

W.M - Lamb

W.M. to J.D. Brother Junior Deacon, you will ascertain whether there are any candidates in waiting, and if so, who, and for what degree.

S.W- Pierce

The Junior Deacon proceeds to the preparation room, and having ascertained that a candidate is there, reports as follows:

J.W- Levy

S.D- James

J.D. to W.M. Worshipful Master, brother A. B. is in waiting for the third degree.

J.D- Arku

S.S - McGourty

The seventh and last order of business includes the work of initiation, passing and raising, and when all the other business of the Lodge has been transacted, the Master proceeds as follows:

J.S- Murphy

Apron-Pierce

W.M. Brother Stewards, you will repair to the preparation room, where you will find brother A. B. in waiting, whom you will duly prepare for raising to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Working Tools- Murphy

CEREMONIES OF RAISING

The Stewards step to the altar, make the proper sign, and leaving the altar on their right, proceed to the preparation room, where they question the candidate in the customary manner, and prepare him in due form for the ceremonies of raising, his apron being worn as a Fellow Craft.

They then require him to make three distinct knocks on the door, on hearing which the Senior Deacon rises and says:

S.D. Worshipful Master, there is an alarm at the door of the preparation room.

W.M. to S.D. Attend to the alarm.

The Senior Deacon, leaving the altar on his right, proceeds to the door of the preparation room and gives three knocks upon it. The door is then opened by the Stewards just sufficient to admit of conversation.

S.D. Who comes here?

Steward. A brother who has been regularly initiated as an Entered Apprentice, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and now wishes to receive further light in Masonry by being raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

S.D. to Candidate. Is it of your own free will and accord?

Candidate. It is.

S.D. to *Steward.* Is he duly and truly prepared?

Steward. He is.

S.D. Is he worthy and well qualified?

Steward. He is.

S.D. Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?

Steward. He has.

S.D. By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain admission?

Steward. By the benefit of the pass.

S.D. Has he the pass?

Steward. He has it not; I have it for him.

S.D. Give me the pass.

The pass is given by the Steward to the Senior Deacon in a low whisper.

S.D. Let him wait with patience until the Worshipful Master is informed of his request, and his answer returned.

The Senior Deacon closes the door, proceeds to the altar, salutes the Master, and gives three knocks on the floor with his rod.

W.M. Who comes there?

S.D. A brother who has been regularly initiated as an Entered Apprentice, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and now wishes to receive further light in Masonry by being raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

W.M. Is it of his own free will and accord?

S.D. It is.

W.M. Is he duly and truly prepared?

S.D. He is.

W.M. Is he worthy and well qualified?

S.D. He is.

W.M. Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?

S.D. He has.

W.M. Since he comes endowed with all these essential qualifications, it is my will and pleasure that he enter this Lodge of Master Masons, and that you receive him in due and ancient form.

The Senior Deacon returns to the door of the preparation room, opens it wide, and says to the Stewards:

S.D. It is the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master that he enter this Lodge of Master Masons.

The Stewards, one on each side of the candidate, conduct him into the Lodge. They then close the door behind them and take their seats. The Senior Deacon now takes charge of the candidate, and addresses him as follows:

S.D. to Candidate. My brother, it is the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master that I receive you into this Lodge of Master Masons in due and ancient form. You are received upon both points of the compasses, extending from your naked right to left breasts; which is to signify that as the vital parts of man are contained within the breasts, so the most useful tenets of our institution are contained within the two points of the compasses, which are friendship, morality and brotherly love.

The Senior Deacon takes the candidate's left hand in his own right, and conducts him, with slow and measured steps, nearly to the N. E. corner of the Lodge; when they have reached that point, they turn at right angles and proceed nearly to the S. E. corner; thence to the S.W. corner; thence to the N. W. corner, and so on, moving in direct lines, and making three complete circuits about the Lodge. As they pass the first time by the stations of the Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Master, each of these officers gives one rap. The second passage is greeted by each officer by two raps; and the third by three raps; and as soon as the Junior Warden gives his first rap, the Master commences to read the 12th chap, of Ecclesiastes, and times the reading so as to conclude at the same time the circuits are finished. The Senior Deacon then conducts the candidate in front of, and one pace distant from, the Junior Warden's station in the South, where he gives three knocks on the floor with his rod.

J.W. Who comes there?

S.D. A brother who has been regularly initiated as an Entered Apprentice, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and now wishes to receive further light in Masonry by being raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

J.W. to Candidate. Is it of your own free will and accord?

Candidate. It is.

J.W. Is he duly and truly prepared?

S.D. He is.

J.W. Is he worthy and well qualified?

S.D. He is.

J.W. Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?

S.D. He has.

J.W. By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain admission?

S.D. By the benefit of the pass.

J.W. Has he the pass?

S.D. He has it not; I have it for him.

J.W. Advance and give it.

The Senior Deacon advances and gives the pass.

J.W. Conduct the candidate to the Senior Warden in the West for further examination.

The Senior Deacon and candidate pass on to the front of the Senior Warden's station, where the Senior Deacon gives three knocks with his rod, and the same questions and answers are given and received as at the Junior Warden's station. The Senior Deacon gives the Senior Warden the pass.

The Senior Warden then orders them to the Master's station for final examination and instruction, where the same ceremony is repeated, and at the conclusion the Master says:

W.M. From whence come you and whither are you traveling?

S.D. From the West, and traveling to the East.

W.M. Of what are you in pursuit?

S.D. That which is lost, which, by my endeavors and your assistance, I am in hopes to find.

W.M. To what do you refer?

S.D. To the secrets of a Master Mason.

W.M. Your pursuit is truly laudable. (*To Candidate.*) You will be reconducted to the Senior Warden in the West, who will teach you how to approach to the East, advancing by three upright, regular steps, your feet forming the right angle of a perfect square, your body erect to the Worshipful Master in the East.

The Senior Deacon conducts the candidate to the Senior Warden in the West, leaving the altar on his right as he passes it.

S.D. to *S.W.* Brother Senior Warden, it is the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in the East that this brother be taught to approach to the East, advancing by three upright, regular steps, his feet, forming the right angle of a perfect square, his body erect to the Worshipful Master in the East.

S.W. to *S.D.* You will see that the Worshipful Master's orders are obeyed.

S.D. to *Candidate.* You will face to the East. Step off with your left foot as an Entered Apprentice; now take another step with your right foot as a Fellow Craft, and now take another step with your left foot and bring the heel of the right foot to the heel of the left foot, the feet forming the right angle of a perfect square, your body erect to the Worshipful Master in the East. (*To W.M.*) Your orders have been obeyed, Worshipful Master.

While the candidate is in this position, the Master addresses him from the chair as follows:

W.M. to *Candidate.* My brother, you are now advancing to the last and highest grade of ancient craft Masonry, the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The obligations of this degree are numerous and extremely weighty. Were it not that your trust is in God, and you are taught to apply to Him for strength and wisdom, you might well shrink from assuming them. They cannot be repudiated or laid aside. Yet, as before, I am free to inform you that these new obligations, like those you have heretofore taken, contain nothing which can conflict with your

duty to God, your country, your neighbor or yourself. With this renewed pledge on my part, as Master of the Lodge, I ask you, are you willing to take such an obligation, as all Masons have done before you?

The candidate assenting, the Master proceeds:

W.M. to S.D. Place the candidate in due form to be made a Master Mason.

S.D. to Candidate. Advance! Kneel upon your naked knees; your body erect; your naked hands resting on the Holy Bible, square and compasses.

At each direction, the Senior Deacon places the candidate in position accordingly.

S.D. to W.M. The candidate is in due form, Worshipful Master.

The Master calls up the Lodge by three raps, himself rising last. He then uncovers his head, and advancing to the altar, he places his right hand on the Holy Bible.

W.M. to Candidate. You will repeat your name, and say after me:

I, A. B., of my own free will and accord, in the presence of Almighty God and this worshipful Lodge, erected to him and dedicated to the Holy Saints John, do hereby and hereon most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear as I have heretofore done, but with these additions:

That I will not communicate the secrets of a Master Mason to a Fellow Craft, nor those of a Fellow Craft to an Entered Apprentice, nor those of an Entered Apprentice to the rest of the world, neither these nor any of them to any person or persons whatsoever, except it be a true and lawful brother Mason, or within the body of a just and lawfully constituted Lodge of Masons, nor unto him or them until by strict trial, due examination, or lawful information, I shall have found him or them as lawfully entitled to them as I am myself.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will stand to and abide by all the laws, rules and regulations of the ----- G.L. of the state of ----- and a Master Masons' Lodge, so far as the same come to my knowledge.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will answer and obey all due signs and summonses sent me from a Lodge of Master Masons, or handed me by a brother of this degree, if within the length of my cable-tow.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will help, aid and assist all poor, distressed brother Master Masons, their widows and orphans, they applying to me as such, and I deeming them worthy.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will keep the secrets of a brother Master Mason, when communicated to me as such, murder and treason excepted, and they left to my own choice.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will not be present at, nor give my consent to the making of a woman a Mason, an old man in dotage, a young man in nonage, an atheist, an irreligious libertine, a madman or a fool, knowing them to be such.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will not visit a clandestine Lodge of Masons, nor converse Masonically with a clandestine Mason, or with one who has been suspended or expelled, while under that sentence, knowing him to be such.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will not cheat, wrong or defraud a Lodge of Master Masons, or a brother of this degree, knowing them to be such, but will give them due and timely notice, that they may ward off all approaching danger.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will not violate the chastity of a Master Mason's wife, his mother, sister or daughter, knowing them to be such.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will not give the grand Masonic word in any other manner than that in which I shall receive it, which will be on the five points of fellowship, and then in a low breath.

I furthermore promise and swear that I will not give the grand hailing sign of distress, except it be in case of the most imminent danger, or suffering in the cause of innocence and virtue, or in a just and lawfully constituted Lodge of Master Masons, or in a Lodge for instruction; and when I see or hear it given by a worthy brother in distress, I will fly to the relief of him who gives it, if there be a greater probability of saving his life than losing my own.

All this I most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear, with a firm and steadfast resolution to keep and perform the same, without the least equivocation, mental reservation or self-evasion whatever; binding myself under no less penalty than that of having my body severed in two, my bowels torn from thence and burned- to ashes, and these scattered before the four winds of heaven, that no more remembrance might be had among men or Masons of so vile a wretch as I should be, should I, in the least, knowingly or wittingly, violate or transgress this my Master Mason's obligation. So help me God and keep me steadfast.

W.M. to Candidate. In token of your sincerity of purpose in this solemn engagement, you will kiss the Holy Bible, now open before you. The candidate kisses the Bible.

W.M. to S.D. Brother Senior Deacon, our brother being again bound to us by a covenant which cannot be broken, you will release him from his cable-tow.

The Senior Deacon removes the cable-tow.

W.M. to Candidate. My brother, for by that sacred appellation I again address you, in your present blind condition, what do you most desire? Candidate (*prompted by Senior Deacon*). Further light in Masonry.

W.M. to Candidate. Further light being your desire, you shall receive it.

W.M. to Lodge. My brethren, you will again stretch forth your hands and assist me in bringing this brother to further light in Masonry.

The brethren all, except the Wardens, come forward and form in two parallel lines from East to West.

W.M. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light, and there was light. In solemn commemoration of that sublime event, I, in like manner, Masonically declare, Let there be light!

At the word "light" all present strike their hands together once, and stamp with their right feet; and at the same instant the Senior Deacon removes the hoodwink.

W.M. And there is light!

W.M. to Candidate. My brother, on being brought to light you discover on the altar before you more than you have heretofore done: both points of the compasses bare, which is to teach us never to lose sight of the Masonic application of this useful and valuable instrument, which teaches friendship, morality and brotherly love.

The Master now retires to the East, and again advances, saying:

W.M. to Candidate. You now discover me approaching you from the East under the due guard and sign of a Master Mason. This, my brother, is the due guard (*gives due guard*) and sign (*makes sign*) of a Master Mason, and alludes to the penalty of your obligation. And upon entering a Lodge of Master Masons, or retiring therefrom, you will always advance to the altar where you now kneel, and salute the Worshipful

Master with this due guard and sign. In token of the further continuance of my brotherly love and favor, I again present you with my right hand, and with it the pass and token of the pass of a Master Mason. Arise, salute the Wardens as a Master Mason.

The Master now returns to his station in the East, and seats himself and the Lodge by one rap. The candidate, conducted by the Senior Deacon, leaves the altar on his right and passes to the Junior Warden's station in the South, where he salutes the Junior Warden with the due guard and sign of a Master Mason. He is then conducted to the Senior Warden in the West whom he salutes in like manner. Finally the candidate is brought to the West of the altar, where he salutes the Master with the same due guard and sign.

W.M. to Candidate. My brother, you will now be reconducted to the Senior Warden in the West, who will teach you how to wear your apron as a Master Mason.

The Senior Deacon conducts the candidate to the Senior Warden, and says:

S.D. to S.W. Brother Senior Warden, it is the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in the East that our newly admitted brother be taught how to wear his apron as a Master Mason.

S.W. to S.D. You will see that the order of the Worshipful Master is obeyed.

The Senior Deacon duly invests the candidate, and then conducts him to the right hand of the Master, who thus addresses him:

W.M. to Candidate. I now present you with the working tools of a Master Mason. The working tools of a Master Mason are all the implements of Masonry indiscriminately, but more especially the trowel. The trowel is an instrument made use of by operative masons to spread the cement which unites a building into one common mass; but we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection; that cement which unites us into one sacred band, or society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work or best agree. You will now be reconducted to the place from whence you came, and there be reinvested of what you were divested, and there await my further will and pleasure.

The candidate, after saluting the Master at the altar, is conducted to the preparation room, where the Senior Deacon delivers him to the Stewards. He there resumes his regular clothing, and the Stewards

place the jewel of the Junior Warden on his neck. He then returns to the Lodge, salutes the Master, and takes a seat among the other brethren.

The Junior Warden, on yielding up his jewel, vacates his station in the South, and does not resume it until the conferring of the degree is fully completed.

After a short pause, the Master orders the Senior Deacon to conduct the new brother to the East, where he is addressed as follows:

W.M. to Candidate. My brother, you have this evening been obligated by the very solemn and weighty ties of a Master Mason. Having voluntarily assumed this obligation, you were then brought to light and invested. You have been taught to wear your apron as a Master Mason, and are so wearing it among us at this moment. Even our working tools, the implements of Masonry, have all been explained to you, you have been exhorted to make a proper use of the trowel, the principal working tool of this degree. All this would imply that you are a Master Mason, and qualified to travel and work as such. Nay, more, I observe that you have upon your person a badge of office, the jewel of the Junior Warden, one of the principal officers of the Lodge. This mark of distinction must be highly pleasing to you, and doubtless confirms you in the belief that you are a Master Mason. Is it so?

After a moment's pause, the Senior Deacon answers for the candidate:

S.D. to W.M. He is of that opinion, Worshipful Master.

W.M. to Candidate. My brother, however natural this supposition may be to you, yet it is erroneous. You have not yet attained to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. You are not yet a Master Mason so far as to enable you to prove yourself one, or to travel or work as one. Nor do I know that ever you will become a Master Mason, You have a way to travel over that is extremely perilous. You will be beset with dangers of many kinds, and may perhaps meet with death, as did once befall an eminent brother of this degree. But your trust is in God and your faith is well founded. Before setting out, therefore, upon so serious an enterprise as this, you will repair to the altar for the purpose of prayer. Heretofore you had a brother to pray for you; now you must pray for yourself. Go, therefore, my brother, and may the blessing of God accompany you.

The candidate is now conducted to the altar by the Senior Deacon, who hoodwinks him, and directs him to kneel and offer a prayer, mentally or audibly, at the candidate's own discretion.