

*Vote Eleventh.*—The committee on printing the constitution and ritual is authorized to have a sufficient number of the same printed for the use of the order; and no State, district, or territorial council shall be allowed to reprint the work.

*Vote Twelfth.*—The right to establish all subordinate councils in any of the States, districts, or territories represented in the national council shall be confined to the State, district, and territorial councils which they represent.

*Vote Thirteenth.*—*Resolved*, That the State councils of eastern and western Virginia have leave to consolidate themselves into one council, to be styled the State council of Virginia.

*Vote Fourteenth.*—*Resolved*, That as this is but an adjourned session of the grand council that met at New York, it is within the power of this body, at its present session, to pass upon all amendments that may be presented to the constitution, or alterations that may be suggested to the ritual.

*Vote Fifteenth.*—*Resolved*, That the president of this national council be requested to take active measures to institute councils according to the work of this council, and thoroughly organize the State of Louisiana.

#### RITUAL OF FIRST DEGREE.

##### *First Degree Council.*

To be admitted in membership in this order, the applicant shall be—

1st. Proposed and found acceptable.

2d. Introduced and examined under the guarantee of secrecy.

3d. Placed under the obligation which the order imposes.

4th. Required to enrol his name and place of residence.

5th. Instructed in the forms, usages and ceremonies of the order.

6th. Solemnly charged as to the object to be attained and his duties.

[A recommendation of a candidate to this order shall be received only from a brother of approved integrity. It shall be accompanied by minute particulars as to name, age, calling and residence, and by an explicit voucher for his qualifications, and a personal pledge for his fidelity. These particulars shall be recorded by the secretary in a book kept for the purpose. The recommendation may be referred and the ballot taken at such time and in such a manner as the State Council may prescribe; but no communication shall be made to the candidate until the ballot has been declared in his favor. Candidates shall be received in the ante-room by the marshal and Secretary.]

#### OUTSIDE.

Marshal. Do you believe in a Supreme Being, the Creator and Preserver of the Universe?

Ans. I do.

Marshal. Before proceeding further, we require a solemn obligation of secrecy and truth. If you will take such an obligation, you will lay your right hand upon the Holy Bible and Cross.

[When it is known that the applicant is a Protestant, the Cross may be omitted, or affirmation may be allowed.]