



DR. ROB. MORRIS

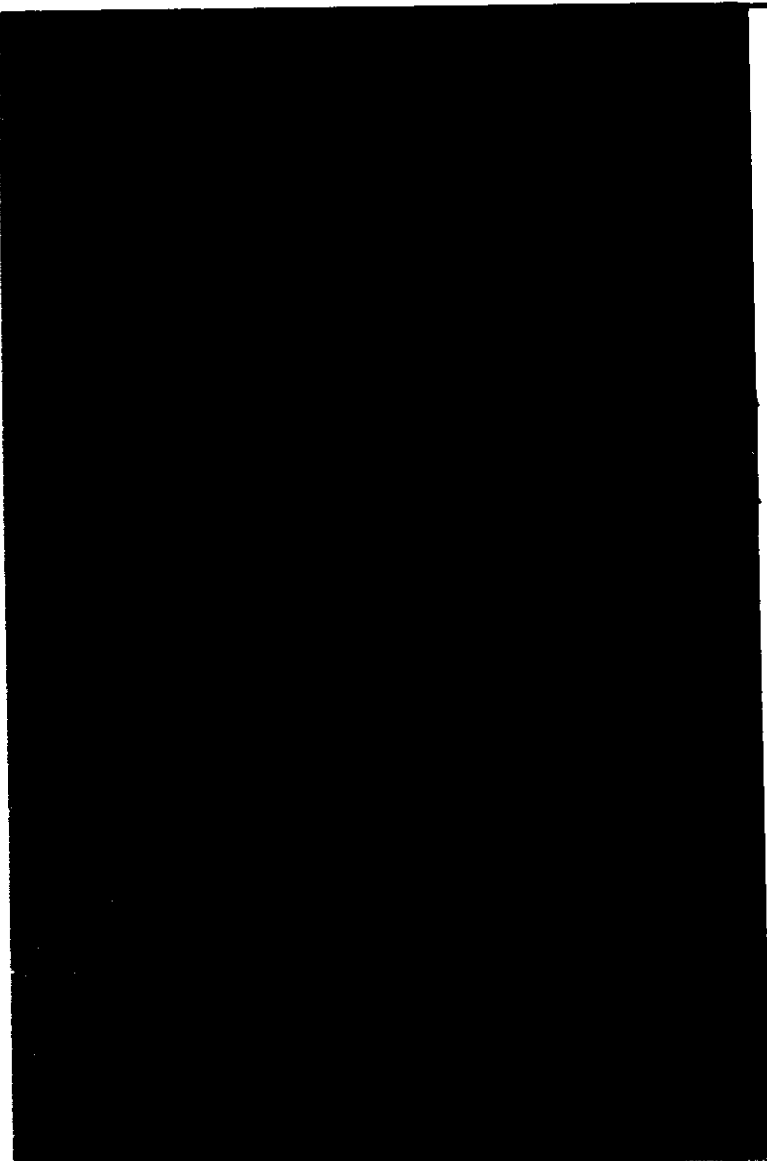
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The following statement, made by the reader at the start of this Morris program, is followed by a quiz on the history of the Order and the life of Rob. Morris, consisting of 22 questions.



There are three names that stand out with prominence in the early history of the Order of the Eastern Star — Robert Macoy, who succeeded in adapting the work to organized Chapters after Dr. Morris transferred all the authority to Macoy as Morris was leaving for the Holy Land; Rev. Willis D. Engle, the first secretary of the General Grand Chapter, and later Most Worthy Grand Patron, who by his persistent effort and indefatigable labors was recognized as the great organizer of this fraternal Order; and Dr. Rob. Morris, who gave the Order its name, who originated the five points to correspond with the emblem on the Master's carpet, and who conferred the degrees on many people wherever he traveled, by obligating them, even before any organizations of the Or-

der were thought of, his work being frequently called the "History of the Five Heroines of the Order."

Having passed through the chairs of the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, Council, Commandery, Consistory, and Grand Lodge, and having studied for many years the rituals, codes, principles and tenets of Masonry, about which he was a prolific writer, Morris was conceded to be one of the brightest and most learned Masons of his day.

With reverence, thanks, and honor to him as the Founder of the Order, we celebrate his birthday as the Festal Day of the Order of the Eastern Star.

After conferring the degrees at will for about five years, Dr. Morris organized the "Constellations of the Eastern Star," a very elaborate system of initiation.

In 1859, to make the work more simple, the new organizations with a simple ritual were styled "Families of the Eastern Star."

In 1866, Bro. Robert Macoy, who was later Most Worthy Grand Patron of New York, arranged a manual based on the several rituals

then extant, which proved very popular; and under his guiding hand the Supreme Grand Chapter of New York, a self-constituted body, was organized in December, 1868, and deputies were appointed in different parts of the country.

In the next eight years over 600 Chapters were organized in more than 30 States and Territories, and several state Grand Chapters were organized.

Coldwater Chapter, now No. 1, in Coldwater, Michigan, is the oldest Eastern Star group with continuous existence in the world, and has a complete set of records since its organization date, April 18, 1867.

The General Grand Chapter was organized in Indianapolis, Indiana, November 16, 1876.

ROB. MORRIS QUIZ

Questions may be propounded from the rostrum and oral answers invited; or copies made with blank spaces for answers and handed out to participants.

1 — Whose birthday do we celebrate every year at this time?

2 — When was the founder of the Order of the Eastern Star born?

3 — Where was he born?

4 — What was his surname at the time of his birth?

5 — At what age was he left an orphan?

6 — How did he acquire the name of Morris?

7 — What was Rob. Morris' trade, occupation, or profession?

8 — He became principal of Mount Sylvan Academy, was married, and conceived of the degrees of the Eastern Star at one and the same place — name it.

9 — When and whom did Rob. Morris marry?

10 — Where was Rob. Morris made a Mason?

11 — Name some of the androgynous, or side degrees, conferred before the time of Rob. Morris.

12 — In what state and year did he first communicate the work of the Eastern Star?

13 — In what state did he effect the first organization of the Eastern Star?

14 — By what names were the early organizations of the Eastern Star known?

15 — When and where was Rob. Morris Grand Master of Masons?

16 — Upon what extended journey did Rob. Morris depart about 1866?

17 — Upon leaving the United States, to whom did Rob. Morris entrust the work of perfecting the system of the organization of the Eastern Star?

18 — What important honors did Rob. Morris receive in 1880?

19 — What great honor was conferred on Rob. Morris, December 17, 1884?

20 — What was Rob. Morris' church affiliation?

21 — Where was a monument erected to the memory of Rob. Morris?

22 — Where was his membership in the Order of the Eastern Star?

ANSWERS TO ROB. MORRIS QUIZ

1 — Rob. Morris'.

2 — August 31, 1818.

3 — New York, New York.

4 — Peckham.

5 — Seven.

6 — From his foster-father.

7 — School teacher.

8 — Oxford, Mississippi.

9 — Miss Charlotte Mendenhall, August 26, 1841.

10 — In Gathright Lodge, No. 33, Oxford, Mississippi.

11 — The Heroines of Jericho, The Master Mason's Daughter, The True Kindred Degree, The Good Samaritan, The Faith and Reliance Degree, the Wives' and Daughters' Degree and others.

12 — In Mississippi, in 1850.

13 — Kentucky.

14 — "Constellations of the Eastern Star," or "Families of the Eastern Star."

15 — In 1858, in Kentucky.

16 — To the Holy Land for Masonic research work.

17 — Robert Macoy, of New York.

18 — (a) He was elected an honorary member of the General Grand Chaapter. (b) General Grand Chapter fixed his birthday, August 31, as the festal day of the Order.

19 — He was crowned poet-laureate of Freemasonry, in New York, New York.

20 — He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, at LaGrange, Kentucky, where he lived the last 28 years of his life, and frequently filled the pulpit in the absence of the regular pastor.

21 — LaGrange, Kentucky.

22 — Except for honorary membership in the General Grand Chapter, he was not a member of any legally instituted or constituted Chapter of the Order.

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