

CHARTER DRAPING CEREMONY
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By Pearle Seitter, Past Matron,
Hamilton Chapter, No. 275,
Hamilton, Missouri.

The Secretary reads the notice of the death of the member or members, after which the Worthy Matron requests the Conductress to drape the Charter.

The Star points, each with lighted candle, form cross around Altar as in diagram. In Fig. 1, Adah takes position east of Altar, Ruth to South, and Electa to north of Altar. Associate Conductress, Martha, Esther, and Associate Matron form line back of Altar to complete cross, Fig. 2.

Fig. 1

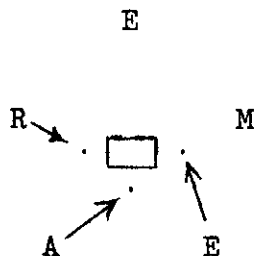


Fig. 2

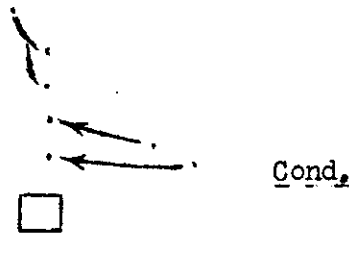


Fig. 3



As soon as cross is formed, Conductress passes from her station to East, Fig. 3, drapes Charter, steps back a few steps, and faces west.

Worthy Matron speaks:

In memory of our loved ones who have joined the great Order above, we pay this tribute:

Somewhere our hands shall clasp their hands once more,
And those with whom we walked on earth before,
Will meet us in that bright and glorious land,
And then perhaps sometime we'll understand.

Although some things are hidden from our sight,
We know that God is good and always right,
And only through our sorrows, yours and mine,
Will we someday enjoy that life divine.

After above verses are given, soloist sings some appropriate song.

Suggestions for song:

1. "Abide With Me."
2. "Have Thine Own Way."
3. "The Old Rugged Cross."

At close of song, officers return to stations. Soft music should be played during march for cross formation, and for draping Charter. Lights are lowered during entire ceremony.

If drape is to be removed at close of ceremony, officers remain in cross formation and soft music is played until Conductress returns to station.

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