____, do solemnly promise in presence of this assembly, and of my own conscience, that I will keep the secrets of Provost and Judge; and that I will truly, justly and impartially dispense justice to my brethren and to all the world, according to rule and the best of my abilities; and lastly bind myself under the penalties of all my former obligations, to pay a just and due obedience to the regulations and orders of the council of Princes of Jerusalem; so may God keep me in truth, dignity, and justice: Amen.

Tito—Brother Expert, you will now give brother Joabert the key and conduct him to the monument.

Expert then conducts him to the monument, kneels and says:

Expert—Civi.

Tito—Ky (Expert then rises.)

8th Degree

OBLIGATION INTENDANT OF THE BUILDING

I _____ promise and swear in the presence of the Great Architect of the Universe, and the Thrice Illustrious Brethren here present, ever to keep inviolably secret the mysteries which shall be revealed to me.

And to observe all such rules as shall be prescribed to me by the Grand Council of Princess of Jerusalem, under the penalties of all my former obligations, besides that of having my body cut in two and my bowels torn out. So God help and maintain me in equity and justice. Amen, Amen, Amen.

Candidate is prepared as Intendent of the Building. Apron is White, lined in scarlet, bordered in green. Triangle (or Delta) on flap, with letters B, A, and I in Angles. A Balance is on body of Apron with a 9 pointed star beneath it.

Ninth Degree

MASTER ELECT OF NINE

Candidate—Knocks 8 and I *****

Stolkin—Most Sovereign, there is an alarm at the door.

Most Sovereign—Brother Adoniram, see who knocks at the door of our chapter to interrupt our deliberations?

Master of Ceremonies—A stranger who demands to speak to the King privately.

Captain of the Guard—Most Sovereign, it is a stranger, who wishes to speak to you privately.

Most Sovereign—Let him be admitted. (Capt. of Guard admits stranger and goes to King, speaks privately, and then takes seat.)

Most Sovereign—Brethren, I have just learned from this stranger that he has discovered an individual concealed in a cave near the coast of Joppa, answering to the description of one of the murderers of our late lamented Grand Master Hiram. He has offered to conduct whomever I elect to the place of his concealment. (All rise and offer to be chosen to avenge Hiram.)

Most Sovereign—Stop, my Brethren. I hereby decree that only nine shall undertake this journey. To be fair, I order all of your names to be placed in an urn and the first nine chosen shall accompany the stranger.

(They put their names in urn, and 8 are drawn.)

Master of Ceremonies—(Knocks ***** *, brethren resume positions.)

Stolkin—Most Sovereign, there is an alarm at the door.

Most Sovereign—Brother Adoniram, see who knocks at the door of our Chapter to interrupt our deliberations. (Captain of the Guard goes to door, knocks ***** *. He opens door and says, "Who knocks at the door of our Chapter to interrupt our deliberations?")

Master of Ceremonies—It is Brother Joabert, who comes to ask a favor of receiving the degree of Master Elect of Nine.

Most Sovereign—Let him be admitted.

(Capt. of Guard opens door. Master of Ceremonies and candidate enter and advance to the altar.)

Most Sovereign—Faithful Joabert, what is your wish?

Master of Ceremonies (for candidate)—I come to ask the favor of being admitted into the degree of Master Elect of Nine.

Most Sovereign—What motive induces you to think you deserve such an honor to be conferred upon you?

Master of Ceremonies—My zeal, my constancy and fervor, which I promise shall be doubled hereafter have made me aspire to beg this favor.

Most Sovereign—Learn, Brother Joabert, your present admission into this Chapter represents a trial of your conduct and courage, and your dedication to the obligations you have heretofore contracted. Arms that you have observed in this order were equally for your protection and your punishment should you ever be unfaithful.

At this present hour we have discovered one of the murderers of our respectable G.M. Hiram Abiff, who awaits our punishment of his crime while groaning in his guilt. We have learned from a stranger where this Abiram is hidden. My dear brother, this Chapter is desirous of conferring high degrees upon you, and as nine have been chosen to accompany this stranger you may be the ninth to be elected - if you feel disposed to vindicate this Royal Art, and sacrifice this Traitor in honor of Masonry.

Do you wish to be one of the Nine?

Candidate—I do.

Faithful Joabert, I shall now elect you as the ninth and last of the number. Pursue the murderer of our regretted Master Hiram Abiff; seek him, seize him and bring him here to suffer the penalty of his horrid crime.

Most Sovereign—VENGEANCE!

All—VENGEANCE!

Most Sovereign—Brother Adoniram, you will now blindfold Brother Joabert and let him be conducted to the place where the murderer is, by our stranger.

(Candidate, blindfolded, is conducted to cave.)

Captain of Guard—Brother Joabert, you will now be seated. (Sits on stool.) Be not afraid, Brother Joabert. I will now leave you for awhile. (M.C. shakes chains and groans as if afraid.) Captain of the Guard places Joabert's left hand on table, his head leaning on it, right hand on thigh and says, "My dear brother Joabert, I must leave you alone; but you must promise me that you will remain in this posture and not be frightened, or you may lose your life.

Candidate—I will.

Captain of the Guard—Now Brother Joabert, as soon as I leave when you hear someone knock as a Mason, take the bandage from your eyes and carefully observe every object around you. When you hear a second knock, drink of the cup near your left hand and at the third knocking, follow the instructions of a voice nearby which will direct you. I leave you alone but the eyes of the whole lodge are upon you. Do not fail. Farewell, Bro. Joabert." Capt. of Guard leaves, shuts door briskly, waits, then knocks. (First three *** Candidate removes blindfold.)

Capt. of Guard knocks (second three ***. Candidate drinks out of Cup.)

Capt. of Guard knocks last three and returns.

Master of Ceremonies—Take that poniard and strike the villain - first on the head and then on the heart. Cut off his head and take it in your left hand, the poniard in your right, and follow me. (Candidate obeys the order.)

Master of Ceremonies conducts candidate to door, knocks *****.

Capt. of Guard—Most Sovereign, there is an alarm at the door.

Most Sovereign—You will see who knocks at the door of our Chapter to interrupt our deliberations.

Capt. of Guard—Knocks ***** * opens door).
Who knocks at the door of our Chapter to interrupt our deliberations?

Master of Ceremonies—Brother Joabert, who has discovered the place where the traitor Akirop has been concealed, and has avenged the death of our respectable Master Hiram Abiff, and comes to lay the victims head at the feet of King Solomon.

Most Sovereign—Let him be admitted.

M.C. and candidate enter, proceed to throne, candidate striking head with dagger crying "Revenge."

Most Sovereign—(With Indignation) O, WRETCH what have you done? My orders were for you to bring the traitor to me, not put him to death. Your disobedience shall cost you your life. Stolkin, put him to death.

(Brethren kneel on one knee, Stolkin grabs Candidate's head, takes sword.)

Capt. of Guard—Thrice Most Sovereign, pardon him, pardon him. It must have been an excess of zeal and love for the memory of our respectable Master Hiram Abiff that prompted him to disobey his orders. Pardon him!

All—Thrice Sovereign, pardon him!

Most Sovereign—Brethren, I yield to your entreaties and pardon him in consideration of his zeal. It was necessary and right, for the authority of public justice must prevail, and all who resist it must fail, and be subdued.

Brother Joabert, for the zeal you have manifested in bringing to punishment one of the murderers of our late lamented Master Hiram Abiff, I shall not confer upon you the degree of Master Elect of Nine. Come and contract your obligation.

Ninth Degree OBLIGATION

I _____ do solemnly and sincerely promise, in the presence of the G.A.O.T.U. and of this Respectable Chapter of Elected Masters, never to reveal the secrets of this degree with which I have been or shall be made acquainted to any person whatever but to a brother known to be of this degree, and in this I bind myself by all of my former obligations. I likewise promise to revenge Masonry in general, and particularly the most horrid murder that was ever committed.

I also promise to protect and support the Order and by Brethren, with all my might, credit and power, and also the Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem and the United Supreme Council. And if I fail in any part of this my present obligation and engagement, I submit to perish by the vindictive weapon which shall be given me as an honorable mark of this order, and as a reward for my zeal, fervor, and constancy. So help me God, AMEN.

Most Sovereign—Rise, my Brother, and receive your reward. I do hereby constitute you an Elect of Nine, and invest you with the jewel of this degree which is a balance with a scroll and dagger on one plate, and the decapitated head of ignorance on the other. (He then invests him with the apron and kisses him four times on each cheek and once on the forehead.)

Sign of this Degree: The first one raises poinard as if to strike the other on the forehead. The second places his hand on his forehead as if to examine the wound. The second raises the arm, strikes at the others breast as if with a poinard, and says NEKAM.

THIRTEENTH OR ROYAL ARCH DECREE

Initiation

Candidate prepared as Grand Master Architect with white apron trimmed and lined in blue. Protractor is on flap and graduated compass and parallel rule tools of an architect are on the body.

Master of Ceremonies knocks * * * *

Inspector—Most Thrice Puissant, there is an alarm at the door.

T. P.—* Brother Expert, ascertain the cause of the alarm.

Expert—(Goes to door, knocks two and three, then opens door.) Who knocks at the door of our college to interrupt our deliberations?

Master of Ceremonies—Those three whose names are Toub, Baham, Hamelabel: Light, Labor, and Affection aspire to recover the true name of God, which has remained buried for ages under the ruins caused by superstition and despotism.

Expert—Are they willing to descend into the bowels of the earth to seek for the treasure?

Master of Ceremonies—They are.

Expert (Shuts door)—Thrice Puissant, there are in the ante-room three brethren who aspire to recover the true name of God, which has been buried for ages under the ruins caused by superstition and despotism.

Thrice Puissant—What are their names?

Expert—Taub, Bahani, and Hamelabel; Light, Labor, and Affection.

Thrice Puissant—Are they willing to descend into the earth to seek for the treasure?

Expert—They are, Thrice Puissant.

Thrice Puissant—Let them be admitted.

Expert (opens door)—Let them be admitted.

Master of Ceremonies (enters with candidates and conducts them to altar)—Thrice Puissant, I have the pleasure of introducing you to the brethren, whose names are Taub, Bahani, Hamelabel; Light, Labor, and Affection, who aspire to recover the true name of God which has been buried for ages under the ruins caused by superstition and despotism.

Thrice Puissant—How can they hope to find it, Brother Inspector?

Inspector—With affection for their motives, thought for their guide, and labor as their means, they hope to remove the ruins and penetrate the depths which conceal the treasure they covet.

Thrice Puissant—Brethren, you are at liberty to perform the work you propose, and may the Great Architect of the Universe crown your efforts with success.

Brother Expert, lead the candidates to the place of search.

(Expert leads candidates to East in front of the Ark of Alliance.)

Thrice Puissant—My brethren, Enoch, before the flood, desiring to preserve the knowledge of the name of God for future ages, and hoping that one day the descendants of Noah might be able and worthy of learning it, built a sacred vault in the bowels of the earth,

closed, the entrance with a Keystone and marked the spot by means of two pillars, Strength and Beauty. If your intentions are good, your mind clear and your hands diligent, God will permit you to penetrate the sacred depths by removing the keystone.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to remove the lid of the Ark, and lift the first of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Principium

Thrice Puissant—God is the principle, the owner of all things, the great supreme cause and Universal Father.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will cause one of the candidates to lift the second of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Existens

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, God is life, and in him we have our being. Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to lift the third of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Potens

Thrice Puissant—God is Power, all things are subject to him, his unlimited dominion and his irresistible strength.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to remove the fourth of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Eternalis

Thrice Puissant—God is Eternal, without beginning and without end, unto Him the past, present and the future are one.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to lift the fifth of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Infinitum.

Thrice Puissant—God is infinite, he dwelleth in all, with all, and beyond all. he is the centre which hath no circumference. He is the light which shines in every direction without limit, measure or direction.

Thrice Puissant—You will now cause one of the candidates to lift the sixth of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Solus

Thrice Puissant—God is one. There is no other. His design and will are single and immutable.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to lift the seventh of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Misericors

Thrice Puissant—God is Love, his unbounded and inexhaustible mercy is our trust and our hope, and giveth joy throughout the universe.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to lift the eighth of the Arches. (done)

Expert—Sapientia

Thrice Puissant—God is wisdom, he knoweth all things, past, present, and future, and there is no mystery unknown to him, for his understanding is the arch of nature.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Expert, you will now cause one of the candidates to lift the ninth of the Arches. (done).

Expert—Justus

Thrice Puissant—God is justice, his mercy and truth giveth the weight on one side and on the other, his judgments are perfect.

Expert—(Raises his hands in admiration, bends the knee to the ground and exclaims) "Jehovah."

Thrice Puissant—My Brethren, when of old, the chosen three had traveled the nine arches, they came to a dome and behold upon the Cubic Stone the Resplendent Delta on which the true name of the Great Architect of the Universe was impressed in dazzling light, they fell upon their knees, made the sign of admiration and exclaimed "Jehovah," as you have done. But they were not able to pronounce the Ineffable Name. Nevertheless, they hastened to inform Solomon and Hiram, King of Tyre of their wonderful discovery, and the two kings caused the Cubic Stone to be placed in a sacred vault of nine Arches, similar to the one built by Enoch. This sacred vault was beneath the temple, immediately under the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of Alliance was preserved. And to reward the three discoverers of the last word, he appointed them the guardians of the inestimable treasure. Are you willing to accept the office?

Expert—We are.

Thrice Puissant—Brethren, the Great Architect of the Universe hath done you the greatest of favors; it is him who hath chosen you to discover the greatest treasure of masons, and you are his elected. I give you joy of it. Brother Expert you will now conduct the candidates to the altar, there to contract the most solemn obligation and I will reward them for their labor.

OBLIGATION - ROYAL ARCH DECREE (KNIGHT OF THE NINTH ARCH)

I _____ do promise before the Great Architect of the Universe and this Puissant Royal Assembly, never to reveal the secrets which are to be entrusted to me, especially what is to be revealed to me of

the sacred mysteries. I promise to renew my zeal for masonry and friendship for my brethren, and never to separate myself from this Royal Lodge but by leave of the Thrice Puissant Grand Master and of his Grand Officers. I promise never to reveal or consent that a mason shall be received into this degree, but according to our laws. I further promise to observe, at all times, the Statutes and Regulations which shall be prescribed to me by this Royal Lodge and to acknowledge at all times the Council of Princes of Jerusalem and of the Royal Secretary for the Sovereign Chief of the Royal Art, if furnished with authentic title, and submit myself to their decrees, to sign my submission to the most authentic act of it. And if I fail in this, my present engagement, I consent to suffer all the pains My body to be exposed as food to the ferocity of wild beasts. God help me in righteousness and equity.

Thrice Puissant Grand Master—By virtue of the authority and power in me vested as Thrice Puissant Grand Master of this Royal Lodge, I hereby declare you Knights of the Royal Arch, and faithful guardians of the SACRED Treasure. Arise, Sir Knights, I greet you.

Brother Expert, you will now conduct the candidates to our brother Inspector in the West. He will invest them with the secrets of the degree, as a reward for their labors.

(Expert conducts them to Inspector who invests them.)

Sign of Admiration — raise hands to Heaven, leaning head on left shoulder, fall on right knee.

Second or Adoration Sign — Fall on both knees.

Battery — Five strokes * * * * *

Sacred Word — JEHOVAH

Hours of Labor — From Evening to Morning.

Inspector—Brother Expert, you will now conduct the brethren to the East, to listen to the discourse of the Grand Orator.

DISCOURSE BY THE GRAND ORATOR

My brethren, it is my intention, at this time, to give you a clearer account than you have yet been acquainted with of Masonry, of which at present you barely know the elements. In doing this, it will be necessary to explain to you some circumstances of very remote antiquity. Enoch, son of Jared, was the sixth son in descent from Adam, and lived in the fear and love of his Maker. Enoch, being inspired by the Most High, and in commemoration of a wonderful vision, built a temple underground, and dedicated the same to God. Methusaleh, the son of Enoch, constructed the building, without being acquainted with his father's motives. This happened in that part of the world which was afterward called Canaan, and since known by the name of the Holy Land.

Enoch caused a Triangular Plate of gold to be made, which was a cubit long on each side. He enriched it with precious stones, and encrusted the plate upon a cubic stone of Agate. He then engraved upon it THE INEFFABLE CHARACTERS, and placed it upon a triangular peddle of white marble, which he deposited in the deepest Arch.

When Enoch's temple was completed, he made a door of stone, and put a ring of iron therein by which it might be occasionally raised, and placed it over the opening of the Arch, that the matters enclosed therein might be preserved from the universal destruction impending. None but Enoch knew of the treasure which the arches contained.

Solomon began to build in the fourth year of his reign, agreeable to a plan given to him by David his father upon the Ark of Alliance, a Temple to the Living God.

The number of the Grand and Sublime Elected was at first Three, and now consisted of Five and continued so until the Temple was completed and dedicated. Then King Solomon, as a reward for their faithful services, admitted to this degree the twelve Grand Masters who had faithfully presided over the twelve tribes. Also one of the other Grand Master Architect. Nine ancient Grand Masters, eminent for their virtue, were chosen Knights of the Royal Arch, and shortly afterwards were admitted to the Sublime Degree of PERFECTION.

You have been informed in what manner the number of the Grand Elect was augmented to twenty-seven, which is cube of three; they consisted of three kings, three knights of the Royal Arch, twelve commanders of the twelve tribes, nine elected Grand Masters, and one Grand Master Architect.

14° Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason

The Lodge represents a subterranean Vault, and should have the shape of a perfect cube. The hangings are purple and flame color. 24 Lights illuminate the chamber as follows: 9 in the East, before the Throne; 7 in the West before the S.G.W.; 5 in the South in front of the J.G.W.; and 3 in the North.

In front of the throne, toward the South, is located the Altar of Perfumes, upon which is a brass burner where the richest perfume are burned. In the East, toward the North, is a Table where are the 12 pieces of Shew Bread in two piles of 6 pieces, together with a cup of wine. In front of this is a Hod or a Bowl of silver and

a trowel of Gold. In the Hod is an aromatic mixture which is used in initiations. (The Hod Oil, etc. may be found also on the Altar of Perfumes.)

To the East, and in front of the throne, is the Altar of Sacrifices. To the back of the Dais is seen in a Transparency a LUMINOUS DELTA with the Hebrew Characters engraved or painted in its center. Meanwhile, decorating the Lodge, in front of the Dais (N to S) are the Column of Beauty of White Marble surmounted by the Cube of Enoch with the Golden Triangle, and the Column of Enoch which consists of fragments representing the fragments found in the ancient ruins. There are also, a gold candelabra, urns, and vases of gold, The 4 Great Lights, the precious stones, the tables of the Law; the gilded horns, and all of the furniture and sacred jewels of the Temple.

The altars should be covered in white. The entrance to the Lodge is a long passage illuminated by one single lamp hung in the middle.

On the Column of Beauty, there is a stone of Agate, having on its top, a Golden Triangle with the Ineffable Name on its center, and around its edges are the nine names of the Deity: JOV, JEHO, JUHA, HOYAH, EL-GIBBON, ADONAI, JACHINAI, ELOAII, ELZEBOTH.

The proper Symbolic location of the lights is as follows, although often modified by custom or expediency:

The 3 in the North form a Triangle.

The 5 in the South form a Pentagon.

The 7 in the West form a Heptagon.

The 9 in the East form 3 equilateral triangles.

All of the decorations of the Lodge should be selected with care.

When conducting initiations, all of the jewels for the candidates are placed before the Thrice Puissant Grand Master in the East and a Golden Ring, if practical, for each Candidate, engraved on its inner side with the date of his reception into this sublime degree, his name and the following: "Virtus junxit, mors non separabit".

**Fourteenth (14^o) Degree or
Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Mason
INITIATION**

The candidate should be prepared in the anti-room as a Knight of the Royal Arch, by the Grand Master of Ceremonies. He is then conducted to the entrance of the narrow passage. He is given the Pass-word and directed to alarm the first door by 3-5-7 times.

Note: In the ceremonies of Reception, the narrow passage can be represented by passing through three (3) ante-rooms and giving the alarm at each door *or in any manner as best suits the situation of the room.*

First Guard—Who comes there?

Master of Ceremonies—A Sublime Knight of the Royal Arch who desires perfection in being introduced into the Sacred Vault.

First Guard—How does he expect to gain admission?

Master of Ceremonies—By the pass.

First Guard—Give me the pass.

Candidate—Shibboleth. Shibboleth, Shibboleth.

First Guard—Pass.

They then proceed to the second door and knock 3, 5, 7.

Second Guard—Who comes there?

Master of Ceremonies—A Sublime Knight of the Royal Arch who having passed the first guard, desires perfection in being introduced into the Sacred Vault.

Second Guard—How does he expect to gain admission?

Master of Ceremonies—By the pass.

Second Guard—Give me the pass.

Candidate—(Prompted by Master of Ceremonies) El-Hhanan.

Second Guard—Pass.

They then proceed to the door of the lodge and knock 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Junior Grand Warden—(Knocks 3, 5, 7 and 9.)

Senior Grand Warden—(Knocks 3, 5, 7 and 9.)

Thrice Puissant Grand Master—(Knocks 3, 5, 7 and 9.) Brother Junior Grand Warden, go and see who knocks at our door as a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.

Junior Grand Warden—(Goes to the door and knocks 3, 5, 7, 9, opens the door and says:) Who knocks at our door as a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason? Who is there?

Master of Ceremonies—A Sublime Knight of the Royal Arch, who desires perfection in being introduced into the Sacred Vault.

Thrice Puissant Grand Master—Let him be introduced in a proper manner.

(The door is then opened by the Captain of the Guard who says, let him be admitted. He enters and is conducted around the lodge to the Altar, the members at the same time pointing their naked swords at his breast. As he enters the Thrice Puissant says:

Thrice Puissant—The Lord is in his Holy Temple. His eyes behold, his eyelids try the children of men.

Hiram King of Tyre—Lord, who shall abide in thy Tabernacle?

Thrice Puissant—He that walketh upright and worketh righteousness and speaketh the truth in his heart.

Senior Grand Warden—He that sweareth to his own hurt and changeth not his oath, who sweareth not by the name of God profanely.

Master of Ceremonies—What man is he that desireth life and loveth many days that he may see good?

Thrice Puissant—Keep thy tongue from evil and thy lips from speaking guile; depart from evil and do good, seek peace and ensue it.

Senior Grand Warden—Thus saith the Lord of Hosts, amend your ways and your doings and I will cause you to dwell in this place forever.

King of Tyre—Who can say I have made my heart clean, I am pure from sin, for there is not a just man on the earth who doeth good and sinneth not—no not one.

Thrice Puissant—But who so confesseth his sins and forsaketh them he shall have mercy, saith the Lord of Hosts.

Senior Grand Warden—Thus saith the Lord, Heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house ye have builded unto me? For all these things

hath my hands made. But to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit and that trembleth at my word.

King of Tyre—From the rising of the Sun, even unto the going down of the same, my name shall be great among the gentiles, and in every place incense (at this word the coals which are in the pan on the Altar of perfumes are lighted and the incense burnt) shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering, for my name shall be great among the heathen, said the Lord of Hosts.

(Master of Ceremonies then orders the candidate to make the sign of admiration.)

Thrice Puissant—What do you want, my brother?

Master of Ceremonies—Thrice Puissant Grand Master, he asks the Perfection of Masonry and to be taught the true pronounciation of God's Ineffable Name.

Thrice Puissant—Brethren, do you consent that this Knight of the Royal Arch shall be raised to the degree of Perfection?

(The brethren consent by holding up their right hands.)

Thrice Puissant—Before I initiate you my brother, into the sacred mysteries of Perfection, you must answer the questions I am now going to demand of you; otherwise you must be sent back.

Thrice Puissant—Are you an Entered Apprentice?

Candidate—Thrice Puissant, my brethren know me to be such.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Sign, Token and Word to the Junior Grand Warden.

Candidates give them by advancing by the Entered Apprentice step. (A.A.S.R.)

Thrice Puissant—Are you a fellow craft?

Candidate—I have seen the G. and know the password.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Sign, Token and Word to the Senior Grand Warden.

Candidate gives Fellow Craft step, etc.

Thrice Puissant—Are you a Master Mason?

Candidate—I know the Sprig of Acacia, and every thing it consummates.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Pass, Sign, Token and Word to the Junior Grand Warden.

Candidate gives Master's step, etc. (as soon as he pronounces—the real word *Mah-hah-bone*—the biethren run and lunge their swords at him).

Thrice Puissant—What have you done? You fear us my brother on speaking this word so high. We are always ready to punish the indiscretion of those persons who pronounce the word so high and loud for fear some of the profane might hear you, but as you did not do it with a bad intention we freely forgive you

Thrice Puissant—Are you a Secret Master?

Candidate—I have passed from the Square to the Compass; I have seen the tomb of our respectable Master Hiram Abiff and have shed tears thereat.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Sign, Token and Word to the Senior Grand Warden.

Candidate gives the Secret Master's step, etc.

Thrice Puissant—Are you a Perfect Master?

Candidate—I have seen the three circles and the three perfect squares placed on the two columns across.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Sign, Token and Word to the Senior Grand Warden.

Candidate gives them, and as soon as he pronounces the word "Jeva" or "Jehovah", all cry out, what do you say? (Points swords at heart of candidate.)

Thrice Puissant—We are always alarmed when we hear this word given, and are always ready to put any man to death who dares to pronounce it, or the least syllable of the sacred mysterious name.

Thrice Puissant—Are you an elected Knight?

Candidate—One cavern received me, one lamp lighted me, and one fountain refreshed me.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Sign, Token and Word to the Senior Grand Warden.

Candidate gives them.

Thrice Puissant—What is the Most Sublime Degree you have received in masonry?

Candidate—The thirteenth, which I received by permission of Divine Providence.

Thrice Puissant—Explain this to me, my brother.

Candidate—I searched in the unknown ruins and at length found the Divine Delta, which had been promised the Holy Patriarchs should one day be found.

Thrice Puissant—What do you understand by the Divine Delta?

Candidate—It is a triangular gold plate filled with rays, on which was engraved by Enoch the sacred name of Almighty God.

Thrice Puissant—I presume, my brother, you are acquainted with that mysterious name?

Candidate—I am not; my time has not expired; the Sacred name is only known by the Grand Elect, Perfect, and Sublime Masons. All my hope is in God, that I shall arrive at a knowledge of it in fullness of time.

Thrice Puissant—What is your quality?

Candidate—Knight of the Royal Arch.

Thrice Puissant—What is your name?

Candidate—Guibelim or Jahbulim.

Thrice Puissant—Give the Sign, Token and Word to the Senior Grand Warden.

Candidate gives them.

Thrice Puissant—What do you now desire, my brother?

Candidate—The Sublime Degree of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.

Thrice Puissant—(Giving the sign of Admiration) God will permit you this day to receive what you so much desire.

Senior Grand Warden—Brother Grand Master of Ceremonies, you will now retire with the candidate until he is wanted. (Master of Ceremonies and candidate retire.)

Thrice Puissant—My dear brethren, do you again consent that this Knight of the Royal Arch be passed to the degree of Perfection? (All hold up their right hands in token of consent)

Thrice Puissant—I et us applaud by 9 7 5 and 3, together, brethren (All applaud)

Thrice Puissant—Brother Captain of the Guard, let the candidate be admitted.

Captain of Guard—(Goes to the door, gives raps.) Let the candidate be admitted.

Master of Ceremonies enters with candidate and conducts him around the lodge and to the Altar, during which the Thrice Puissant recites:

Thrice Puissant—And Moses called all Israel and said unto them, hear O Israel the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that you may learn, keep and do them.

The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers but with us, even us who are all of us here alive this day.

The Lord talketh with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire, (I stood between the Lord and you at that time to show you the word of the Lord for ye were afraid by reason of the fire and went not up into the mount) saying I am the Lord thy God which brought thee out of the land of Egypt from the house of bondage: Thou shall have none other God before me.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy son, not thy daughter, not thy man servant, nor thy maid servant, nor thine ox, nor thy ass, not any of thy cattle, nor the stranger that is within thy gates, that thy man servant and thy maid servant may rest as well as thou.

Honor thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee, that thy days may be prolonged and that it may go well with thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill, neither shall thou commit adultery, neither shalt thou steal, neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbor, neither shalt thou

desire thy neighbor's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbor's house, his field, his man servant or his maid servant, his ox, or his ass, or anything that is thy neighbor's. These words the Lord spake unto all your assembly in the mount, out of the midst of the fire of the clouds and of the thick darkness with a great voice, and he added no more, and he wrote them in two tables of stone and delivered them to me.

Thrice Puissant—My brother, do you know in your conscience since you have been made a Mason of having behaved falsely to any of your brethren or of having hurt them in their character of family, religion or country?

Candidate answers as he thinks proper.

Thrice Puissant—Have you ever communicated or let escape from you any of our mysteries to cowans?

Candidate answers.

Thrice Puissant—What would you have done to the assassins of our respectable Master Hiram Abiff had you lived in those days? Would you have revenged his death?

Candidate—I would have done as Joabert did.

Thrice Puissant—Have you always been mindful of the obligations you have contracted in the presence of the Grand Architect of the Universe?

Candidate answers.

Thrice Puissant—Did you ever find anything in your obligations which was contrary to and against your religion, the state or anything else which could hurt your delicacy?

Candidate answers.

Thrice Puissant—Remember, my brother, if you approach cool and indifferent to our sacred mysteries you will be the more blamable after receiving the Degree of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason, than you would have been before, and will have more to answer for at the great and awful day of judgment, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed. This degree, my brother, you are now about to receive is the Perfection of Masonry. You will be bound to the order by an indispensable obligation, which is now unknown to you, but when it is communicated to you I hope it will be permanently fixed in your recollection.

My dear brother, demonstrate to us the goodness of your heart by a steady pursuit of virtue and a sincere love for all good brethren but particularly for those who receive you into their fellowship and have given you their support and protection, who are your fellows and superiors. What do you say?

Candidate—I will.

Thrice Puissant—My dear brother, as you are now desirous of being taught the true pronunciation of God's ineffable name, are you ready to venture your life in the defense of that supreme mystery when it shall have been entrusted to your care and are you desirous of contracting your new obligation?

Candidate—I am, most sincerely.

Thrice Puissant—If you are, go, my brother, and wash your hands in the Brazen Sea. Let him purify his hands and then conduct him to the Altar of Sacrifice.

Master of Ceremonies—(Leads him to the Brazen Sea, causes him to wet and wipe his hands and leads him to the Altar of Sacrifice, causes him to recline his head against it, takes an axe and holds it suspended over the

bare neck of the candidate). M of C says: Before the altar of a broken and contrite spirit, with the fire of holy zeal, drag by confession of your sins, and mortify them by hatred thereof, offer them up in a renewed consecration as a sacrifice acceptable and well pleasing to God. May we all offer up to Him on the altar of our hearts sacrifices of humility and peace with the fire of fervent charity. Let us offer a sacrifice of joy in the tabernacle of the Lord, and sacrifice the sacrifice of Thanksgiving wherefore to do good and communicate; let us forget not, for with such sacrifice is the Lord well pleased. *Let Us Pray.*

INITIATORY PRAYER

Almighty and Sovereign Grand Architect of the Universe, thou who ridest in the heavens by thy name Jah, let all the earth keep silence before thee; there is no God like unto thee in the heavens above nor in the earth beneath. Thou who keepest covenant with and showest mercy unto thy servants who walk before thee with all their hearts when we draw nigh thy majesty, may we ever preserve thy love and the characters of thy ineffable essence engraven indelibly upon our hearts.

O, purify our hearts, we beseech thee, by the fire of thy love and guide our feet in the way of peace, that perfect path that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. May we all have an interest in that covenant which is well ordered in all things and sure, may we dwell together in unity and be of one mind, having compassion one toward another, and loved as brethren.

May all Elect Masons like the Elect of God put on charity, which is the bond of Perfection; may our loins be girt with the girdle of truth and, finally, having been faithful in all our course, may we be brought to behold the Light Ineffable and be admitted into that sacred

place where the Sun shall no more give light by day; neither for brightness shall the Moon give light, but the Lord our Adonai shall be unto us an everlasting light and our God our glory. Amen.

Thrice Puissant—My brother, you are now in the most sacred and secret place in Masonry, the sacred mysteries of which are now going to be revealed to you as we repose the utmost confidence in your discretion. Come, my brother, add to our satisfaction by swearing fidelity to us.

Master of Ceremonies—Leads the candidate eight quick steps and one slow to the Thrice Puissant, having the sign of Elected Master on him, when he kneels and contracts his obligation.

OBLIGATION GRAND ELECT, PERFECT AND SUBLIME MASON

I do most solemnly and sincerely swear on the Holy Bible, and in the presence of the Grand Architect of the Universe and this respectable Lodge of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons, to be faithful and true to my religion.

I do furthermore swear that I will never take up arms against my country, or ever enter into any conspiracy or cabal against the same, or come to a knowledge of such intention by any other individual without communicating it to the proper authorities.

I do furthermore swear never to reveal either directly or indirectly, to the Grand Master Architect or Knight of the Royal Arch, or any person or persons whatsoever to whom it doth not belong, the mysteries of this our sacred and high degree, or any other matter or thing that shall occur or take place in our lodge.

I promise an equal regard for my brethren of this Royal Degree without distinction of riches or poverty, noble or ignoble birth, and to give no other preference but to those who are greatest in virtue.

That I will never refuse to acknowledge a brother who is a good man in any situation, country or condition in which he may be placed. To support him if he is in want, if I can do so without injury to my family.

I do furthermore swear that I will, if possible, meet my lodge, at least twice a year, namely on the 27th of December and the 24th of June, and as often as my affairs will conveniently permit. I promise to visit my brethren in sickness and help and assist them with my purse and with my arms; to give them consolation and assistance whether in affliction or pain, and in the common vicissitudes of life.

I further swear that I will never lie with my brother's wife, nor dishonor his sister, daughter, or any female member of his family, knowing them to be such.

I further promise that I will never make, or assist in making, or by my presence give sanction in the making of any person to the degree of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason who is not, or has not been a Master Mason of a regular Symbolic Lodge.

I furthermore swear that I will not acknowledge belonging in, or be a member of any Sublime Lodge that is or may be established within the boundary of one already legally and properly established.

In failure of this my obligation, I consent to have my body cut open, my bowels torn from thence and given to the hungry vultures.

So God help and maintain me in truth and equity. Amen, Amen, Amen!

T.P.G.M.—My brother, salute the Bible three times. (Candidate obeys.)

My brother, you now see before you the Four (4) Great Lights of Ineffable Masonry: the Holy Bible, the Square, the Compasses, and the Magnificent Delta!

Rise, my brother, and receive the same consecration which every successful Champion of the Secret Vault has received since its discovery.

Thrice Puissant—Brother Master of Ceremonies, conduct the candidate to the Altar of Perfume (obeys and causes him to kneel).

T.P.G.M.—By the power transmitted to me, and which I have acquired by my assiduity, labor and integrity, I make sacred your heart, lips and eyes with the Holy Oil that anointed the pious Aaron, the penitent David and the wise Solomon.

May your heart ever throb with a hope of immortality, may your lips ever invoke the true name of the Great Architect of the Universe, and may your eyes behold him face to face and not fail when they awake in the dazzling glory of his presence. *I now stamp you with the seal of the Great Architect of the Universe* (stamps him) to the end that you may always live in the adorable presence and that an ardent zeal and constancy may always be the rule of all your actions.

Brother Master of Ceremonies, you will conduct the candidate around the lodge to the table of Shew-Bread.

Thrice Puissant—Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, which ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments. Ointment and perfume rejoice the

heart; so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel. If he reprove me it shall be an excellent oil. If thy brother be waxen old and poor, and fallen into decay, thou shalt relieve him. Give of thy bread to feed the hungry and of thy wine to cheer the sorrowful, and forget not to pour the oil of consolation into the wounds which sickness and affliction may have rent in the bosom of thy fellow-traveler. By kindness and commiseration fail not to pour the balm of oil and wine into the bleeding heart.

Our labors of duty and love will soon be over.

As the lightning writes its fiery path upon the dark cloud and disappears, so the race of men walking amid the surrendering shades glitter but a moment through the gloom and vanish from our sight forever.

Thrice Puissant—(Now presents him with first the bread and then the wine) Eat with me of this bread, and drink of this wine out of the same cup with me that we may learn thereby to succor each other in time of need by a mutual love and participation of what we possess. (Both eat and drink.)

Thrice Puissant—(As he presents him a Gold Ring.) Receive this ring and let it be remembered by you as a symbol of the alliance you have now contracted with virtue and the virtuous. You are never to part with it, my dear brother, while you live, and at your death you are to bequeath it to no one except your wife, your eldest son or your dearest friend.

Candidate—I promise.

All now partake of the bread and water wine and make a libation according to the ancient custom, as practiced in the Sacrifices.

Thrice Puissant now returns to the throne.

Hiram, King of Tyre—Thrice Puissant Grand Master, shall we now communicate the true pronunciation of the Ineffable Word to the candidate?

Thrice Puissant—Brother Hiram, to the best of your ability, give the mystic name which the High Priests of the Israelites knew how to utter. (All form a circle around the altar joining hands, left over right. All communicate the word "Jod He. Vau. He.")

Hiram, King of Tyre, the Thrice Puissant and candidate together. All rise.

T.P.G.M.—Have a care. This pronunciation is probably erroneous, and it is vain for a man to suppose that God has a proper name, or, if He has one, that it could be uttered by the human voice. The various words by which He has been addressed in different ages and countries are all equally holy and true, if he who speaks them has a pure conception of the Divine Attributes and perfect love toward the Divine Entity.

His name is unutterable; no lips can speak it; no ear can hear it, but it resounds in the heart of him who loves and adores. We greet you, my brother, as a Knight of the Sacred Vault. Brother Grand Master of Ceremonies, you will communicate to the candidate the Signs, Token and Words.

1

SIGN OF OBLIGATION

Place right hand on left side of the abdomen and draw it quickly and horizontally across the body to the right side.

First Token

Join the right hands, reverse them three times. The first brother says "Berith", the second says "Neder", the first then says "Shelemoth".

Words

First Pass Word — Shibboleth

First Covered Word—Jabulum

Sign of Fire

Raise the right hand open to the left cheek, palms outward, at the same time grasping the elbow with the left hand.

Second Token

Give the Masters Grip, one says "Can you go further?"

Answer

Each, in turn, slips his hand along the other's forearm up to the elbow. Each then places his left hand on the other's right shoulder and balances thrice, the legs crossed from the right.

Word

Second Covered Word — Makobim, interpreted "That's he! He is dead"

Sign of Admiration

Raise both hands opened to Heaven, the head inclined, the eyes directed upwards. Afterward place the first two fingers of the right hand on the lips.

Third Token

Seize each other's right hand, grasp each other's right shoulder with the left hand and then pass left hands behind each other's back as if to bring one another closer.

Word

Third Covered Word — Adonai.

Third Pass Word — Bea, Makeh, Bameareh, interpreted "Thank God we have found it."

Sacred Word — Jehovah.

Grand Word — Jod He Vau He, the Grand Ineffable and real name of the Almighty Grand Architect of the Universe, and never to be pronounced.

Battery — Twenty-four strokes by three, five, seven, and nine.

March (14°) eight hurried or quick stops and then one slower, altogether nine.

Age: seven times seven years.

Hours of work: from high twelve till midnight.

My brother, I salute you a Grand Elect and decorate you with the symbols of the grade.

Crown—The crown on your jewel is a symbol of the royal origin of the grade.

Compass—The compass extended to 60° (sixty degrees) denotes the exclusive knowledge of the Grand Elect.

Sun—In the centre, that our actions should be as open as the full blaze of the noonday sun and our charity as diffusive as its beams.

Jewel—This jewel suspended on your breast should remind you to be attentive to your duties and admonishes you to walk so as to adorn your station.

I now also invest you with the Apron of a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason. (The Girdle was used of old to strengthen the body and to enable man to continue and persist in his labors. It is therefore an emblem

of activity, promptness, and perseverance. Today's Apron has replaced the Girdle for the last 100 years or more. Both are representative of the full-length sheepskins of the Essenes and the Zennar or Sacred Cord of the Hindius as well as the unshorn sheepskin aprons of our African brothers.

APRON PRESENTATION 14° GRAND ELECT, PERFECT and SUBLIME MASON

My brother, I now present you this Lambskin which indicates innocence and that purity required to enter this place. It is bordered with *Blue*, an emblem of friendship. The *Red* wreath around the edge denotes zeal. The *Yellow* or *Gold* is emblematic of wisdom, for Solomon said that Wisdom is far better than gold. *Green* is an emblem of hope and the acacia which represents that part within us. The *Stone* on the flap denotes firmness and durability, and is an emblem of constancy, fidelity, and decision of character — qualities that should be possessed by those who take the degree of Grand Master Architect and attempt to walk in the footsteps of our G.M.H.A. . . . *Flame* color as represented on your Apron denotes ardent affection and charity, the peculiar traits of a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason. The Triangular shape of the flap alludes to *Deity*.

I also present you with your Jewel . . . The Crown on the Jewel recalls the Royal origin of this degree. The Compasses open to 60° indicate the extensive knowledge of the Elect. The bright sun displays the openness of our actions and the effusiveness of our Charity.

The work apron of this degree is *black*, bordered with white, and has a representation of the delta on its body.

The cap is a black scottish rite cap or yarmulke with a gold Delta on the front which has a purple center, denoting the royal origin of the degree. It also has a gold overcord.

Master of Ceremonies conducts candidate to the Altar and causes him to kneel.

T.P.G.M.—You are now, my Brother, required to take the oath of Fealty to the United Supreme Council. Repeat your name and repeat after me:

In the presence of the Grand Architect of the Universe, and of this respectable assembly of Freemasons, I solemnly promise to obey the general regulations of the United Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals of the Thirty-Third and Last Degree of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry for the Southern and Western Masonic Jurisdiction, United States of America, Its Territories and Dependencies, Holy See the Grand Orient of Washington, D.C., and to acknowledge said Supreme Council. And I further promise and swear that I will have no intercourse as a Mason of said rite with any Masonic body of Masons pretending to be subject to any Masonic authority of said Rite in this jurisdiction other than said Supreme Council of which the Illustrious Brother _____ is now Sovereign Grand Commander. So help me God.

You will please sign the Book.

T.P.G.M.—Let me now congratulate you upon receiving the degree of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason. If there are any remarks you wish to make to this Royal Lodge, you may do so at this time. Then you may be seated.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Brother Senior Grand Warden, what are you?

A—Thrice Puissant, I am a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason. There is nothing but what is revealed to me.

Q—How many compose a lodge of Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons?

A—9 make it regular, 12 make it Perfect, and 27 make it complete.

Q—What is the indispensable number?

A—5, with the T.P.G.M., D.G.M. or one of the Wardens present.

Q—When is the indispensable number not required.

A—For initiation only, and when a Sovereign Grand Inspector General is present.

Q—Where were you received?

A—In a place where the rays of the Sun and Moon are not wanted.

Q—Where is that place situated?

A—Under the Sanctum Sanctorum of the Grand Architect of the Universe, in a lodge and sacred place called the Sacred Vault.

Q—Who introduced you into that place?

A—The most wise and puissant of all Kings.

Q—In what way did you enter that place?

A—Through a long narrow passage composed of nine arches.

Q—How were you introduced into the Holy Vault?

A—By three knocks.

Q—To what do these three knocks allude?

A—To the age of my apprenticeship and the number of Knights Elected who penetrated into the bowels of the Earth and took from thence the previous treasure of the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons.

Q—What followed these knocks?

A—Five other knocks, which distinguished the age of the Fellow Craft and also the number which was completed by the arrival of Guiblim, Joabert and Stolkın with the precious treasure which Divine Providence had ordained to be deposited in the Sacred Vault, where these three brethren found it. Solomon, King of Israel, and Hiram, King of Tyre, making the number.

Q—What answer was made to these five knocks?

A—Seven other knocks, which alluded to three things: First, the Age of a Master. Second, that there were chosen seven Expert Brethren to replace our Grand Master Hiram Abiff. Third, that Solomon was employed seven years in the construction of the temple.

Q—What answer was made to the seven knocks?

A—Nine loud knocks, which mark the age of the Perfect Master, and which, when represented by the numbers of the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons, make eighty-one.

Q—What followed these nine knocks?

A—The door of the ninth vault was opened and I entered into the most Holy and sacred place of all the earth, at the same time I pronounced Shibboleth, Shiboeth, Shiboeth, with an aspiration.

Q—What is the meaning of that word

A—It is the first password and signifies plenty.

Q—What did you perceive on entering that holy place?

A—The most brilliant light, which dazzled my eyes and struck me with amazement.

Q—What was the brilliant light that so affected you?

A—It was the Ineffable and real name of the Almighty and Grand Architect of the Universe, engraved on a triangular plate of gold upon an agate of stone, which had been deposited there by one of the ancient patriarchs and was found by the Knights of the Royal Arch.

Q—What do you call the Pedestal on which it was placed?

A—The Pillar of Beauty.

Q—In what manner did we receive this brilliant Delta?

A—By the laborious search of the Ancient Knights of the Royal Arch, who discovered this inestimable treasure among the ruins of the temple built by the Patriarch Enoch.

Q—Can you explain the name to me?

A—I cannot.

Q—How will you make me understand that you know it?

A—Makobin and Machbenach were substituted in the place of it.

Q—What is the meaning of those words?

A—Understanding, Knowledge and Wisdom.

Q—To whom did God first communicate the Word?

A—To Enoch before the flood, by whose care it was preserved and transmitted to us, and also to Moses, when the Almighty showed himself to him on Mount Sinai.

Q—What became of the word afterwards?

A—It was effaced, and the Golden Plate on which it was engraved was melted down by the pious and zealous Masons, after the destruction of the temple by Nebuzaradan, being fearful that the Divine Delta should fall into the hands of the impious, the sacred name would be profaned.

Q—What have you perceived in the degree of Illustrious Knight?

A—Twelve great lights.

Q—What do they allude to?

A—Twelve masters who were elected by Solomon to carry on the works of the temple after the death of Hiram Abiff and who commanded the twelve tribes of Israel.

Q—What were the names of the twelve masters?

A—Joabert, Stolkin, Terry, Morphey, Alycuber, Dorson, Herim, Berthemar, Tito, Zerbai, Benachard and Tabor, the first nine were those who were elected to search for the traitor Jubelim (Akirop), one of the assassins of Hiram Abiff.

Q—Over what tribes had they the inspection?

A—Joabert over the tribe of Judah, Stolkin over the tribe of Benjamin, Terry over the tribe of Simeon, Morphey over the tribe of Ephraim, Alycuber over the tribe of Manasseh, Dorson over the tribe of Zebulun,

Herim over the tribe of Dan,
Berthemar over the tribe of Asher,
Tito over the tribe of Naphtali,
Zerbal over the tribe of Reuben,
Benachard over the tribe of Issachar,
Tabor over the tribe of Gad.

These masters superintended the working of the tribes, paid them their wages, and rendered daily an account of their proceedings to Solomon.

Q—Do the lights allude to anything else?

A—To the twelve Princes of Solomon, and their governments, who furnished sustenance for the workmen and the King's household.

Q—What are their names and countries over which they presided?

A—Hur, the son of Hur, Intendant General of Mount Ephraim.

Aminadab, son of Aminadab, in the region of Dor. He was married to Yaphtha, Solomon's daughter.

Hesed, the son of Hesed, in Amboth and all Heper, etc

Baana, son of Baana, in Taawich Megiddo, etc

Deter, son of Deter, in Mahaz Bethshemesh, etc

Geber, son of Geber, in Ramoth Gilead, etc

Ahinadab, son of Jerdo, in Mahanaim, etc.

Ahimaaz, in Nephtali, married Basmoth, Solomon's daughter

Baans, son of Hushea, in Asheraloth, etc.

Jehoshaphat, son of Pernah, in Issachar, etc

Shimer, son of Elah, in Benjamin, etc.

Gebor, son of Uri, in the country of Gilead, etc.

Q—Why do the Secret Masters wear the ivory key?

A—To remind them that the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons are the only depositaries of Ancient Masonry. The secrets of which must be carefully locked up from the profane.

Q—What is the meaning of the tomb at the east door of the temple?

A—It is the tomb wherein was placed the body of our much lamented and respectable Master Hiram Abiff, which Solomon caused to be erected there as a testimony of the high esteem the brethren had for that Great Architect.

Q—What is the meaning of the Balance?

A—It teaches us to be just and equitable.

Q—What is signified by the Sword which the Grand Master of Ceremonies held naked in his hand at your entrance.

A—It is employed to defend our Illustrious Grand Master and to punish those who shall depart from virtue, and shall be so perfidious as to reveal the secrets committed to their care, Solomon gave those who were deserving, the name of favorite, and constituted them Sublime Knights, decorated them with a large black ribbon on which was painted a flaming heart opposite their breast. He desired them not to travel without this mark of distinction, and instead of the poniard gave them a sword of justice and said: "As you have been the conductors of the work of the temple you are now to defend it with the sword."

Q—What is the meaning of the inflamed heart?

A—The ardent charity we should have for each other.

Q—What is the significance of the word of a Knight Elected?

A—Begoal-Kol, and signifies by him or through him every thing was discovered. There are three passwords necessary to be known: first, *Nekam*, which signifies vengeance; second, *Stolkin*, the name of him who found the body of Hiram Abiff under the sprig of Acacia; third, *Joabert*, who cut off the head of Jubelum (Akirop) and brought it to Solomon in company with his eight companions.

Q—What is the meaning of the eight lights together and one by itself?

A—The nine elected who went in search of Jubulum (Akirop).

Q—Have you received any distinction since you have been made a Knight Elected?

A—Solomon, being willing to reward the trouble of the Elected, advanced them to the degree of Sublime Knights and joined to their chapter three zealous brethren to make their number twelve. He showed them the riches of the temple and gave to each a golden key that they might be distinguished from the rest of the brethren, and gave them the name of Emeth or (Amar-Jah), a word which signifies truth, or a true man on all occasions, he also gave them command of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Q—Have you penetrated any farther?

A—Solomon soon after initiated me into the degree of Grand Master Architect, to recompense me for my zeal, fervor and constancy, and in the end to lead me to the celestial throne.

Q—What was the name of the stranger who acquainted Solomon with the place where the traitor Jubelum (Akirop) had secreted himself?

A—His name was *Perigman*. He was a squarer and polisher of marble in the quarry of Gibelum, near Joppa, not far from the sprig of Acacia. When the body of Hiram Abiff was found, he was not enrolled among the workmen of the temple, but for this piece of essential service Solomon rewarded him and enrolled him among the workmen and changed his name to Guiblim because he continued to walk therein.

Q—What does the little dog, represented in the old tracing boards of the degree represent?

A—This stranger who led the nine in search of Jubelum (Akirop).

Q—What signifies the three lights placed at the door of the Elected Knights?

A—The three Fellow Crafts who assassinated our respectable Master Hiram Abiff.

Q—What was their origin and what were their names?

A—They were from the tribe of Dan, and sons of the same parent. They were called first Jubelum (Akirop) and by some *Aben* (Akirop). The second was Jubelo (Gravelot) and the youngest Jubela (Guibs).

Q—What became of the two younger brothers of Akirop?

A—They fled to the country of Gath.

Q—How were they discovered in that country?

A—By the assiduity of Bengabee, Solomon's Intendant in the country of Gath.

Q—What method did Solomon take to have them arrested?

A—He demanded them of Maacha, King of Gath, to whom he wrote on that occasion.

Q—Who was the bearer of Solomon's letter to the King of Gath?

A—Zerbal, Captain of the King's guards.

Q—Did the King of Gath hesitate to deliver them up?

A—No, he gave a guard to escort the messengers and search with them.

Q—Where were they found?

A—In a quarry called Bendaca.

Q—Had not Solomon an intendant of that name?

A—He had one who was married to one of his daughters.

Q—How came they to discover the two assassins?

A—By the intelligence of a shepherd who showed them the place of their retreat.

Q—Who were the persons who saw them first?

A—Zerbal and Elignam, after live day's search.

Q—In what manner were they carried up to Jerusalem?

A—In chains, with their hands fastened behind their backs.

Q—What was the form of the chains?

A—A square, a rule and a mallet, on which was engraved the kind of punishment they were to suffer at Jerusalem.

Q—On what day did they arrive at Jerusalem?

A—On the fifteenth day of the month Nissan, anno 1775, which answers to the month of April.

Q—How long was it before the assassins were executed?

A—One month.

Q—How many masters did Solomon send to search for them?

A—There were fifteen, of which number I was one.

Q—Were there no other persons?

A—There were troops which were sent as an escort.

Q—What was done with the two assassins when they arrived at Jerusalem?

A—They were carried before Solomon to whom they confessed their guilt. They were confined one day and one night in a dungeon in the tower of Achizar, after which they were led to execution.

Q—What kind of punishment did they receive?

A—At the hour or ten in the morning they were tied, naked, to two stakes, their arms and legs extended. Their bodies were then opened from their necks to the middle and in that condition they were exposed to the heat of the sun for eight hours during which time the flies and other insects feasted on their blood and entrails. At length their cries were so lamentable that it drew tears from the executioner, who in commiseration of their suffering severed their heads from their bodies, which were given to the wild beasts for food, and their heads were placed on the South and West pinnacles of the temple. The head of Akirop, who was killed sometimes before, was placed on the East pinnacle as a memento to the people to avoid such horrible crimes.

Q—What are the words of the Elect of Fifteen?

A—Zerbal and Elignam; the first is the name of the Captain of the Guards who apprehended the assassins in the quarry, and the last God's people.

Q—What hour was it when the two ruffians were expired?

A—At six in the evening vengeance was completed.

Q—What is the meaning of the letters B. N. S., which you see in the triangle of the Intimate Secretary?

A—The alliance of Moses and Aaron, the same of Solomon with Hiram, King of Tyre; they also signify alliance, promise, and perfection. Bereth Neder Shelemoth.

Q—What is the word of the Grand Master Architect?

A—Rab-Banain (master builder).

Q—In what manner were you afterwards rewarded?

A—Divine Providence was graciously pleased to direct my researches into the bowels of the earth, wherein I discovered the brilliant Delta on which was engraved the sacred name of the Almighty. As a reward for my zeal Solomon gave me the degree of guardian of the narrow passage which leads to the Sacred Vault.

Q—What quality did you receive on that occasion?

A—That of Knight of the Royal Arch.

Q—By whom were you received?

A—By Solomon, King of Israel and Hiram, King of Tyre. As a reward for my labor they also gave the same rank to my two companions, Joabert and Stolkin.

Q—What was your name then?

A—Guibelum.

Q—What is the sign of the Knight of the Royal Arch?

A—That of Admiration.

Q—What is the Token and the Word?

A—Here it is (he gives it), the word is Jabulum.

Q—Are you a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason?

A—I have penetrated into the most sacred place of all the earth.

Q—What is the name of that place?

A—It was first called the Secret Vault, but after the Divine Delta was placed therein it was called the Sacred Vault.

Q—Where do the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons work?

A—In a holy place underground.

Q—Where is that place situated?

A—Under the Sanctum Sanctorum of the temple of Jerusalem.

Q—What is the work of the Perfect and Sublime Mason?

A—Respectfully to preserve in our hearts the sacred mysteries of Masonry. To sanctify those who have been initiated. To practice the purest morality, and to aid and assist, to succor and defend our worthy brethren.

Q—Where do the Perfect and Sublime Masons travel?

A—Through all the Equators of the Globe to spread the knowledge of their divine mysteries.

Q—What does the Sacred Vault contain?

A—The precious treasure of the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons.

Q—What is that precious treasure?

A—The Divine Delta on which is engraved the sacred name of the Almighty God.

Q—Where is that precious treasure deposited?

A—On a pedestal which is called the Pillar of Beauty.

Q—What is your name?

A—Jabulum or Guibelum.

Q—What does that name signify?

A—Elected friend, favorite and zealous brother.

Q—How many figurative signs have the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons?

A—Nine, but three are most necessary to be known.

Q—Could you give me the principal ones?

A—The first is cutting your belly across and is the token of your obligation. The second is relative to the burning bush, and the third is silence, by putting the first two fingers of the right hand on the lips.

Q—Go on my brother and give me the six others.

A—The fourth is Admiration. The fifth, interlace all your fingers, hands raised over the head, palms outward (this sign serves to call a brother). Answer, look over your shoulder alternately. The seventh, clap your hands on your thighs. The eighth: put your hand, shut, to your mouth, as if to pull out your tongue, then place it on your heart. The ninth, raise your hand as if you had a pomard in it to strike a brother's forehead, to show that vengeance is completed.

Q—What are the Tokens?

A—The principle ones are three in number: first, that of Intimate Secretary, which signifies promises of a complete alliance. The second, Circumspection: advance the hands reciprocally first to the master token, then to the wrist, then to the elbow and

the word Gabaon. The third is Defiance, Resistance and Remembrance: advance reciprocally the hands as in the fourth grade, drawing them to each other three times; then place the left hand on the brother's back, then on his neck as if to raise him.

Q—What are the passwords?

A—There are three principal ones: the first is Shibboleth three times with an aspiration. The second is El-Hanan. The third is most essential to be known and is Bea-Makeh, Bemearah, which is interpreted "thank God we have found it."

Q—What are the covered words?

A—There are three: The first is Guiblim or Jabulum. The second is Makobim, which interpreted: "That's he! He is dead!" The third is Adonai, Supreme Lord of all.

Q—Give me the word.

A—Thrice Puissant, I cannot. I am not able to pronounce it. Machbenah and Mahhahbone were substituted in its place. Adonai is the last covered word for this mysterious name.

Q—How do you enter into a lodge of Perfection?

A—With firmness and constancy in my heart?

Q—Why do you always stand in a lodge of Perfection in a posture of surprise?

A—An allusion to Moses who was obliged to stand in that position when he received the table of the laws from the Almighty, and also the two Kings, Solomon and Hiram, who were seized with surprise when they beheld the sacred name on the Golden Plate which was brought to them by Guibelum, Joabert and Stoikin.

Q—What is signified by the sign of cutting your belly?

A—An allusion to the wounds of our respectable Master Hiram Abiff.

Q—What are the tools of a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason?

A—A Shovel, Crow and Pick-axe.

Q—What use do they make of them?

A—They serve to discover and raise the square stone on the top of the arches which were built by Enoch and also to break the pedestal on which the treasure was deposited when the temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar and to prevent the sacred name of names from falling into the hands of the profane. They melted down the plate and determined never to write, engrave or pronounce it, but to treasure it in your hearts.

Q—When the Grand Elect came to the Vault did they find anything besides the Pillar of Beauty?

A—Yes, they found the body of Galaad.

Q—Who was Galaad?

A—He was the son of Sophoris, a considerable man among the Perfect Masons, and Chief of the Levites. Galaad was the guardian of the Sacred Vault, and to him was entrusted the care of the lamp which burnt without ceasing in that Sacred and Holy place. His fortitude and magnanimity were not excelled by Hiram Abiff, who 400 years before lost his life rather than reveal the secrets of a Master Mason. So Galaad preferred being buried under the ruins rather than to discover to the barbarians by his coming out of the place where the greatest of treasures were deposited.

Q—What did the Grand Elect do with the body of this worthy chief?

A—They wished to follow the example of Solomon by burying him with every Masonic honor and then to erect a superb monument to his memory, and perpetuate to future generations the heroic sacrifice he had made of himself to preserve the inestimable treasure of the Sacred Vault of which he was the faithful keeper. But the distress in which the brethren were involved by the capture of Jerusalem prevented it. They took away his habit, consisting of his tiara and a robe of fine linen which they burned, and they interred his body in the ruins of the Sacred Vault under the Pillar of Beauty.

Q—How did Solomon live after the dedication of the temple?

A—This wise king, this king so virtuous, whom God had appointed to rule over the children of Israel, became deaf to the voice of the Lord, and was strangely irregular in his conduct. Proud of having erected an edifice to his maker and intoxicated with his power, he plunged into all manner of licentiousness and debauchery and profaned the temple of the Most High by offering incense to the idol Moloch, which only should have been offered to the living God. These crimes penetrated deeply into the hearts of the good Masons, the greater part of whom voluntarily exiled themselves from their country, that they might not be spectators of the punishment which they feared the Almighty would inflict upon Jerusalem. They accordingly left Judea and went into foreign countries among strangers.

Q—How many years did Solomon reign?

A—Forty years, and died when he was ninety-four, and was buried in Jerusalem.

Q—Who was the king of Jerusalem after Solomon?

A—Rehoboam, his son.

Q—Did anything remarkable happen in his reign?

A—God permitted the kingdom of Israel to be divided as a punishment for the sins of the people of Jerusalem as had been predicted by the prophets.

Q—Relate to me the punishment of the kingdom of Judah.

A—When the crimes of the people had become insufferably great, God permitted Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, to make war upon them. Nebuchadnezzar, following the predictions of the prophets, sent Nebuzaradan, his general, who reduced all Judea with fire and sword; he took and sacked the city of Jerusalem and reduced the temple of the living God to a heap of ruins. The conquerors carried with them as captives into Babylon, Zedekiah and all his people, also all the ornaments and treasures of the temple. This happened 470 years, 6 months and 10 days after its dedication. The Grand Elect and Perfect Masons who were at Jerusalem at this time exerted themselves with great bravery and fortitude in its defense, but without effect. Soon, beholding the temple of God falling into one general head of ruins, they directed their whole attention to the preservation of the Sacred Vault from injury and the Golden Plate from being discovered. For this purpose a party of them fought their way into the Sacred Vault where they found the golden plate on the agate stone uninjured. Their joy was excessive on this occasion. They all cried our Bea-Makeh Bamearah, that is, "thank God we have found it."

Q—What did they do after this discovery?

A—They retired contented, resolving that in future they would never trust this holy name to be written or

engraved, but to preserve it faithfully in their hearts and that their descendants should only know it by tradition. From thence arose the custom of pronouncing the letters only, without joining the syllables. This was observed afterward in the temple built by Cyrus.

Q—How long did the captivity of the brethren continue after the destruction of the temple of Nebuchadnezzar?

A—The first captivity was seventy years as was predicted by the prophet Jeremiah.

Q—How did the Israelites behave in Babylon during their captivity?

A—They repented of the crimes of which they were guilty and by example of the Grand Elect, who were with them, they worshipped the only true and living God as the prophets had before written.

Q—Who were those prophets?

A—Habakkuk, Zechariah, Haggai and Malachi.

Q—Who was the king that gave liberty to the Israelites and permitted them to return to their own country.

A—Cyrus, king of Persia, who was the conqueror of all the East. He not only gave permission to the Israelites to return to their own country and rebuild the city of Jerusalem, but also presented them all the sacred vessels which had belonged to the temple, and which had been preserved by the care of Mithridates, the second treasurer.

Q—Where do the Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons work this day?

A—In a place chosen to re-establish the edifice which had been ruined by the traitors.

Q—What are the wages of our success?

A—Virtue, which all may obtain who desire it.

Q—What recompense do you expect?

A—The destruction of vice and the knowledge and love of my brethren.

Q—What do you find in the place which has been chosen?

A—Dead Bones, Blood and a Burning Lamp.

Q—What did you do with the lamp?

A—Put it out.

Q—Then you were in darkness?

A—No, Thrice Puissant, I had no occasion for lamp or light, I was enlightened by the effulgence of the most brilliant and Divine Delta.

CLOSING CEREMONIES

GRAND ELECT, SUBLIME and PERFECT MASON

T.P.G.M.—Venerable Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, inform the brethren in your valleys that this Grand Lodge of Perfection will listen to any remarks that you have to offer for the benefit of this body and the A.A.S.R. as a whole.

S.G.W.—Inspector Generals, Sublime Princess, and Elus in my valley, the Thrice Puissant Grand Master informs you this Grand Lodge of Perfection will listen . . . etc.

J.G.W.—(Repeats same.)

J.G.W.—Bro. Senior Grand Warden, Silence prevails in my valley.

S.G.W. T.P.G.M.—Silence prevails in both valleys.

T.P.G.M.—Brethren Sr. and Jr. Grand Wardens, inform the brethren in your valleys that the Grand Hospitaller is about to pass the Box of Fraternal Assistance.

. DONE

—Brother Senior Grand Warden, from whence came you?

S.G.W.—From Judea.

T.P.G.M.—What did you bring from Judea?

S.G.W.—The precious treasure of the Grand Elect, engraved upon my heart, which I will give to you.

T.P.G.M.—Approach, my brother. (Sr. G.W. leaves his station and approaches T.P. with the sign of Admiration, and whispers in his ear the Ineffable Word — letter by letter.)

T.P.—(Strikes * * * with pommel of sword.) Brethren will please form chain around the altar. Join hands left over right and communicate the Ineffable Word. (T.P.G.M. then whispers in the ear of the brother next to him the Ineffable Word. That brother gives it to the next and so on until it reaches the T.P.G.M. again.)

T.P.G.M.—The word that was lost is found, engraved in the deepest part of our hearts. Let us retire in the dark and purify our hearts from all uncleanness. Let us pray. (All face East. G. Hosp. prays, ending with Amen, Amen, Amen.)

All return to their places.

T.P.—Brother Senior Grand Warden, what hour is the clock?

S.G.W.—Thrice Puissant, it is Midnight.

T.P.G.M.—Why do you say that it is Midnight?

S.G.W.—Because after labor comes rest, and night is the time of iniquity.

T.P.G.M.—What brought you here?

S.G.W.—The desire of practicing, in common with my brethren, the arts of virtue, justice, and charity.

T.P.G.M.—What is it that attracts you here?

S.G.W.—The brilliant and adorable Delta.

T.P.G.M.—How come the Delta is so often mentioned in this degree?

S.G.W.—To learn the power, goodness, and mercy and majesty of the G.A.O.T.U., the God of heaven and earth, the Eternal Father of Nature.

T.P.G.M.—What do you carry from here?

S.G.W.—A great desire of doing good.

T.P.G.M.—What can a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason desire more, when he is come to the Sublime Degree of Perfection?

S.G.W.—The "Eternal Beatitude", for which he will forever sigh without ceasing, and which he can only acquire by his good works.

T.P.G.M.—Brothers Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, acquaint the brethren that I am going to close this Lodge of Perfection by the mysterious numbers 3, 5, 7 and 9.

S.G.W.—Brethren, you will please take notice that the T.P.G.M. is going to close this Lodge of Perfection by the mysterious numbers 3, 5, 7 and 9.

J.G.W.—(Repeat same as Senior Grand Warden.)

Thrice Puissant knocks three *** (all rise). S.G.W. knocks three *** (all make sign of Admiration).

J.G.W. knocks three *** (all make sign of Admiration).

T.P.G.M. knocks five *****, S.G.W. knocks five *****, J.G.W. knocks five *****, all make sign of Admiration. T.P.G.M. knocks seven *****, S.G.W. knocks seven *****, J.G.W. knocks seven *****, all make sign of Admiration.

T.P.G.M. knocks nine *****, S.G.W. knocks nine *****, J.G.W. knocks nine *****,

T.P.G.M.—To the Glory of the Great Architect of the Universe, and under the auspices of the UNITED SUPREME COUNCIL OF SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE THIRTY THIRD AND LAST DEGREE OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, FOR THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN MASONIC JURISDICTION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ITS TERRITORIES AND DEPENDENCIES, HOLY SEE THE GRAND ORIENT OF WASHINGTON, D.C. and by the power and authority on me conferred by this Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection, I declare its works thereof closed. Brother Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Officers and Brethren of this Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection, I admonish you to retire in peace, to practice virtue, and religion, and to always live as becomes those who live in the immediate presence of the G.A.O.T.U. And, May God Bless Our Country and our arms.

T.P.G.M.—Together, Brethren (all clap hands on thighs 3, 5, 7 and 9.)

T.P.G.M.—Brother Grand Hospitaller, close the FOUR GREAT LIGHTS OF INEFFABLE MASONRY!

Brother Grand Captain of the Guard, inform the Sentinel.

(THRICE PUISSANT RAPSONCE.)