

WE'LL WALK WITH YOU  
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Hamilton Chapter, No. 275,  
Hamilton, Missouri.

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New members and affiliates are introduced and the following welcome given by Worthy Matron:

It is a delightful pleasure for me to welcome you to our Chapter and to extend to you a greeting of our fraternal love. Your presence, your good cheer, and the sincerity of your friendship will mean much to us as we meet together from time to time. We are just a group of friends traveling together on life's great highway, trying to follow the light of a Star. We are sure that you are very happy to be a part of this great caravan. It is the clasp of hands and the smile of faces such as yours that makes our journey much more pleasant, and makes this world a better place in which to live. With the hope that you will find much joy in the service of our Order, we extend to you a happy and a most gracious welcome.

To new members:

You have started on a journey, walking out upon life's way,  
You'll find good roads and rough ones too, as you pass on each day;  
But always lighting up your way with rays that shine afar,  
Will be a beacon light ahead; it is our Eastern Star.  
May your journey be so happy, and wherever you may roam  
You'll find this Chapter best of all because you'll call it home.

To affiliates:

We're glad to have you with us, for you, too, walk life's way,  
And we are walking with you as we travel day by day;  
We hope you'll share our pleasures, and we know you'll find us true,  
For we have much in common as we walk along with you.

New members are escorted by way of the East where they are greeted by Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. As this is being done, chairs may be provided for them back of Esther's station, leaving space as in Fig. 1.

Fig. 1

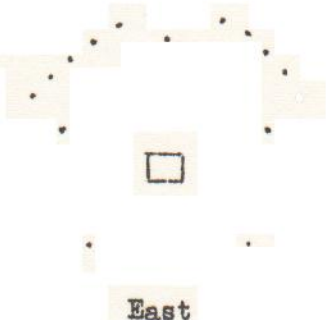
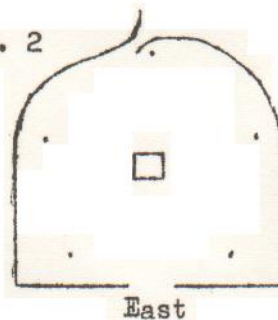


Fig. 2



As soon as guests are seated, Associate Matron, Conductress, Associate Conductress, and Star points march as follows: - On south, Associate Matron leads, Ruth, Conductress, and Adah follow. On north, Esther leads and Martha, Associate Conductress, and Electa follow, Fig. 2, forming line between Altar and dais, with space for Worthy Matron to pass. Each officer in march carries flowers, and as soon as line

is formed, Worthy Matron passes through line and the flowers are passed from officers to her. Standing east of Altar, she gives verses, after which she presents flowers to guests.

Flowers can bring a message that words can never say,  
Just see how they nod their heads to welcome you our way;  
For they are glad to greet you as our new members too,  
And that is just the reason we're giving them to you;  
They'll be with you in sunshine, they'll be with you in rain,  
And they will add their beauty to each secluded lane;  
They'll help to ease your sorrows, they'll help you carry through,  
And now they bring a welcome, from us to all of you.

Worthy Matron takes position in space between line of officers after presenting the flowers to new members. Some other officer may present flowers if desired. When in position, soloist sings:

Tune: Lead On, Oh King Eternal. (Hymn)

To you we bring a welcome  
And joyful praises sing,  
We're glad you are one of us,  
Our hearts with gladness ring;  
Each day we'll walk beside you,  
We'll shield you from all care,  
And if the shadows darken,  
We will your sorrows share.

A joyful welcome to you,  
We give our heart and hand;  
We'll walk each day beside you,  
A happy loyal band;  
We are just friends together,  
We'll love you as you are,  
As we give best in service  
To our dear Eastern Star.

At close of song, new members may be greeted, after which officers return to stations.

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