

If the color of ——— be ———, it will denote actual trouble, which requires that you come prepared to meet it.

The “cry of distress” (to be used only in the time of danger, or where the American interest requires an immediate assemblage of the brethren) is ———. The response is ———.

The “sign of caution” (to be given when a brother is speaking unguardedly before a stranger) is ———, which signifies “keep dark.”

Brothers, you are now initiated into and made acquainted with the work and organization of a council of this degree of the order, and the marshal will present you to the worthy president for admonition.

President. It has, no doubt, been long apparent to you, brothers, that foreign influence and Roman Catholicism have been making steady and alarming progress in our country. You cannot have failed to observe the significant transition of the foreigner and Romanist from a character quiet, retiring, and even abject, to one bold, threatening, turbulent, and *despotic* in its appearance and assumptions. You must have become alarmed at the systematic and rapidly augmenting power of these dangerous and unnatural elements of our national condition. So is it, brothers, with others besides yourselves, in every State of the Union. A sense of danger has struck the great heart of the nation. In every city, town and hamlet the danger has been seen and the alarm sounded; and hence, true men have devised this order as a means of disseminating patriotic principles, of keeping alive the fire of national virtue, of fostering the national intelligence, and of advancing America and the American interests, on the one side; and on the other, of checking the stride of the foreigner or alien, of thwarting the machinations and subverting the deadly plans of the Papist and Jesuit.

NOTE.—[The president shall impress upon the initiates the importance of secrecy, the manner of proceeding in recommending candidates for initiation, and the responsibility of the duties which they have assumed.]

RITUAL OF SECOND DEGREE.

Second Degree Council.

Marshal. Worthy President: These brothers having been duly elected to the second degree of this order, I present them to you for obligation.

President. Brothers: You will place your left hand upon your right breast, and extend your right hand towards the flag of your country, preparatory to obligation. [Each council-room should have a neat American flag festooned over the platform of the president.]

Obligation. You, and each of you, of your own free will and accord, in the presence of Almighty God and these witnesses, your left hand resting upon your right breast, and your right hand extended to the flag of your country, do solemnly and sincerely swear that you will not, under any circumstances, disclose in any manner, nor suffer it to be done by others if in your power to prevent it, the name, sign, pass-words, or other secrets of this degree, except in open council for the purpose of instruction; that you will in all things conform to all the rules and regulations of this order, and to the constitution and by-laws of this or any