

companionship of just men made perfect in the realm of light and life eternal.

EMINENT COMMANDER: (Replaces sword in scabbard on casket.)

CAPTAIN GENERAL: (Steps forward, removes Cross and presents it to the Prelate)

PRELATE: This symbol of the Christian's faith, hope, and trust, we gain place above the breast of our Frater. (Replaces Cross) Through the Cross may, at time, in the history of the world have been the badge of oppression and wrong; yet its real significance has ever remained in the heart of the Christian warrior. If an inspired apostle was not ashamed of the cross, neither should we be; if he gloried in its promise of salvation, so ought we to rejoice in it as the inspiring symbol of our faith in the life beyond the grave. May this faith have been an anchor to the soul of our confidence in the life everlasting, a present realization of the life beyond.

Our Frater was one of our mystic band, bound by fraternal ties and pledges to the noble duties, of protecting the innocent, relieving the distressed, and binding up the wounds of the afflicted.

CAPTAIN GENERAL: To his friends and relatives we tender our heartfelt sympathy and affirm our faith that He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb looks down with infinite compassion upon the widow and the fatherless in their hour of desolation; and that the same benevolent Savior who wept tears of sympathy over the grave at Bethany, will support and comfort all those who put their trust and faith in Him.

EMINENT COMMANDER: "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord. He that

He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." To the earth we commit the remains of our Frater, (here cast some flowers or earth on the casket), earth to earth, (here cast again), ashes to ashes, (here cast again) dust to dust. Delivered from the limitations of this life his soul yet liveth and abides in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ whose life is the judgment of our works and whose resurrection is the pledge of our immortality. Sir Knight, Farewell! God speed thee on thy heavenly way. Let us pray.

CAPTEN GENERAL: UN-COVER

PRELATE: Almighty and Ever living god, our heavenly Father, our Supreme Grand Master. "As we leave our Frater in thy tender care, wilt Thou draw very near to those who were nearest and dearest to him, and graciously comfort and support them in their bereavement. And wilt Thou help us all to realize more and more clearly that with each passing day we ourselves are all advancing toward the day of our own final transformation. And, O, our heavenly Father, wilt Thou enable each and all of us as thy followers, to use the remaining time that may be allotted to us in supporting and upholding the almighty force and importance of truth, by practicing in our daily lives out of the Commandery those high, moral and Christian virtues that are inculcated in it. We ask in the name of the blessed Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace, the Great Captain of our salvation, who hath taught us all to say."

ALL: "Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever. Amen"

Taps are sounded

BENEDICTION

EMINENT COMMANDER: "May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be and abide with us all evermore, Amen."

CAPTAIN GENERAL: RE-COVER
(March out behind Eminent Commander.)



**FUNERAL SERVICE
OF
THE ORDER OF
MASONIC
KNIGHTHOOD**

FUNERAL SERVICE OF THE ORDER OF MASONIC KNIGHTHOOD

EMINENT COMMANDER : Sir Knights, in the solemn ceremonies of our order, we have often been reminded of the great truth that we are born to die. The mournful funeral knell has be-token that another spirit has winged its flight to a new states of existence. An alarm has come to the door of our asylum, the messenger is Death; and none presumes to say to the direful presence “who dares approach?” A Pilgrim Warrior has been summoned, “and there is no discharge in that war.” A burning taper in the life of our Commandery has been extinguished and none save the High and Holy one can re-light it.

The earthly remains of our beloved Frater lie mute before us and the light of the eye and the breathing of the lips in their language of fraternal greeting have ceased for us forever on this side of the grave. His sword, vowed to be drawn only in the cause of truth, justice and liberty, reposed in its scabbard and our arms can no more shield him from wrong or oppression.

It is meet at such time, hat we should be silent, and let the words of the infinite and Undying speak, that we may gather consolation from his revelation, impress upon our minds lessons from his wisdom and learn the meekness of preparation from the last great change which must come upon us all. Let us be reverently attentive while the Prelate reads to us a lesson from the Holy Scriptures

CAPTAIN GENERAL: UN-COVER

PRELATE: “Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains

were brought forth or ever Thou hadst formed the earth or the world, even from everlasting to everlasting. Thou art God. So teach us to number our days that we may get us an heart of wisdom. “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

“So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written Death is wallowed up in victory. Oh Death where is thy sling? Oh Grave, where is thy victory?

“Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that were I am, there ye may be also.

Let us pray....”Lord of Light! In this trying hour of calamity and sorrow, we humbly lift our hearts to Thee. Give us, we pray, that light which cometh down from above. Thou hast mercifully said in Thy Holy Word that the bruised need Thou would not break. Remember in mercy, O Lord, these bereaved ones now before Thee. Be Thou at this hour, the Father of the fatherless, and the Widow’s God. Administer to them the consolation which they so sorely need. Cause us to look away from this sad scene of mortality to the life which lies beyond the grave. Lead us, by Thy grace and spirit, to turn our attention to those things which make for our everlasting peace. And fix our though more devotedly on Thee, the only sure refuge, in time of need. And at last, when our earthly pilgrimage shall be ended, ‘wilt Thou, O Father, be indeed Immanuel—God with us. May the lamp of They love dispel the gloom of the dark valley, and we be enabled by the commendation of The Son to gain admission .into the blessed Asylum above, Amen.

CAPTAIN GENERAL: RE-COVER

Sir Knights there is but one sacred spot upon the earth where the footfalls of our march are unheeded: our trumpets quicken no pulse and incite no fear, the rustling of our banners and the gleam of our swords awaken no emotion. It is the silent city of the dead, to which another of our number is now to be borne. Awe rests upon every heart, and the stern warrior’s eyes are bedewed with tears which never shame his manhood.

This Sir Knight was our brother. With him we have walked the pilgrimage of life and kept watch and ward in its vicissitudes and trials. He is now beyond earthly praise or censure, but we remember him in scenes which this world witnessed not, where fraternal feeling was genuine and undisguised.

His virtues linger in our memory and the recollection of his finer qualities is a consolation in this hour.

CAPTAIN GENERAL: (steps forward, removes sword from scabbard and presents the sword hilt foremost, over his left arm, to the Eminent Commander)

EMINENT COMMANDER: Our departed Frater was taught that the sword in the hands of a true and courteous knight is endowed with three excellent qualities, “its hilt with justice impartial; its blade with fortitude undaunted, and its point with mercy unrestrained.” He could never grasp it without being reminded of the attributes it symbolized. To this lesson, with its deep significance, we trust he have wise heed. An inspired and heartening hope leads us to the comforting belief that he met the trying hour of dissolution with fortitude undaunted, and, walking in the dawn of the new day, received justice tempered with that mercy unrestrained with is the glorious attribute of the Son of God, and entering through the gates into the City has been admitted to the blessed