

RITUAL

of the

TALL CEDARS of LEBANON

of the
United States of America
Chartered 1902

PREPARED BY
GEORGE S. GASSNER
Supreme Preceptor
(P. G. T. C. of Philadelphia Forest, No. 10)

ADOPTED BY

THE SUPREME FOREST

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H. H. G.

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R. ARTHUR BITTONG

Supreme Tall Cedar

HENRY W. EGNER

Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar

JOHN A. LONGACRE

Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar

GEORGE S. GASSNER

Supreme Preceptor

Committee

PRINTED BY ADAM DEIST, NO. 10
440 W. DAUPHIN STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA.

PREFACE

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PREFACE

This Ritual is based upon important historical occurrences at the time of the building of the Temple, and deals with a chapter of its history which is not treated in any other degree.

In Holy Writ, (see I Kings v.) we learn that King Solomon sent to Hiram, King of Tyre, asking that cedar trees might be hewed out of the forest of Lebanon, for, said he, "thou knowest that there is none among us who can skill to hew timber like unto the Sidonians." King Hiram consented, saying, "my servants shall bring them down from Lebanon unto the sea: and I will convey them by sea in floats unto the place thou shalt appoint me, and will cause them to be discharged there."

The scene of this Ritual is laid in the Royal Court of Tyre of Sidon, and, in a manner, portrays the means by which the workers of Sidonia were gathered together for labor in the forests of Lebanon.

Although it is not a historical fact, we may readily believe that the hewers of wood in Lebanon were bound together in fraternal brotherhood, as well as the hewers of stone at Jerusalem.

The Supreme Preceptor, is by law, the official exponent of the Work and the Ritual of the Order. Any doubt as to the meaning or proper working of the Ritual should be referred to him. It is a part of his duty to assist in the proper working of the Ritual, and especially to give correctly the Secret Work.

COSTUMES

The Supreme Forest has not yet prescribed exact patterns of costumes to be used, but it is absolutely impossible to properly work the ceremonies of the Royal Court without them.

These costumes may be as gorgeous and elaborate as the finances of the Forest will permit, but a really creditable outfit can be purchased for a reasonable sum. They may be hired from any good costumer, but it is recommended that every Forest procure a set of at least five as permanent property. The costumes should be of the Biblical Period, and under no circumstances should the costumes of a later date be used. The cloaks should be long enough to come to the ankles. The use of a gray wig, and long full gray beard for the King; white wig and short white beard for the Chamberlain; blond and dark wigs for the Princes; a crown for the King, and small crowns or bands for the others, together with hose and sandals for all, adds much to the dignity of the ceremony. The Heralds, Attendants, Trumpeters and others may be in costume, and the whole ceremony of the Royal Court may be made as spectacular as desired. The King carries a sceptre and the Chamberlain a staff.

OPENING

GRAND TALL CEDAR: (*one rap*) We are about to open ——— Forest, No. —, of Tall Cedars of Lebanon. Those who are not Tall Cedars will retire.

Brother Sentinel, (*Sentinel rises and salutes*) you will guard the door, and allow no one to enter without the Password and the Card of the current year.

Brother Senior and Junior Deputies, (*they advance to the centre of the Forest and salute*) you will examine those present, and allow no one to remain without the Password and Card of the current year.

(The Senior Deputy examines those on the right, and the Junior Deputy those on the left. When all have been examined, the Deputies advance to the center of the Forest and salute.)

SENIOR DEPUTY: Grand Tall Cedar, we have examined all present, and find them to be Tall Cedars in good standing.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: All present being Tall Cedars, we are now ready to open the Forest.

Let us sing our Opening Ode. (*three raps*)

OPENING ODE

(Tune: Maryland, My Maryland.)

O Lebanon, dear Lebanon!
 Tall Cedar trees of Lebanon!
 We labor in the forest green
 On Lebanon, dear Lebanon.
 The timbers to the line we hew,
 For temple roof-beams, straight and true,
 From mighty cedar trees which grew
 On Lebanon, dear Lebanon.

(Instead of the Opening Ode, one stanza
 of The Star-Spangled Banner or of America,
 may be sung.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: The Chaplain
 will now pronounce the Invocation.

CHAPLAIN: Almighty Ruler of the Uni-
 verse, we thank thee for the health and
 strength that permit us to come together.
 The labor of the day is over, and we are met
 for pleasure and refreshment. Help us to
 enjoy them without excess, and may har-
 mony and brotherly love unite us. Amen.

ALL: May it ever be thus.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: By virtue of
 the power and authority in me vested by the
 Supreme Forest, I hereby declare —
 Forest, No. —, open and ready for the trans-
 action of business. (*one rap*)

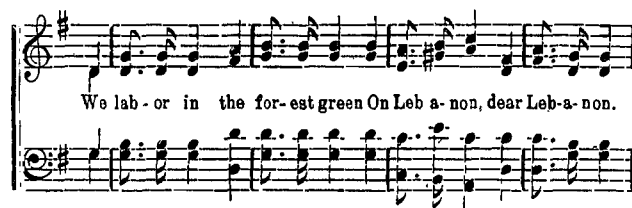
Opening Ode.

"Maryland, My Maryland."

Arr. by G. S. G.



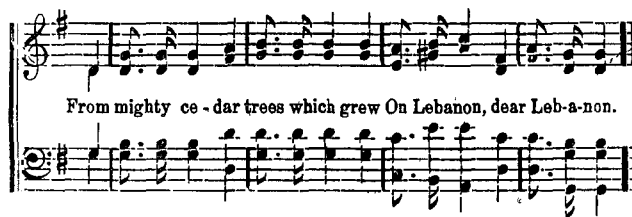
O Leb-a-non, dear Leb-a-non! Tall ce-dar trees of Leb-a-non!



We lab-or in the for-est green On Leb-a-non, dear Leb-a-non.



The timbers to the line we hew, For temple roof-beams straight and true,



From mighty ce-dar trees which grew On Lebanon, dear Leb-a-non.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Opening

Reading of Minutes

Reports of Committees

Communications

Unfinished Business

New Business

Bills

Petitions for Membership

Initiation

Closing

CLOSING

GRAND TALL CEDAR: By virtue of the power and authority in me vested by the Supreme Forest, I hereby declare ——— Forest, No. — closed, until called together by the Grand Tall Cedar. (*one rap*)

INITIATION

SHORT FORM

(This Form is recommended for general use, but every Forest should put on the Royal Court at least once or twice each year. It may be used without costumes, but if costumes are at hand, their use will add to the beauty and impressiveness of the ceremony.

Perfect order should be kept in the Forest, and the whole of this Work, until the selected ones retire for preparation for the Sidonian degree, should be very dignified, and made as impressive as possible.

The candidates shall wear their ordinary clothing. They are not to be hoodwinked, or carry anything of a funny nature. Led by the Guide, they shall enter the Forest and be arranged before the altar. If there be uniformed Rangers, they shall assist the Guide, but there must be no attempts at fun making in this part of the Work.

The Grand Tall Cedar and the Senior and Junior Deputies shall stand behind the altar, the Senior at the right, and the Junior at the left of the Grand Tall Cedar.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brother Guide, whom have you here?

GUIDE: Grand Tall Cedar, these are ——— workmen who desire to become hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are they of good report?

GUIDE: They are well known to me and to many of the brethren.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are they skilled in any craft?

GUIDE: They are skilled wood carvers, master workmen, but hearing of the need for more hewers of timber, they have offered themselves for that service.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Workmen, you are welcome, for there is great need for more hewers in the forest. From Holy Writ, and from our previous teachings, we learn that at the building of the Temple, King Solomon sent to King Hiram of Tyre desiring that the Sidonians might hew cedars of Lebanon for use in the Temple. These timbers were hewed in the forest, brought down to the sea, conveyed in floats to Joppa, and thence overland to Jerusalem.

A Fraternal Brotherhood existed at that time among the hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon, as well as among the hewers of stone in the quarries at Jerusalem. The Hewers' Fraternity was known as the TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON. It was instituted by a royal decree in the days of King Amaram, so that the workers in Lebanon should live and work together in har-

mony and brotherly love. To this Fraternity only, were imparted the secrets of the Forest. Do you desire to learn these secrets?

CANDIDATES: I do.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are you willing to bind yourself to us by a solemn and lasting Obligation?

CANDIDATES: I am.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Then place your right hand over your heart and in an audible voice repeat after me.

(The candidates face the altar. In places where it is convenient, the lights may be turned off, except the lights upon the altar, which should be red or green. If the whole altar is not made of cedar wood, there should be at least, some pieces of rough cedar laid upon it, or green boughs of cedar.)

OBLIGATION

I, (*with your name*)—with these Tall Cedars as my witnesses,—and before this altar of cedar wood,—do hereby promise and vow—that I will never reveal—any of the

secrets of this Order—that may now,—or at any future time,—be imparted to me as such.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will firmly support—the Supreme Forest and its officers,—and will abide by and loyally obey—all laws, rules, regulations,—orders and edicts—lawfully promulgated by them;—and in the same manner—will loyally support the officers,—and obey the authority and laws—of this, or any other Forest—with which I may be connected.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will neither alter nor change,—subtract from, nor add to,—the written or unwritten Work of the Order—as set forth by the Supreme Forest,—nor will I hold Cedar communication—with any Tall Cedar—who is not a member in good standing—in a lawfully chartered Forest.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will never consent to,—nor assist in the introduction—into any of the ceremonies of the Forest,—or into any meeting or festivities—under its name or auspices,—of anything indecent,—obscene,—irreverent,—immoral,—or harmful to the person or property of any one.

To the faithful observance—of all these promises,—I sincerely vow,—binding myself anew—by all the penalties—of any obliga-

tions—I have ever taken elsewhere. So help me God,—and keep me ever firm and true—in this my solemn vow.

(At the end of the Obligation, the lights shall be turned on.)

JUNIOR DEPUTY: Tall Cedars, before you is the altar of cedar wood. The original meaning of the word “CEDAR” is, “firmly rooted and strong tree.” So may you ever be firmly rooted and strong in your love for our Order. And as the cedar wood is everlasting, so is the solemn obligation which you have just taken. Ever be mindful of your three-fold promise of Secrecy, Loyalty, and Decency.

SENIOR DEPUTY: Brother Tall Cedars, we welcome you in Friendship, Love, and Brotherhood. Tall Cedarism is but another name for Hospitality and Good Cheer. Friendliness, Sociability, and Good Fellowship are the cardinal principles of our Order, so that when you meet a Tall Cedar, you may be certain that you are meeting a Friend, a Brother, and a Good Fellow. We welcome you as members of ——— Forest, Number —.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Our full ceremony of Initiation is much more elaborate, but the Obligation you have just taken is the full Obligation as taken by every Tall Cedar.

The beautiful and imposing ceremonies of the Royal Court of King Hiram of Tyre will delight you at some future time.

You will now be instructed in the Secret Work.

The sign of a Tall Cedar is ——— This is called the Hewing Sign, and is symbolic of your labor as a Hewer of wood in Lebanon. On entering or retiring from a Forest, when in session, you will advance to the center of the Forest and throw this sign to the Grand Tall Cedar, who will answer it in this manner, ——— thus signifying that everything that goes on in the Forest is to be kept under cover.

The Pass-word is ———

The Test is ———

The Grip is made thus ———

The Sign of Welcome to the Supreme Officers is made by throwing the Hewing Sign three times, and saying in a loud voice "Welcome" with each Sign.

The Response to the Invocation is, "May it ever be thus."

(After the Secret Work is concluded.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: You will receive the Card of the current year from the Scribe, without which you will not be able to gain admittance to this or any other Forest. Your Pyramid should always be worn at the meetings of the Forest, and at such other times as requested by the Grand Tall Cedar.

You are now duly obligated Tall Cedars, but before you can learn the skill to hew timber, it will be necessary for you to receive further instructions, and be obligated as Sidonians. We are told in Holy Writ, that "there is none among us who can skill to hew timber like unto the Sidonians," and only to duly obligated Tall Cedars may their secrets be imparted.

These secrets will be given you in the Sidonian Degree which is to follow. It teaches that the real spirit of Tall Cedarism is the spirit of mirth and enjoyment. A regular Cedar is a gentleman, a credit to society, and to our Order. He scatters sunshine, dispels gloom, spreads good cheer, is full of joy and laughter. Fun, Frolic, and Fellowship are the three great teachings of this Degree. Let your Fun be always clean and harmless: your Frolics full of innocent merriment: your Fellowship sincere in its friendliness and sociability. Thus will you prove that you have caught the true spirit of Tall Cedarism, and that you are a good Friend, a good Brother, and a good Sidonian.

(A list of those who are to take the stunts shall be prepared in advance, and given to the Grand Tall Cedar.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: You must all take the Sidonian Obligation, but a few have been selected for personal and individual instruction as overseers of the workmen. As their names are called, the following Cedars will step forward and arrange themselves in a line before me.

(The Grand Tall Cedar reads the list of names, and the Cedars come forward and arrange themselves before him.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedars, you have been signally honored in being the chosen ones upon whom will be exemplified the striking ceremonies of the Sidonian degree.

(A very amusing feature may be introduced here by the Grand Tall Cedar reading fake telegrams and letters, referring to the selected ones before him. These letters purport to come from wives and friends, and are full of harmless, but funny personal allusions, such as boasts they have made that they are not afraid, and that they hope they will get their money's worth, talking in their sleep, etc., etc.)

You will now retire to the ante room, and be prepared for the honors that await you. The other newly-made Cedars will remain standing as they are, and strictly do as they are told.

(The selected ones shall then retire to the ante room, and be immediately prepared for the Sidonian degree. After they have left, the candidates remaining in the Forest shall immediately be arranged in a rectangular body in the center of the Forest, leaving sufficient space on all sides for the procession at the beginning of the Sidonian degree. They shall be hoodwinked as soon as they are placed in position, the object being to mystify them, and keep them guessing as to what is going on, and what is going to be done to them. As the candidates are hoodwinked, they should be carefully instructed that they are to answer, "YOU BET" in a LOUD voice to all the questions asked them by the Grand Tall Cedar. This answer should be given by the candidates alone. Rangers and members should keep silent.

At the Sidonian obligation, the candidates shall be moved forward and massed near the front, leaving sufficient room for the Rangers to do their work on the selected ones.

ALL CANDIDATES MUST TAKE THE SIDONIAN OBLIGATION UP TO THE FINAL CLAUSE, when the hoodwinks may be raised on all except the selected ones.

The altar of cedar wood may be removed in order to make more room for the floor work.

If an exhibition drill is to be given by the Rangers, the candidates may be seated in the Forest at the conclusion of the Secret Work. When the drill is concluded, the selected ones shall retire, and the others arranged as directed above. The Rangers should prepare the costumes and paraphernalia in advance, so that as soon as the selected ones reach the ante room, the work of preparing them may begin without delay.)

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR THE SIDONIAN DEGREE

This is the amusing and funny section of our work, and anything that is calculated to add to the sport of the occasion is permitted. But strict care should be taken that nothing indecent or obscene be introduced. There is abundant opportunity for clean, wholesome fun, without descending to coarseness and vulgarity. Tall Cedarism stands for hearty recreation and genuine diversion of a wholesome character that leaves no nasty taste. While it is true that some of our proceedings are rather uproarious, and could hardly be called dignified, yet we should always keep within such bounds that we need not be ashamed to ask any member of the Fraternity to become a Tall Cedar, because we are afraid he would be offended by the coarseness of the work.

The selected ones should be dressed in grotesque garments, with funny masks, etc., being careful to avoid indecency and vulgarity.

In the stunts, care should be taken not to be too rough and especial watchfulness should be observed in the use of the electric current. Some are physically unable to stand a strong shock, and a serious accident might result which would be a great detriment to Tall Cedarism everywhere.

Although it is neither necessary nor desirable that the Grand Tall Cedar should go upon the floor during the working of the stunts, yet he should exercise a strict oversight upon what is being done, and should promptly check anything which oversteps the proper bounds.

While the stunts are being worked, the members should remain seated, and the floor kept absolutely clear of every one who is not actively engaged in the work.

The Forest is to be carefully instructed that the members are to keep absolute silence during the playing of the slow music at the entrance of the candidates, but as soon as the lively music begins, the noise may break loose and Bedlam can reign until the candidates are halted before the Grand Tall Cedar.

It is *very important* that the stunts should not be continued too long, or too often repeated. A short, quick, snappy succession of stunts is very funny, but the same stunts over and over become very tiresome to those looking on. Too many different stunts should not be used at one meeting. Don't show everything you have. Save some for the next time. Simple, home-made stunts are often as successful as the elaborate and expensive ones. Aim for variety and novelty, as the members do not care to see the same old things, meeting after meeting.

Above all, do not keep them going until every one is tired. Many a good meeting has been spoiled by long drills, and long stunts. Quit while they want more, and they will come back to see the rest of it. Ten minutes should be the limit for the drill, and thirty to forty-five minutes are enough for the stunts. Longer than this is sure to be tiresome to those who are looking on.

SIDONIAN DEGREE

(The selected ones must be securely hood-winked. They should have their shoes untied, and be dressed in fantastic costumes, but nothing vulgar or obscene should be allowed. They should be carefully instructed that they are to answer "YOU BET" to the questions asked by the Grand Tall Cedar. Accompanied by the Rangers, and led by the Guide, they shall enter the Forest and march around very slowly to the tune of the Dead March, or a Funeral March, (Chopin's is suggested). Perfect silence should be kept in the Forest during the slow march. When the line is in front of the Grand Tall Cedar, it shall be halted by the Guide.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: (*in slow and solemn tones*) Brother Guide, what is the meaning of this funeral procession? What is the reason for this solemn, doleful music?

GUIDE: Grand Tall Cedar, there is a meaning and a good reason. I know of no other appropriate manner to bring them in, for they are dead ones.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Alas, it is too true. They look like dead ones. They walk like dead ones. They are dead ones. And although we hate to do it, it is our manifest

duty to put some new life into these dead bones. Brother Guide, lead them on again, and see if you can bring them back to life.

(Lively music begins,—like "Hot Time in the Old Town"—and the candidates are hurried around the Forest at a lively gait, amid great noise and cries of "Step High," etc. When they are in front of the G. T. C. they are halted again.)

GUIDE: (*in solemn tones*) Take off your shoes, lest you defile this venerable Lodge of Sidonians.

(Shoes are taken off and thrown in a heap in the center of the Lodge. If it is thought best, especially in the winter season, taking off the shoes may be omitted. The candidates shall then be placed in line before the Grand Tall Cedar who shall say:)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brother Guide, where did you gather up this collection of bums and ragamuffins? Why have you dared to bring these hoboes and degenerates into this venerable Lodge of Sidonians?

GUIDE: Grand Tall Cedar, I know that their appearance is forbidding, and that they do not look like brothers, but I can assure you that these are Tall Cedars, who desire to be instructed in the secrets of the Sidonians, and to learn the skill to hew timber.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: How do you know that they are Tall Cedars?

GUIDE: Because they are in possession of the Secret work and the Pass-word.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Let them throw the Hewing Sign. (*All the candidates throw Sign*)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Let them give the Pass-word. (*All the candidates give Pass-word*)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: The Sign and the Pass-word are correct. This shows us how easy it is to be mistaken, for appearances are often deceitful. Young Cedars, do you desire to be taught our secrets?

CANDIDATES: (*In a very loud voice*)
You bet!

(This answer is to be given by the Candidates alone. Rangers and members should remain silent.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Do you want to learn the skill to hew timber?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Do you want all that is coming to you?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Will you take it as we give it?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Have you got your nerve with you?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are you game and full of ginger?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are you as stupid as you look?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are your heads made of wood?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Such being the case, it is high time you were taken in hand. You are surrounded by a hundred Sidonians who are skilled in cutting wood, and it is clearly necessary that your wooden heads should be well trimmed at this time. More-

over, you must again give us your promise. You have been obligated as Tall Cedars, by a solemn and lasting obligation which must always be regarded most seriously and sacredly. Now, you are to take another obligation which will be binding only in a Lodge of Sidonians, and only while you are taking it. Raise both hands above your heads, and in a loud voice repeat after me.

SIDONIAN OBLIGATION

I, (*with your name*)—in the presence of this Lodge of Sidonians,—erected for the trimming of blockheads,—and now assembled for that express purpose,—do hereby show my full assent—and give my hearty thanks—for what I am about to receive.

MOREOVER—I promise—that I will not show the white feather,—but will take all that is coming to me—like a little man.

MOREOVER—I promise—that I will lend a brother Sidonian—a sum not exceeding—thirty cents,—if I have no other use for it.

MOREOVER—I promise—that I will not marry any widow—grass or sod—or the mother-in-law of any Sidonian,—without her full consent.

MOREOVER—I promise—that at any free feed—I will not eat or drink—more than my skin will hold.

MOREOVER—I promise—that when I am in the company of Sidonians,—or visit a Lodge of Sidonians—I will endeavor to conduct myself—as a perfect lady.

(Here may be introduced any localisms.)

MOREOVER—I promise—that three times in the year,—at New Year's,—St. Patrick's Day,—and Yom Kippur,—at the dead hour of midnight—I will rise from my bed,—divest myself of all apparel,—put on my slippers,—my pyramid,—and a smile,—and clad only in my birthday suit—will parade up and down _____ street,—and will climb to the top of _____ (*some high place*)—and there, with the icy winds of winter—blowing around my manly form,—will raise my face to the skies—stretch forth my hands to the stars—and there renew this obligation.

(Here the hoodwinks may be raised on all except the selected ones, in the front.)

MOREOVER—finally I promise—that I will not forget the words of this Obligation—as long as I remember them,—and in token of my submission,—I kneel on both knees,—bow my face to the ground,—and in this helpless position,—call for succor—from the

great Sidonian saints,—O saints hear us!
O saints help us!—lift up thy mighty arms—
O great saints—Knockus and Whackus!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brother Sidonians, the great saints have evidently heard and answered your call for succor. They stretched forth their mighty arms, and found an easy mark. We know that you enjoyed it, but more is still to follow. The best is yet to come. You will now retire to the ante room, and return one by one, for further trimming and instruction.

(The selected ones shall then retire to the ante room. The others shall be seated anywhere in the Forest. As the selected ones finish their stunts, they shall be seated in the Forest without retiring again to the ante room. When the stunts are finished, they shall all be brought in a body before the Grand Tall Cedar.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brothers, you have wandered long in the Forest, and have passed through many novel, striking, and even shocking experiences. We hope that you have not been inconvenienced by our polite attentions, which were all intended for your good and our pleasure. We have had a lot of fun: did you enjoy it?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Have you had a good time?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are you sorry it is all over?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are you fully satisfied?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Did you get your money's worth?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Are you glad you're a Tall Cedar?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Will you try to bring in Saplings?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Will you help us give them what you got?

CANDIDATES: You bet!

GRAND TALL CEDAR: It is well. I congratulate you on being good sports and having such willing spirits. You are now full-grown Sidonians, and may retire to the ante room and return when you are properly clothed.

(The ordinary business of the Forest may then be resumed.)

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR PLAIN FORM

The Plain Form is intended to provide a Ritual which can be worked in the smaller Forests and those which have no uniformed Rangers. Also, the larger Forests which have full companies of uniformed Rangers, may find it useful at such times as it is desirable to shorten the time devoted to the Royal Court.

The Plain Form can not be properly worked without costumes, but these need not necessarily be expensive. The King must have a robe and crown, but very simple robes will answer for the Princes and the Chamberlain.

If a bugler or trumpeter is available, it adds much to the effectiveness of the King's entry.

In some meeting places, the only available dressing room for the King and Princes is back of the stage. In this event, the Forest may be called to its feet, and the Princes and King march directly from the wings upon the stage, where they will seat themselves. The bugle may be blown behind the scenes, just before the entry.

It is impossible to prescribe exactly the floor movements, as the ante rooms and exits are so differently arranged in the halls. The Grand Tall Cedar is at perfect liberty to make such changes as will best adapt the work to the conditions he finds at the meeting place of the Forest.

INITIATION

ROYAL COURT PLAIN FORM

(To be used when the Exhibition Drill does not form a part of the Ceremony. This Form may be used either with, or without uniformed Rangers.

When the time for Initiation has come, the Grand Tall Cedar,—or some one designated by him,—shall rise and say:)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brother Cedars, we are about to sit as the Royal Court of King Hiram of Tyre, in order that we may increase the number of workmen in the Forest. The Royal Court is no place for laughter and levity; that will be given opportunity in due season. In the presence of the King, the greatest order and decorum must prevail.

Brother Guide, (*The Guide rises and salutes*) you will admit the workmen who are in waiting, and place them in order in the Audience Chamber.

Brother Sentinel, (*The Sentinel rises and salutes*) you will inform his Majesty that we are ready to receive him as soon as the workmen are admitted to the Royal Court. After his entry, you will close the door, and allow none to pass until after the Secret Work.

(The Guide brings in the candidates quietly, and places them standing in the rear of the Court. They are not to be hoodwinked, and there must be no attempts at fun. All the proceedings in the Royal Court must be orderly and full of dignity. When all have entered and are arranged in order, the Guide shall say to them:)

GUIDE: You are now in the Royal Court of King Hiram of Tyre. You represent skilled wood carvers, and will wait here in silence until you are summoned to the royal presence.

(If there be uniformed Rangers, and it is desired, the CEREMONY OF ENTHRONEMENT may be used, as found in Full Form.

If there be no uniformed Rangers, the Princes, walking abreast, shall enter the Court. The Chamberlain shall immediately follow, and at the entrance of the Court shall say:)

CHAMBERLAIN: Arise, my Lords! (*All arise.*) Behold the King!

(The King shall then enter the Court and all march in a dignified manner to the King's throne. The Princes shall have seats, Zadok on the right, Adoniah on the left of the King. All remain standing. The Chamberlain retires to the rear of the Court, and remains standing just in front of the candidates. The King seats himself and says:)

KING: Lords of the Royal Court, I greet you with a kingly salutation. May health and happiness abide with you, and may long life and prosperity be your portion.

ALL: Long live the King! (*One rap,—all seated.*)

KING: It is known to you, my Lords, that King Solomon has sent to me, desiring that hewed timbers from the forest of Lebanon may be sent to him for use in building the Temple at Jerusalem. I have promised that my servants shall cut wood out of Lebanon as much as he shall need, but in order to accomplish this vast undertaking, we must have more workmen in the Forest. I have therefore caused proclamation to be made throughout the Kingdom, calling upon all workers in wood to forthwith present themselves at the Royal Court.

(Then the Chamberlain shall face the candidates and say:)

CHAMBERLAIN: Workmen, you have heard the King's request. He that will offer himself for labor in the forest of Lebanon, let him hold up his right hand.

(Candidates all raise their right hands. The Chamberlain signals for the hands to be lowered, faces about and marches quickly to a position in front of the King, where he salutes:)

CHAMBERLAIN: A message, your Majesty!

KING: And what is your message, my Lord Chamberlain?

CHAMBERLAIN: Your Majesty, there are —— workmen in the Audience Chamber who crave an audience with the King.

KING: Have you ascertained their business?

CHAMBERLAIN: They are workers in wood who have heard the royal proclamation and desire to offer themselves for labor in the forests of Lebanon.

KING: Their prompt compliance is most gratifying, and I will at once receive them.

(The Chamberlain returns to the candidates.)

Princes Zadok and Adoniah, (*Princes rise and salute*) with the assistance of the Lord Chamberlain, you will bring before me the workmen who are in the Audience Chamber.

(The Princes salute, and march to where the candidates are standing. The Chamberlain arranges the candidates in ranks of two or four. Zadok takes position at the foot of the line, Adoniah at the head with the Chamberlain. The line files left and marches along the side of the Forest and then files left to a position in front of the King, where they shall halt. Zadok is at the right of the line, Adoniah and the Chamberlain at the left. The Chamberlain salutes and retires to the ante room to make preparation for the Sidonian Degree, which immediately follows the Secret Work.)

KING: Prince Zadok, (*Zadok salutes*) who are these men that you have brought to an audience with the King?

ZADOK: Your Majesty, these are —— workmen from the cities of the Kingdom, who desire to become hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon.

KING: Are they of good report?

ZADOK: They are well known to me, and to many of the brethren.

KING: Are they skilled in any craft?

ZADOK: They are skilled wood carvers, master workmen, but hearing of the need for more hewers of timber, they have offered themselves for your service.

KING: Workmen, you are welcome, for there is great need for more hewers in the Forest. From Holy Writ, and from our previous teachings, we learn that at the building of the Temple, King Solomon sent to King Hiram of Tyre desiring that the Sidonians might hew cedars of Lebanon for use in the Temple. These timbers were hewed in the forest, brought down to the sea, conveyed in floats to Joppa, and thence overland to Jerusalem. A fraternal Brotherhood existed at that time among the hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon, as well as among the hewers of stone in the quarries at Jerusalem. The Hewer's Fraternity was known as the TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON. It was instituted by a royal decree in the days of King Amaram, so that the

workers in Lebanon should live and work together in harmony and brotherly love. To this Fraternity only were imparted the secrets of the Forest. Do you desire to learn these secrets?

CANDIDATES: I do.

KING: Are you willing to bind yourself to us by a solemn and lasting obligation?

CANDIDATES: I am.

KING: Then place your right hand over your heart, and in an audible voice repeat after me.

(The candidates face the altar, standing in a semi-circle. The Princes stand just behind the right and left sides of the altar facing the candidates. When all are in position, the King descends from his throne and takes his place between the Princes, just behind the altar. In places where it is convenient the lights may be turned off, except the lights upon the altar, which should be red or green. If the whole altar is not made of cedar wood, there should be some pieces of rough cedar, or cedar boughs laid upon it.)

O B L I G A T I O N

I, (*with your name*)—in the presence of his Majesty—King Hiram of Tyre,—the Princes Zadok and Adoniah,—with these Tall Cedars as my witnesses,—and before this altar of cedar wood,—do hereby promise and vow—that I will never reveal—any of

the secrets of this Order—that may now,—or at any future time,—be imparted to me as such.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will firmly support—the Supreme Forest and its officers,—and will abide by and loyally obey—all laws, rules, regulations,—orders and edicts—lawfully promulgated by them;—and in the same manner—will loyally support the officers,—and obey the authority and laws—of this, or any other Forest—with which I may be connected.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will neither alter nor change,—subtract from, nor add to,—the written or unwritten Work of the Order—as set forth by the Supreme Forest,—nor will I hold Cedar communication—with any Tall Cedar—who is not a member in good standing—in a lawfully chartered Forest.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will never consent to,—nor assist in the introduction—into any of the ceremonies of the Forest,—or into any meeting or festivities—under its name or auspices,—of anything indecent,—obscene,—irreverent,—immoral,—or harmful to the person or property of any one.

To the faithful observance—of all these promises,—I sincerely vow,—binding myself anew—by all the penalties—of any obligations—I have ever taken elsewhere. So

help me God,—and keep me ever firm and true—in this my solemn vow.

(At the end of the Obligation, the lights shall be turned on.)

ADONIAH: Tall Cedars, Before you is the altar of cedar wood. The original meaning of the word "cedar" is, "grimly rooted, strong tree." So may you ever be firmly rooted and strong in your love for our Order. And as the cedar wood is everlasting, so is the solemn obligation which you have just taken. Ever be mindful of your threefold promise of Secrecy, Loyalty, and Decency.

ZADOK: Brother Tall Cedars, we welcome you in Friendship, Love, and Brotherhood. Tall Cedarism is but another name for Hospitality and Good Cheer. Friendliness, Sociability, and Good Fellowship are the cardinal principles of our Order, so that when you meet a Tall Cedar, you may be certain that you are meeting a Friend, a Brother, and a Good Fellow. We welcome you as members of ——— Forest, Number ———.

KING: The ceremony through which you have just passed is not a mere show and spectacle. It has a deep and serious meaning. You have represented skilled wood carvers; artists, as well as craftsmen. The work of hewing timber is very rough for your skillful hands, but you were so loyal to

your King, that as soon as you heard of his need, you offered yourself for any service. By such loyalty and willingness, you have shown us the grandeur of patriotism, the dignity of labor, and the beauty of willing service.

You may still be artists, for the highest and truest art is not so much in the thing produced, as in the spirit in which the thing is done. He is indeed the true artist who puts his whole heart and soul into whatever his hands find to do. All labor is equally honorable, and to every one who does his best with a willing heart and mind, the Great Master will say: "Well done, good and faithful servant, thou shall have a great reward."

You will now be instructed in the Secret Work.

The sign of a Tall Cedar is ——— This is called the Hewing Sign, and is symbolic of your labor as a Hewer of wood in Lebanon. On entering or retiring from a Forest, when in session, you will advance to the center of the Forest and throw this sign to the Grand Tall Cedar, who will answer it in this manner, ——— thus signifying that everything that goes on in the Forest is to be kept under cover.

The Pass-word is ———

The Test is ———

The Grip is made thus ———

The Sign of Welcome to the Supreme Officers is made by throwing the Hewing Sign three times, and saying in a loud voice "Welcome" with each Sign.

The Response to the Invocation is, "May it ever be thus."

(After the Secret Work is concluded.)

KING: You will receive the Card of the current year from the Scribe, without which you will not be able to gain admittance to this or any other Forest. Your Pyramid should always be worn at the meetings of the Forest, and at such other times as requested by the King.

You are now duly obligated Tall Cedars, but before you can learn the skill to hew timber, it will be necessary for you to receive further instructions, and be obligated as Sidonians. We are told in Holy Writ, that "there is none among us who can skill to hew timber like unto the Sidonians," and only to duly obligated Tall Cedars may their secrets be imparted.

These secrets will be given you in the Sidonian Degree which is to follow. It teaches that the real spirit of Tall Cedarism is the spirit of mirth and enjoyment. A regular Cedar is a gentleman, a credit to society, and to our Order. He scatters sunshine, dis-

pels gloom, spreads good cheer, is full of joy and laughter. Fun, Frolic, and Fellowship are the three great teachings of this Degree. Let your Fun be always clean and harmless: your Frolics full of innocent merriment: your Fellowship sincere in its friendliness and sociability. Thus will you prove that you have caught the true spirit of Tall Cedarism, and that you are a good Friend, a good Brother, and a good Sidonian.

(A list of those who are to take the stunts shall be prepared in advance, and given to the King.)

KING: You must all take the Sidonian Obligation, but a few have been selected for personal and individual instruction as overseers of the workmen. As their names are called, the following Cedars will step forward and arrange themselves in a line before me.

(The King reads the list of names, and the Cedars come forward and arrange themselves before him.)

KING: Tall Cedars, you have been signally honored in being the chosen ones upon whom will be exemplified the striking ceremonies of the Sidonian degree.

(A very amusing feature may be introduced here by the King reading fake telegrams and letters, referring to the selected ones before him. These letters purport to come from wives and friends, and are full of

harmless, but funny personal allusions, such as boasts they have made that they are not afraid, and that they hope they will get their money's worth, talking in their sleep, etc., etc.)

You will now retire to the ante room, and be prepared for the honors that await you. The other newly-made Cedars will remain standing as they are, and strictly do as they are told.

(The ones who are to receive the stunts will then retire to the ante room. As soon as they have left the Court, the King and Princes shall return to their places, and the King shall say:)

KING: Lords of the Royal Court, we have finished our labors, and largely increased our numbers. I therefore declare this Royal Court dissolved, and the Grand Tall Cedar shall preside over the Lodge of Sidonians. May peace and harmony ever abide with you. Farewell!

ALL: Long live the King!

(Then the King, preceded by the Princes, shall retire, and the Grand Tall Cedar shall resume his station. The candidates remaining in the Forest shall immediately be arranged in a rectangular body in the center of the Forest, leaving sufficient space on all sides for the procession at the beginning of the Sidonian Degree. They shall be hoodwinked as soon as they are placed in position, the object being to mystify them, and

keep them guessing as to what is going to happen to them, and what is coming next. As the candidates are being hoodwinked, they must be carefully instructed that they are to answer, "You Bet" in a **LOUD** voice, to all the questions asked them by the Grand Tall Cedar. This answer is to be given by the candidates alone. Rangers and members must keep silent.)

The Sidonian Degree should follow as quickly as possible.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR THE ROYAL COURT

The Full Form of the Royal Court is a dramatic and spectacular presentation of the calling and employment of the workmen of Sidonia, to become hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon.

It is not prescribed nor intended that the full ceremonies of the Royal Court shall be used at every meeting of the Forest. In most Forests, it will be found more satisfactory and more effective, if used at only a part of the meetings, say, once, or twice, or at the most, three times in each year. Each Grand Tall Cedar is at liberty to use his own discretion as to which Form shall be used. But, if at all possible, it should be presented at least once a year in each Forest, either in Full Form, or Plain Form.

It should be presented in a serious, dignified manner, and made as impressive as possible. All entrances and exits should be tyled and kept closed until the conclusion of the Secret Work. The members of the Forest should remain seated, and all unnecessary conversation and movements be avoided. The ceremonies of the Royal Court admit much elaboration in costumes and properties, and may be made very spectacular, especially in the entry of the King and his enthronement, and also the entry of Prince Azariah.

In working the Royal Court, the great aim should be to have the different movements follow one another in immediate and rapid succession. The whole ceremony has been planned as a whole, and there should be no break in the action, at any time.

If the Grand Tall Cedar is to take the part of the King, he should call some one to preside over the Forest and transact the preliminary business, while he is putting on his costume. The Princes and

Rangers should be all **READY TO ENTER** as soon as the Royal Court is announced. Delay is **ABSOLUTELY UNNECESSARY**, if the different officers and the Chief Ranger will so **STUDY THE RITUAL** that they know where their parts come in. The Guide should have the candidates arranged in the ante room in such manner that they can be brought in immediately, when the order is given by the Grand Tall Cedar.

All the movements and marching in the Royal Court should be with the greatest dignity and formality, and especially without levity or appearance of haste.

The directions as to the movements of the Rangers, as given in the Ritual, must be governed by local conditions, such as the size of the room, and the location of the entrances. The Grand Tall Cedar and the Chief Ranger are at liberty to make such changes as will add to the beauty and impressiveness of the work.

At ordinary meetings, or in small Forests which have not suitable costumes, or where the room is small, the Short Form may be used, but the Sidonian Degree should be given **IN FULL** at every meeting of the Forest. The stunts may be omitted at the direction of the Grand Tall Cedar, but this should be done only for weighty reason.

If a Forest has no costumes or uniformed Rangers it may call upon some neighboring Forest. Very many of the Forests, having fully costumed Degree Teams and uniformed Rangers, will welcome an invitation to make a visitation and display their work. These friendly visitations are a most important feature in the life of any Forest, and greatly help to create and maintain that fraternal feeling which is the foundation of our Order.

The work of the Royal Court will be made most impressive and effective in every Forest by the institution of a Degree Team, who may, or may not

be officers of the Forest. It will generally be found that the Grand Tall Cedar has enough to do without undertaking to memorize and perform one of the parts in the Royal Court. In order to be effective, it is absolutely necessary that all the parts be memorized, and the work done without a book in sight. In every Forest there may be found five members, possessing good voices and dramatic ability, who, with proper rehearsal together, can render the work of the Royal Court with dignity and impressiveness. This Team should continue from year to year, with only such changes as may be necessary. It will be found useful to have some understudies who can fill in when one of the members of the Team is unavoidably absent.

The parts of the King and Chamberlain are the most important, and it is especially necessary that the Chamberlain be thoroughly familiar with the movements of the Ritual, as from his position on the floor, and in the ante room, he can give directions to the other members of the Team and to the Rangers.

The salute in the Royal Court is made by stretching forth the right hand on a level with the shoulder, palm down, and bowing deeply. It is answered by the King stretching forth his sceptre, or by bowing his head. Always salute when addressing the King. When one is addressed by the King he shall salute, or, if seated, shall rise and salute.

When Supreme Officers, or other visitors are present, a suitable time for addresses may be found while the candidates are being prepared for the Sidonian Degree.

Where the dressing room is back of the stage, the Rangers may enter and form in front of the Throne. Princes enter from wings, and stand right and left of Throne. Chamberlain enters from wings, and says: "Arise, my Lords, etc." King follows, and goes to Throne.

INITIATION

ROYAL COURT FULL FORM

(When the time for Initiation has come, the Grand Tall Cedar—or some one designated by him—shall rise and say:)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brother Tall Cedars, we are about to sit as the Royal Court of King Hiram of Tyre, in order that we may increase the number of workmen in the Forest. The Royal Court is no place for laughter and levity: that will be given opportunity in due season. In the presence of the King, the greatest order and decorum must prevail.

Brother Guide, (*the Guide rises and salutes*) you will admit the workmen who are in waiting, and place them in order in the audience chamber.

(The Guide salutes and retires.)

Brother Sentinel, (*the Sentinel rises and salutes*) you will inform the Chief of the Royal Rangers that we are ready to receive his Majesty as soon as the workmen are admitted to the Royal Court. After his entry, you will close the door, and allow none to pass until after the Secret Work.

(The Sentinel salutes, retires to inform the Chief of the Royal Rangers, and then returns to his place at the door.)

The Guide brings in the candidates quietly, and places them standing in the rear of the Court. They are not to be hoodwinked, and there must be no attempts at fun. All the proceedings in the Royal Court must be orderly and full of dignity. When all have entered and are arranged in order, the Guide shall say to them:)

GUIDE: You are now in the Royal Court of King Hiram of Tyre. You represent skilled wood carvers, and will wait here in silence until you are summoned to the royal presence.

(The Sentinel shall then inform the Chief of the Royal Rangers that the workmen are in the Royal Court.)

CEREMONY OF ENTHRONEMENT

(The procession shall form in the ante room in the following order, as soon as the workmen have gone out, and must be ready to move as soon as the Sentinel gives the word that the workmen are arranged in the Royal Court.

1. Heralds and trumpeters.
2. Royal Rangers.
3. Princes Zadok and Adoniah.

The trumpeters shall sound a blast outside, as a signal to open the doors, and continue blowing until the procession has fully entered the Court, where it marches once around. Then, marching towards the throne, the

Rangers and Princes shall halt, open ranks two paces apart, and raise their swords, or spears, or right hands, forming an archway. Immediately, the Chamberlain shall enter and say:)

CHAMBERLAIN: Arise, my Lords!
(*All arise.*) Behold his Majesty, the King!

(The King shall then enter the Court. Preceded by the Chamberlain, he marches slowly between the ranks of the Rangers. At the foot of the throne, the Chamberlain shall halt and allow the King to ascend the throne, where he remains standing. The Princes shall then pass between the Rangers, and on reaching the throne salute the King, and take their places, Zadok on the right and Adoniah on the left of the King, where they remain standing. Then the King shall take his seat on the throne and say:)

KING: Lords of the Royal Court, I greet you with a kingly salutation. May health and happiness abide with you, and may long life and prosperity be your portion. (*One rap.*)

(All are seated. The Rangers march to the rear of the Court, and form in line in front of the candidates. The Chamberlain retires to the ante room and immediately returns. He approaches the King and salutes.)

CHAMBERLAIN: Your Majesty, an Ambassador from King Solomon is in waiting.

KING: You will bring him at once into the Royal Court, that we may receive him with the honor due to his exalted Master.

(The Chamberlain salutes and retires. The Rangers march to the entrance to receive Prince Azariah and his retinue. The procession enters the Royal Court in the following order:

1. Trumpeters.
2. Royal Rangers, in fours.
3. Guards of Prince Azariah, wearing purple capes, and carrying swords, or spears.
4. Attending Lords and retinue—in costume.
5. Chamberlain.
6. Prince Azariah.

The trumpeters sound a blast as Prince Azariah enters, and the procession moves forward. When they are in front of the throne, the Rangers file right and left in twos and halt, leaving space in the center for the Chamberlain and Prince Azariah. They approach the King and salute. The entry of Prince Azariah may be made as gorgeous and spectacular as desired.)

CHAMBERLAIN: Your Majesty, this is Prince Azariah who bears a message from King Solomon.

KING: And what is thy message, most noble Prince?

AZARIAH: (*salutes*) Most excellent King Hiram of Tyre, my worshipful Lord and Master, King Solomon, sends royal greetings, and bade me say that he is building a Temple in Jerusalem. The stones thereof are hewed in the quarries near the city, but he earnestly desires that it may be

roofed with timbers of cedar. Therefore he begs that thou wilt command thy servants to hew timbers in the forest of Lebanon. It is well known unto him that there is not among us any that can skill to hew timbers like unto the Sidonians. (*Salutes.*)

KING: Prince Azariah, thy request is most freely granted. Return to thy royal and illustrious Master and tell him that I rejoice greatly in his wisdom, and will do all his desire concerning timbers of cedar for the Temple. My servants shall cut wood out of Lebanon, as much as he shall need, and we will bring it in floats by sea to Joppa, so that he may carry it overland to Jerusalem. May peace abide with thee and thy royal Master.

(The Chamberlain and Prince Azariah salute. The Rangers re-form in fours and lead the procession as it retires from the Forest. The Chamberlain immediately returns and takes a position in front of the candidates. The Rangers remain in line outside, ready for the proclamation.)

KING: My Lords, you have heard the request of my illustrious brother, King Solomon, and the promise I have made. In order to accomplish this vast undertaking, we must have more workmen in the Forest. Therefore it is my royal command that Princes Zadok and Adoniah, accompanied by the Royal Rangers, shall forthwith travel throughout the Kingdom, and make public

proclamation, calling upon all workers in wood to present themselves at the Royal Court.

(The Princes rise and salute the King.)

ZADOK: The command of your Majesty shall be immediately obeyed.

KING: May your journey be prosperous.

(The Princes salute and retire to the ante room where the Rangers are waiting in line. The procession shall immediately re-enter the Royal Court, with the Princes and trumpeters in the center of the Rangers. They shall march once around the Court. When the Princes are at the center of the standing candidates, the procession shall halt and face the candidates. After a blast is sounded by the trumpets, the proclamation shall be made, either by one of the Princes, or by the two in concert.)

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! By command of his royal Majesty, King Hiram of Tyre, all workers in wood not now employed, shall forthwith present themselves at his Royal Court, for labor in the forest of Lebanon. Long live the King!

ALL: Long live the King!

(The proclamation having been made, the procession shall march around and halt in front of the King. The Princes advance two paces and salute.)

ZADOK: May it please your Majesty, we have obeyed the royal command, and proclamation has been made throughout the Kingdom.

KING: Most noble Princes, you have my royal approbation. Let us hope for a willing response.

(Then the Chamberlain shall face the candidates and say:)

CHAMBERLAIN: Workmen, you have heard the royal proclamation. He that will offer himself for labor in the forest of Lebanon, let him hold up his right hand.

(Candidates all raise their right hands. The Chamberlain signals for them to be lowered, faces about, marches quickly to a position between the Princes, and salutes.)

CHAMBERLAIN: A message, your Majesty!

KING: And what is your message, my Lord Chamberlain?

CHAMBERLAIN: Your Majesty, there are workmen in the Audience Chamber who crave an audience with the King.

KING: Have you ascertained their business?

CHAMBERLAIN: They are workers in wood who have heard the royal proclamation, and desire to offer themselves for labor in the forest of Lebanon.

KING: Their prompt compliance is most gratifying, and I will presently receive them. You will return to these workmen, and

remain with them in the Audience Chamber until they are summoned to the royal presence.

(The Chamberlain salutes and returns to the candidates where he takes a position at their right, facing the King.)

KING: Princes Zadok and Adoniah, (*they salute*) there are workmen in the Audience Chamber to whom I must soon grant an audience. Before I hear them, you may present before me the Chief of the Royal Rangers who accompanied you throughout the Kingdom.

(The Chief of the Royal Rangers shall advance until he is in line with the Princes. All salute.)

ZADOK: King Hiram, I present before you, Joab, the Chief of the Royal Rangers, who, with his faithful band, is ever ready to undertake any duty in your Majesty's service.

KING: I have heard of you Joab, that you are a man of valor, and of great skill to command your Rangers. It is my pleasure that you now display their skill before this Royal Court.

(Princes and Chief Ranger salute. The Princes return to their places and are seated. The Rangers perform their evolutions, ending with a military salute.)

KING: I thank you Chief Ranger Joab, for this exhibition which does great credit both to you, and to your well trained men. You will assist Princes Zadok and Adoniah in bringing before me the workmen who are in the Audience Chamber.

(The Princes rise and salute. The Chamberlain arranges the candidates in ranks of two or four at the rear of the Court, and takes his position at the right of the line. The Rangers file left and march to the rear of the Court, passing just in front of the line of candidates. Princes Zadok and Adoniah fall in line behind the Rangers, and when the candidates are reached, Prince Zadok takes a position at the foot of the line. The Rangers continue their march without halting, and the Chamberlain and candidates fall in behind Prince Adoniah. The Rangers file left along the side of the Court, and again file left and march across the Court in front of the King. When the candidates are in a line before the King, they shall be halted by the Princes. Prince Adoniah is at the left of the line, Prince Zadok at the right. The Rangers and Chamberlain continue their march without halting, and retire to the ante room, where they prepare for the Sidonian Degree.)

ZADOK: Your Majesty, these are ——— workmen from the cities of the Kingdom, who desire to become hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon.

KING: Are they of good report?

ZADOK: They are well known to me, and to many of the brethren.

KING: Are they skilled in any craft?

ZADOK: They are skilled wood carvers, master workmen, but hearing of the need for more hewers of timber, they have offered themselves for your service.

KING: Workmen, you are welcome, for there is great need for more hewers in the Forest. From Holy Writ, and from our previous teachings, we learn that at the building of the Temple, King Solomon sent to King Hiram of Tyre desiring that the Sidonians might hew cedars of Lebanon for use in the Temple. These timbers were hewed in the forest, brought down to the sea, conveyed in floats to Joppa, and thence overland to Jerusalem. A fraternal Brotherhood existed at that time among the hewers of timber in the forest of Lebanon, as well as among the hewers of stone in the quarries at Jerusalem. The Hearer's Fraternity was known as the TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON. It was instituted by a royal decree in the days of King Amaram, so that the

workers in Lebanon should live and work together in harmony and brotherly love. To this Fraternity only were imparted the secrets of the Forest. Do you desire to learn these secrets?

CANDIDATES: I do.

KING: Are you willing to bind yourself to us by a solemn and lasting obligation?

CANDIDATES: I am.

KING: Then place your right hand over your heart, and in an audible voice repeat after me.

(The candidates face the altar, standing in a semi-circle. The Princes stand just behind the right and left sides of the altar facing the candidates. When all are in position, the King descends from his throne and takes his place between the Princes, just behind the altar. In places where it is convenient the lights may be turned off, except the lights upon the altar, which should be red or green. If the whole altar is not made of cedar wood, there should be some pieces of rough cedar, or cedar boughs laid upon it.)

O B L I G A T I O N

I, (*with your name*)—in the presence of his Majesty—King Hiram of Tyre,—the Princes Zadok and Adoniah,—with these Tall Cedars as my witnesses,—and before this altar of cedar wood,—do hereby promise and vow—that I will never reveal—any of

the secrets of this Order—that may now,—or at any future time,—be imparted to me as such.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will firmly support—the Supreme Forest and its officers,—and will abide by and loyally obey—all laws, rules, regulations,—orders and edicts—lawfully promulgated by them;—and in the same manner—will loyally support the officers,—and obey the authority and laws—of this, or any other Forest—with which I may be connected.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will neither alter nor change,—subtract from, nor add to,—the written or unwritten Work of the Order—as set forth by the Supreme Forest,—nor will I hold Cedar communication—with any Tall Cedar—who is not a member in good standing—in a lawfully chartered Forest.

Furthermore, I promise—that I will never consent to,—nor assist in the introduction—into any of the ceremonies of the Forest,—or into any meeting or festivities—under its name or auspices,—of anything indecent,—obscene,—irreverent,—immoral,—or harmful to the person or property of any one.

To the faithful observance—of all these promises,—I sincerely vow,—binding myself anew—by all the penalties—of any obligations—I have ever taken elsewhere. So

help me God,—and keep me ever firm and true—in this my solemn vow.

(At the end of the Obligation, the lights shall be turned on.)

ADONIAH: Tall Cedars, Before you is the altar of cedar wood. The original meaning of the word “cedar” is, “grimly rooted, strong tree.” So may you ever be firmly rooted and strong in your love for our Order. And as the cedar wood is everlasting, so is the solemn obligation which you have just taken. Ever be mindful of your threefold promise of Secrecy, Loyalty, and Decency.

ZADOK: Brother Tall Cedars, we welcome you in Friendship, Love, and Brotherhood. Tall Cedarism is but another name for Hospitality and Good Cheer. Friendliness, Sociability, and Good Fellowship are the cardinal principles of our Order, so that when you meet a Tall Cedar, you may be certain that you are meeting a Friend, a Brother, and a Good Fellow. We welcome you as members of ——— Forest, Number ———.

KING: The ceremony through which you have just passed is not a mere show and spectacle. It has a deep and serious meaning. You have represented skilled wood carvers; artists, as well as craftsmen. The work of hewing timber is very rough for your skillful hands, but you were so loyal to

your King, that as soon as you heard of his need, you offered yourself for any service. By such loyalty and willingness, you have shown us the grandeur of patriotism, the dignity of labor, and the beauty of willing service.

You may still be artists, for the highest and truest art is not so much in the thing produced, as in the spirit in which the thing is done. He is indeed the true artist who puts his whole heart and soul into whatever his hands find to do. All labor is equally honorable, and to every one who does his best with a willing heart and mind, the Great Master will say: "Well done, good and faithful servant, thou shall have a great reward."

You will now be instructed in the Secret Work.

The sign of a Tall Cedar is ——— This is called the Hewing Sign, and is symbolic of your labor as a Hewer of wood in Lebanon. On entering or retiring from a Forest, when in session, you will advance to the center of the Forest and throw this sign to the Grand Tall Cedar, who will answer it in this manner, ——— thus signifying that everything that goes on in the Forest is to be kept under cover.

The Pass-word is ———

The Test is ———

The Grip is made thus ———

The Sign of Welcome to the Supreme Officers is made by throwing the Hewing Sign three times, and saying in a loud voice "Welcome" with each Sign.

The Response to the Invocation is, "May it ever be thus."

(After the Secret Work is concluded.)

KING: You will receive the Card of the current year from the Scribe, without which you will not be able to gain admittance to this or any other Forest. Your Pyramid should always be worn at the meetings of the Forest, and at such other times as requested by the King.

You are now duly obligated Tall Cedars, but before you can learn the skill to hew timber, it will be necessary for you to receive further instructions, and be obligated as Sidonians. We are told in Holy Writ, that "there is none among us who can skill to hew timber like unto the Sidonians," and only to duly obligated Tall Cedars may their secrets be imparted.

These secrets will be given you in the Sidonian Degree which is to follow. It teaches that the real spirit of Tall Cedarism is the spirit of mirth and enjoyment. A regular Cedar is a gentleman, a credit to society, and to our Order. He scatters sunshine, dis-

pels gloom, spreads good cheer, is full of joy and laughter. Fun, Frolic, and Fellowship are the three great teachings of this Degree. Let your Fun be always clean and harmless: your Frolics full of innocent merriment: your Fellowship sincere in its friendliness and sociability. Thus will you prove that you have caught the true spirit of Tall Cedarism, and that you are a good Friend, a good Brother, and a good Sidonian.

(A list of those who are to take the stunts shall be prepared in advance, and given to the King.)

KING: You must all take the Sidonian Obligation, but a few have been selected for personal and individual instruction as overseers of the workmen. As their names are called, the following Cedars will step forward and arrange themselves in a line before me.

(The King reads the list of names, and the Cedars come forward and arrange themselves before him.)

KING: Tall Cedars, you have been signally honored in being the chosen ones upon whom will be exemplified the striking ceremonies of the Sidonian degree.

(A very amusing feature may be introduced here by the King reading fake telegrams and letters, referring to the selected ones before him. These letters purport to come from wives and friends, and are full of

harmless, but funny personal allusions, such as boasts they have made that they are not afraid, and that they hope they will get their money's worth, talking in their sleep, etc., etc.)

You will now retire to the ante room, and be prepared for the honors that await you. The other newly-made Cedars will remain standing as they are, and strictly do as they are told.

(The ones who are to receive the stunts will then retire to the ante room. As soon as they have left the Court, the King and Princes shall return to their places, and the King shall say:)

KING: Lords of the Royal Court, we have finished our labors, and largely increased our numbers. I therefore declare this Royal Court dissolved, and the Grand Tall Cedar shall preside over the Lodge of Sidonians. May peace and harmony ever abide with you. Farewell!

ALL: Long live the King!

(Then the King, preceded by the Princes, shall retire, and the Grand Tall Cedar shall resume his station. The candidates remaining in the Forest shall immediately be arranged in a rectangular body in the center of the Forest, leaving sufficient space on all sides for the procession at the beginning of the Sidonian Degree. They shall be hoodwinked as soon as they are placed in position, the object being to mystify them, and

keep them guessing as to what is going to happen to them, and what is coming next. As the candidates are being hoodwinked, they must be carefully instructed that they are to answer, "You Bet" in a LOUD voice, to all the questions asked them by the Grand Tall Cedar. (This answer is to be given by the candidates alone. Rangers and members must keep silent.)

The Sidonian Degree should follow as quickly as possible.

FORM FOR RECEPTION OF SUPREME OFFICERS

(The Supreme Officers shall be in waiting in the ante-room, arrayed in their proper head-gear and jewels of office. The Guide shall arrange them in single file in reverse order of their rank, viz.:

District Representatives,
Supreme Trustees,
Supreme Sentinel,
Supreme Chief Ranger,
Supreme Chaplain,
Supreme Preceptor,
Supreme Treasurer,
Supreme Scribe,
Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar,
Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar,
Supreme Tall Cedar,

Past Supreme Tall Cedars, in order of their seniority.

The procession shall be led by the Guide, and the Senior and Junior Deputies of the Forest shall march at the side of the Supreme Tall Cedar, or the ranking Officer. The Rangers may accompany the procession as an escort of honor.

Immediately after the reading of the minutes, or when directed by the G. T. C., the procession shall enter. At the center of Forest, Rangers shall file right and left, and take their places two paces to the rear. The Guide shall file right, followed by the Supreme Officers until they are all in line before the G. T. C., the ranking Supreme Officer being at the left of the line. All shall throw the usual sign, which shall be answered by the G. T. C.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brother Guide, whom have you here?

GUIDE: Grand Tall Cedar, I have the honor to present before you, Brothers ———, Supreme Tall Cedar; ——— Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, etc., in the order of their official rank. As each name is spoken by the Guide, the Officer named shall advance one step.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: (*three raps*) Brother ———, Supreme Tall Cedar, and other Supreme Officers, it gives me the greatest pleasure to welcome you to ——— Forest, No. ——. We are honored by your presence among us. We trust that your visit will be a pleasure to you, and we know it will be a profit to us. Cedars of ——— Forest, you will join with me in the Sign of Welcome to the Supreme Officers.

(The Grand Tall Cedar shall lead the Forest in the Sign of Welcome, made by throwing the Hewing Sign, and exclaiming "Welcome!" three times repeated.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Thrice welcome you are, my brothers. Our door is ever open, and your presence is always an encouragement. You will now be seated in places of honor among us. (*One rap.*)

(This form may also be used in the formal introduction and reception of visiting Officers from other Forests.)

MEMORIAL RITE

(To be used at such time as the Grand Tall Cedar shall direct.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brothers, let us be silent for a space of time, that we may pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of our departed brother ——— who died on the ——— day of ———.

(The Forest shall be darkened, except a light upon the altar. The Guide, or Preceptor, garbed in black as a monk, with cowl over his head, shall enter the Forest, bearing a lighted candle in his right hand. He shall advance with slow steps to the altar, and hold the candle aloft, while the Chaplain shall say:)

CHAPLAIN: For man goeth to his long home. The silver cord is loosed, the golden bowl is broken. The dust shall return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return to God who gave it.

(Here the Guide shall blow out the candle.)

Farewell to our brother. May he rest in peace.

ALL: Amen.

(If it be not convenient to darken the room, the Guide may bear a slender rod of wood. Holding it aloft with both hands, he shall advance to the altar. At the proper time, instead of blowing out the candle, he shall break the wood, and while holding his hands aloft, allow the pieces to fall to the floor.)

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS IN A SUBORDINATE FOREST

(The Installation shall be conducted by the District Representative, or by the retiring Grand Tall Cedar. Should the Grand Tall Cedar succeed himself, the Installation shall be conducted by the District Representative, or by any other officer of the Supreme Forest, or by any Past Grand Tall Cedar. Should none of these be present on the night of Installation, the Forest may elect an Installing Officer to serve for the occasion. Any Officer not present may be installed by proxy.)

INSTALLATION

INSTALLING OFFICER: The elected officers for 19——, of ——, Forest No. ——, will present themselves before me.

(The newly elected Grand Tall Cedar, Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Scribe, Treasurer, and Trustee, will present themselves in order before the Installing Officer.)

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Grand Tall Cedar):

Tall Cedar —— you have been duly elected Grand Tall Cedar of this Forest for the ensuing year. The duties of the Grand Tall Cedar are numerous, exacting and important. You are to preside over the meetings of the Forest, and should guide and rule with a firm and impartial hand. You are to

be governed first, by the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and Edicts of the Supreme Forest, and second, by the By-Laws of your own Forest, and to do nothing that will conflict with any of them. You are the custodian of the Charter (or Dispensation) and the Rituals. The Charter (or Dispensation) must be displayed at every meeting of the Forest. At the installation of your successor you must turn over to him the Charter (or Dispensation), Rituals, and all other books and papers pertaining to your office. You must be diligent to avoid and prevent internal dissension, and also to further the prosperity and growth of Tall Cedarism in general. To this end, you must see that our Ritual and Work are presented as fully and correctly as possible. You are responsible for the financial welfare of your Forest, and are expected to keep it in a prosperous condition. You are required to call at least two meetings in each year. In accepting this office, do you promise to perform these duties to the best of your ability?

GRAND TALL CEDAR: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, and Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar):

Tall Cedars —— and ——, you have been duly elected Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, and Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar respectively of this Forest for the ensuing

year. It is your duty to help and assist the Grand Tall Cedar in ruling and governing the Forest, and in all his work for its prosperity and advancement. One of your important duties is to prevent the entrance of any one without the password and the card of the current year. In accepting these offices do each of you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SENIOR DEPUTY GRAND TALL CEDAR: I do.

JUNIOR DEPUTY GRAND TALL CEDAR: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Scribe):

Tall Cedar ———, you have been duly elected Scribe of this Forest for the ensuing year. You are to keep a full and accurate record of all the proceedings of the Forest; to give due and timely notice of all meetings of the Forest to all members of the Forest, as directed by the Grand Tall Cedar. You are to keep accurate account between the Forest and each member and shall collect all fees, dues and other moneys due the Forest, and pay the same immediately to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. Your books must at all times be open for the inspection of the proper officers. When your successor is installed, you must turn over to him immediately all books, records, accounts,

papers, and property of every kind belonging to the Forest. And you are at all times to give your hearty co-operation and assistance to all your brother officers in their work for the forest. In accepting this office do you promise to perform these duties to the best of your ability?

SCRIBE: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Treasurer):

Tall Cedar ———, you have been duly elected Treasurer of this Forest for the ensuing year. It is your duty to receive from the Scribe all moneys collected by him for the Forest, giving him a receipt therefor, and to pay out the same only upon the written order of the proper officers. When your successor is installed, you must turn over to him immediately, all books, accounts and papers and property of every kind belonging to the Forest. It is a responsible office and requires great care to avoid mistake and error. In accepting this office do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

TREASURER: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Trustee):

Tall Cedar ———, you have been duly elected a Trustee of this Forest for the ensuing term of three years. The Trustees are

the custodians of the property of the Forest, and of all securities and invested funds belonging to it. They shall make investments only as directed by the Forest, and only in such securities as are allowed by law for the investment of trust funds. Their books and accounts shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Grand Tall Cedar, and the Finance or Executive Committee. In accepting this office do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

TRUSTEE: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER: The Chief Ranger will conduct the new officers to their respective stations.

(The Chief Ranger shall then conduct the new officers to their respective stations, and the Installing Officer shall place the gavel in the hands of the new Grand Tall Cedar who shall take the chair and immediately announce his appointments for the ensuing year, and proceed to install them as follows:)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Brothers of _____ Forest, No. _____, I have appointed the following Tall Cedars to serve as officers of this Forest for the ensuing year. As their names are called they will present themselves before me for installation.

For Preceptor, Tall Cedar _____.

Guide, Tall Cedar _____.

Chaplain (or Deacon), Tall Cedar _____.

Sentinel, Tall Cedar _____.

Chief Ranger, Tall Cedar _____.

(When they are all in order before him.)

GRAND TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedars, you are appointed to office in this Forest for the ensuing year. It is to you, as well as to the elected officers that I confidently look for support and assistance in the work and growth of the Forest. Without the loyal and hearty co-operation of all its officers the Forest can not achieve the success which is its rightful desire. Your duties are all of importance. The Preceptor and Guide are to assist in the work of Initiation and the conferring of degrees. The Chaplain shall pronounce the Invocation at the opening of the Forest. The Sentinel shall strictly guard the door and allow no one to enter without the password and the card of the current year. The Chief Ranger shall organize, command and train the company of Rangers so that they may properly assist in the ceremonies of the Royal Court. In accepting these offices do each of you promise to perform his duty to the best of his ability?

APPOINTED OFFICERS: (*Each answers*) I do.

GRAND TALL CEDAR: The Installation now being concluded, the officers may take their seats, and the business of the Forest will proceed.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS IN THE SUPREME FOREST

(The Installation shall be conducted by the retiring Supreme Tall Cedar, or by a Past Supreme Tall Cedar. Absent Officers may be installed by proxy.)

INSTALLING OFFICER: The elected officers of the Supreme Forest for the ensuing year will present themselves before me.

(The newly elected Supreme Tall Cedar, Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, Supreme Scribe, Supreme Treasurer, and Supreme Trustee shall present themselves in order before the Installing Officer.)

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Supreme Tall Cedar):

Tall Cedar ——— You have been elected Supreme Tall Cedar for the ensuing year. The Supreme Forest has conferred upon you its greatest honor by this election to the highest office in the Order. The duties of your office will require much of your time and thought, for the problems are sometimes vexatious and difficult. You are to preside at the meetings of the Supreme Forest, ruling over it with wisdom and impartiality. Either in person, or by your duly commissioned Deputy, you are to institute all new Forests. You must sign all Dispensations, Charters, Commissions, and Orders on the

Supreme Treasurer. During the recess of the Supreme Forest you have the general oversight and control of the Order in all its parts, and are vested by the Constitution with all powers necessary to enforce the laws, rules, regulations and edicts of the Supreme Forest. You are to decide all questions as to the laws and usages of the Order which may be submitted to you by any officer of a Subordinate Forest. You shall appoint the minor officers and all committees of the Supreme Forest. You have the sole power to make a Tall Cedar at sight. In the exercise of these powers, so wide and so great, you are not to be self-willed and arbitrary, but considerate, wise, firm and impartial. Much of the success of Tall Cedarism depends upon the energy of your labors, and the fidelity with which you follow the laws and usages of the Order. When your successor is installed you must turn over to him all books, papers and property of any kind belonging to the Supreme Forest. In accepting the office of Supreme Tall Cedar, do you promise to perform these duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar and Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar):

Tall Cedars ——— and ——— you have been duly elected Senior Deputy Supreme

Tall Cedar, and Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, respectively, for the ensuing year. It is a mark of high honor that has been conferred upon you by the Supreme Forest. The Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar shall preside over the meetings of the Supreme Forest in the absence of the Supreme Tall Cedar. In the event of his death, resignation, removal from office or disability from physical causes, you are to act in his place with all his privileges and powers. You are to assist the Supreme Tall Cedar in every way that he may prescribe.

The Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar shall preside over the meetings of the Supreme Forest in the absence of both the Supreme Tall Cedar and the Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar. You are also to assist the Supreme Tall Cedar as he may call upon you. In accepting these offices, do each of you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SENIOR DEPUTY SUPREME TALL CEDAR: I do.

JUNIOR DEPUTY SUPREME TALL CEDAR: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Scribe):

Tall Cedar—You have been elected Supreme Scribe for the ensuing year. You are to keep a full and accurate record of the pro-

ceedings of the meetings of the Supreme Forest. You have charge of all the records, books and papers of your office, and are the custodian of the Seal of the Supreme Forest which you shall affix to all Dispensations, Charters, and other official papers which you shall prepare and issue by the direction of the Supreme Tall Cedar. You are to keep accurate accounts between the Supreme Forest and all Subordinate Forests; receive all moneys due the Supreme Forest and pay the same without delay to the Supreme Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. You are to countersign all orders upon the Supreme Treasurer, and keep an accurate record of the same. You are to keep an accurate record of the membership of the Subordinate Forests, and present a tabulated report thereof at the annual meeting of the Supreme Forest. When your successor is installed, you must turn over to him immediately, all records, books, blanks and papers pertaining to your office, together with the Seal and all other property of the Supreme Forest. Much of the success of the Order depends upon the promptness and accuracy with which you conduct your office. In accepting the office of Supreme Scribe, do you promise to perform these duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME SCRIBE: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Supreme Treasurer):

Tall Cedar—You have been elected Supreme Treasurer for the ensuing year. You are the custodian of the funds of the Supreme Forest which you must deposit in the name of the Supreme Forest in a depository approved by the Supreme Trustees. You are to keep an accurate account of expenditures and receipts and pay out money only upon the order of the Supreme Tall Cedar, countersigned by the Supreme Scribe. You shall make a written report to the annual meeting of the Supreme Forest. When your successor is installed you must immediately turn over to him all books, accounts and papers pertaining to your office. In accepting the office of Supreme Treasurer do you promise to perform these duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME TREASURER: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER (To the newly elected Trustee):

Tall Cedar—You have been elected as a Trustee of the Supreme Forest for the ensuing term of three years. The Trustees are the custodians of all securities and invested funds of the Supreme Forest. They shall invest in the name of the Supreme Forest its surplus funds, as directed, but only in such securities as are allowed by law for the investment of trust funds. They are to keep accurate account of their investments, and all their books and accounts are to be open

at all times to the inspection of the Supreme Tall Cedar and the Committee on Finance. In accepting the office of Supreme Trustee do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME TRUSTEE: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Supreme Chief Ranger, you will conduct these officers to their respective stations.

(The Supreme Chief Ranger will then conduct the officers to their respective stations, the Supreme Tall Cedar being the last. The Installing Officer will deliver the gavel to the Supreme Tall Cedar who will take the chair and immediately announce his appointments for the ensuing year, and proceed to install them as follows:)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Brothers of the Supreme Forest, I have appointed the following Tall Cedars to serve as officers of the Supreme Forest for the ensuing year. As their names are read they will present themselves before me for installation.

For Supreme Preceptor, Tall Cedar ———, of No. ———.

Supreme Chaplain, Tall Cedar ———, of No. ———.

Supreme Chief Ranger, Tall Cedar ———, of No. ———.

Supreme Sentinel, Tall Cedar ———, of No. ———.

District Representatives, Tall Cedars
 ———, of No. ———, and ———, of No. ———,
 and ———, of No. ———.

(As many as shall be required for the Districts. When they are all in order before him he shall proceed.)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedar
 ——— you are appointed Supreme Preceptor for the ensuing year. You are the official exponent of the Ritual and Work of the Order. You will visit the subordinate Forests as directed by the Supreme Tall Cedar, and shall at all times endeavor to secure an adequate and correct presentation of the Ritual and Secret Work of the Order as set forth by the Supreme Forest. In accepting this offer do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME PRECEPTOR: I do.

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedar
 ——— you are appointed Supreme Chaplain for the ensuing year. You are to invoke the divine blessing at the meetings of the Supreme Forest, and at other meetings when requested by the proper officers. In accepting this office do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME CHAPLAIN: I do.

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedar
 ——— you are appointed Supreme Chief Ranger for the ensuing year. You are the official head and adviser of all the com-

panies of the Royal Rangers in the subordinate Forests. You will be the Chief Marshal at all public ceremonies and parades which you may attend. In accepting this office do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME CHIEF RANGER: I do.

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedar
 ——— you are appointed Supreme Sentinel for the ensuing year. You are to guard the door at the meetings of the Supreme Forest, and to allow no one to enter without the password and the card of the current year. In accepting this office do you promise to perform your duties to the best of your ability?

SUPREME SENTINEL: I do.

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Tall Cedars
 ——— and ——— you are appointed District Representatives for your respective Districts for the ensuing year. You are to be the Representatives of the Supreme Tall Cedar, and will be recognized as such by all Subordinate Forests. You are expected to visit each Forest in your district at least once in each year, and are to see that the work of the Forest is carried on in strict accordance with the laws and usages of the Order. Immediately after each visit, you shall make a written report thereon to the Supreme Tall Cedar. You are to report at

once, in writing, to the Supreme Tall Cedar, any infraction or violation of the laws and regulations of the Supreme Forest, by any Subordinate Forest in your district. You are to assist the Supreme Tall Cedar by all means in your power, especially in the institution of new Forests, and in the growth and propagation of the Order in your districts. In accepting this office, do each of you promise to perform his duties to the best of his ability?

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:
(*Each answers*) I do.

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: Brother Scribe you will invest these officers with their proper jewels.

(The Scribe will then invest each of the appointed officers with his proper jewel.)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: The Installation now being concluded, the officers may take their seats, and the business of the Supreme Forest will proceed.

FORM FOR INSTITUTION OF A NEW FOREST

(A new Forest shall be instituted only by the Supreme Tall Cedar, or by one duly authorized and commissioned to act in his stead.

At the time and place appointed, the Supreme Tall Cedar shall call the assembly to order, see that the entrance is duly and properly guarded and proceed as follows:)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: By virtue of the authority vested in my office, I hereby declare the Supreme Forest to be duly convened and open for the purpose of instituting a new Forest to be known as ——— Forest, No. ———, Tall Cedars of Lebanon. The Supreme Scribe will read the application for the Institution of the Forest.

(The Supreme Scribe, or one acting for him, will then read the application.)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: The Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar will read the Dispensation as granted by the Supreme Tall Cedar.

(The Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, or some one acting for him, will then read the Dispensation as granted by the Supreme Tall Cedar.)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: The Supreme Scribe will call the names of those who are to constitute the Forest, and as the names are called, those who are not already Tall Cedars will present themselves for Initiation.

(The candidates, being arranged in order before the Supreme Tall Cedar, with the assistance of the Supreme Officers and other Tall Cedars present, he shall proceed with the Initiation. At its conclusion, the new Forest shall proceed to the election of officers to serve until December 31st, next following, and the officers so elected shall be immediately installed by the Supreme Tall Cedar, according to the regular form of Installation. Then the Supreme Tall Cedar shall call the Forest up by three raps of the gavel, and say:)

SUPREME TALL CEDAR: By virtue of a Dispensation granted by the Supreme Tall Cedar dated ——— 19—, I now declare ——— Forest, No. ———, duly instituted and possessed of all the rights and privileges of a Forest of Tall Cedars of Lebanon until the next meeting of the Supreme Forest, at which meeting application should be made for a Charter.

(The Supreme Tall Cedar then delivers the gavel into the hands of the Grand Tall Cedar, and the Forest proceeds with its business.)

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