

No 86 E. S. GRAND

**CHAPTER LIBRARY**

OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FLAG  
 Patriotic Program.

**Preparation.**

By Lola Lamoreaux.

Large flag is placed in the West before the station of the Associate Matron. Small flags are placed on stations of Adah, Electa and Esther. Tall tapers in holders are lit and placed at Ruth and Martha's station. A yellow one for Ruth and a green one for Martha. A small standard to hold the three small flags in place is placed upon the Altar. (a flower "frog" may be used.)

**Characters.**

Worthy Matron is seated in the East. Worthy Patron or the Associate or a past patron; five Star Points and thirteen others although less may be used if necessary. These may or may not be the Chapter officers. All taking part but the Worthy Matron are in the anti-room.

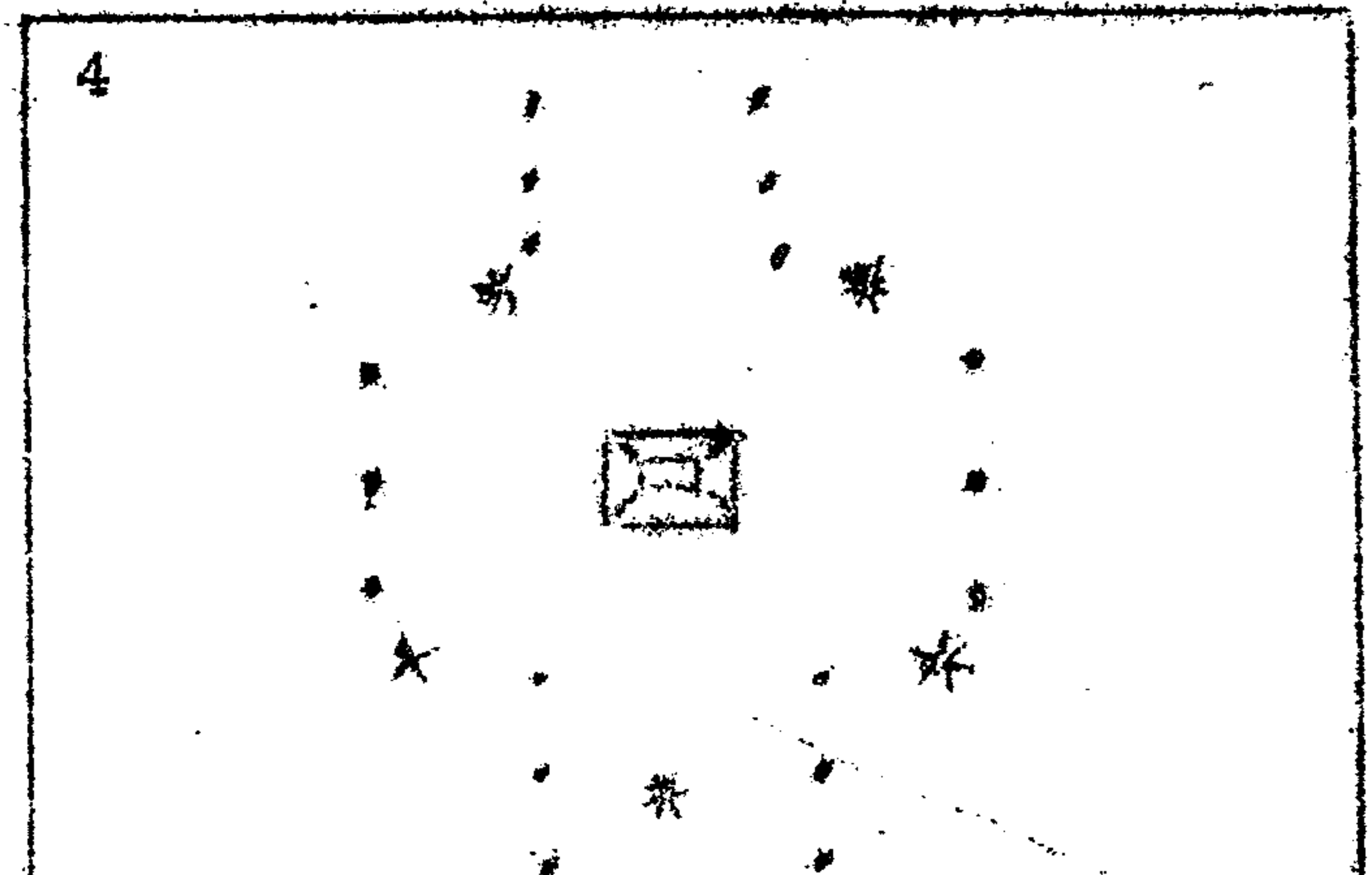
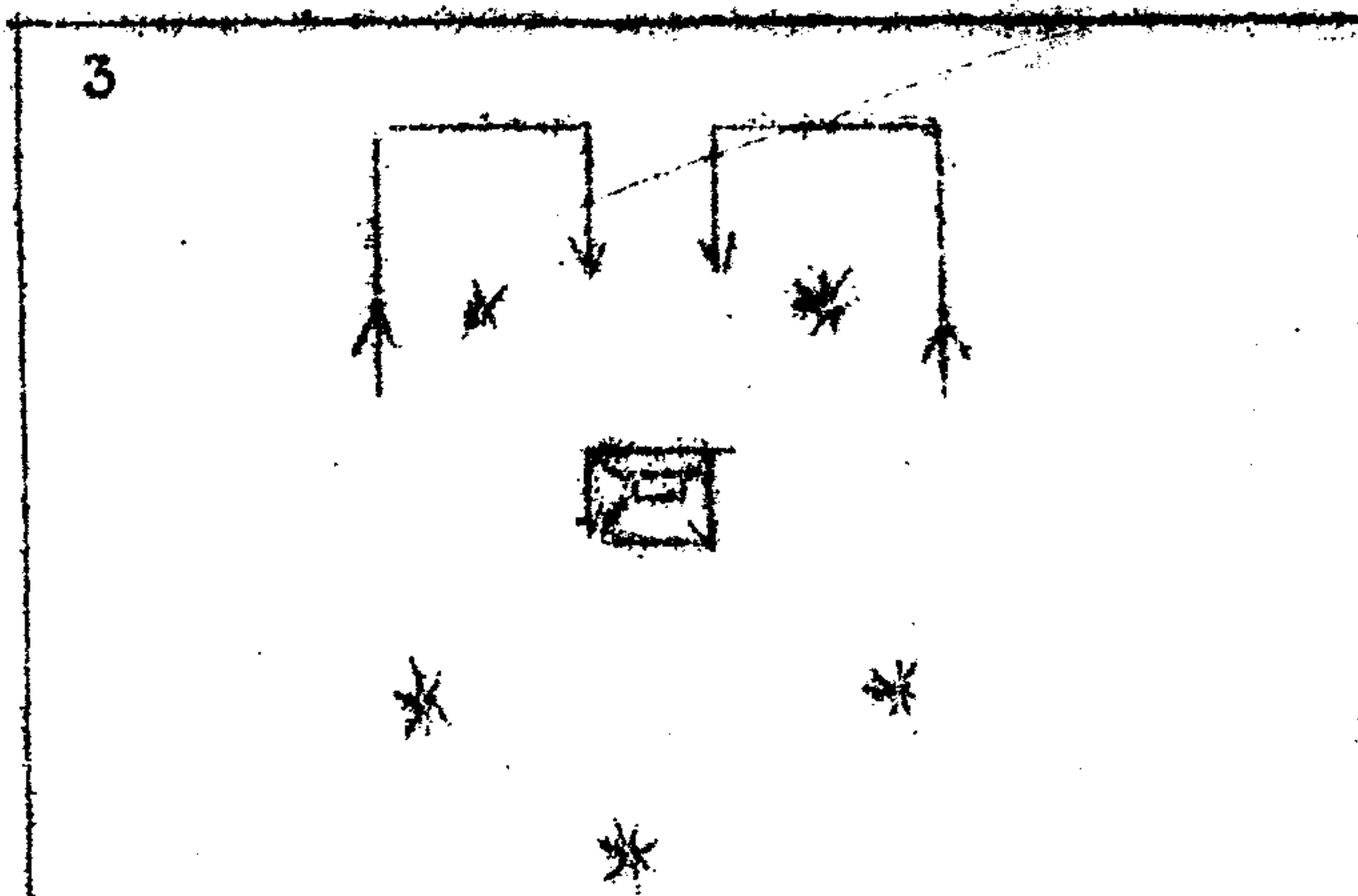
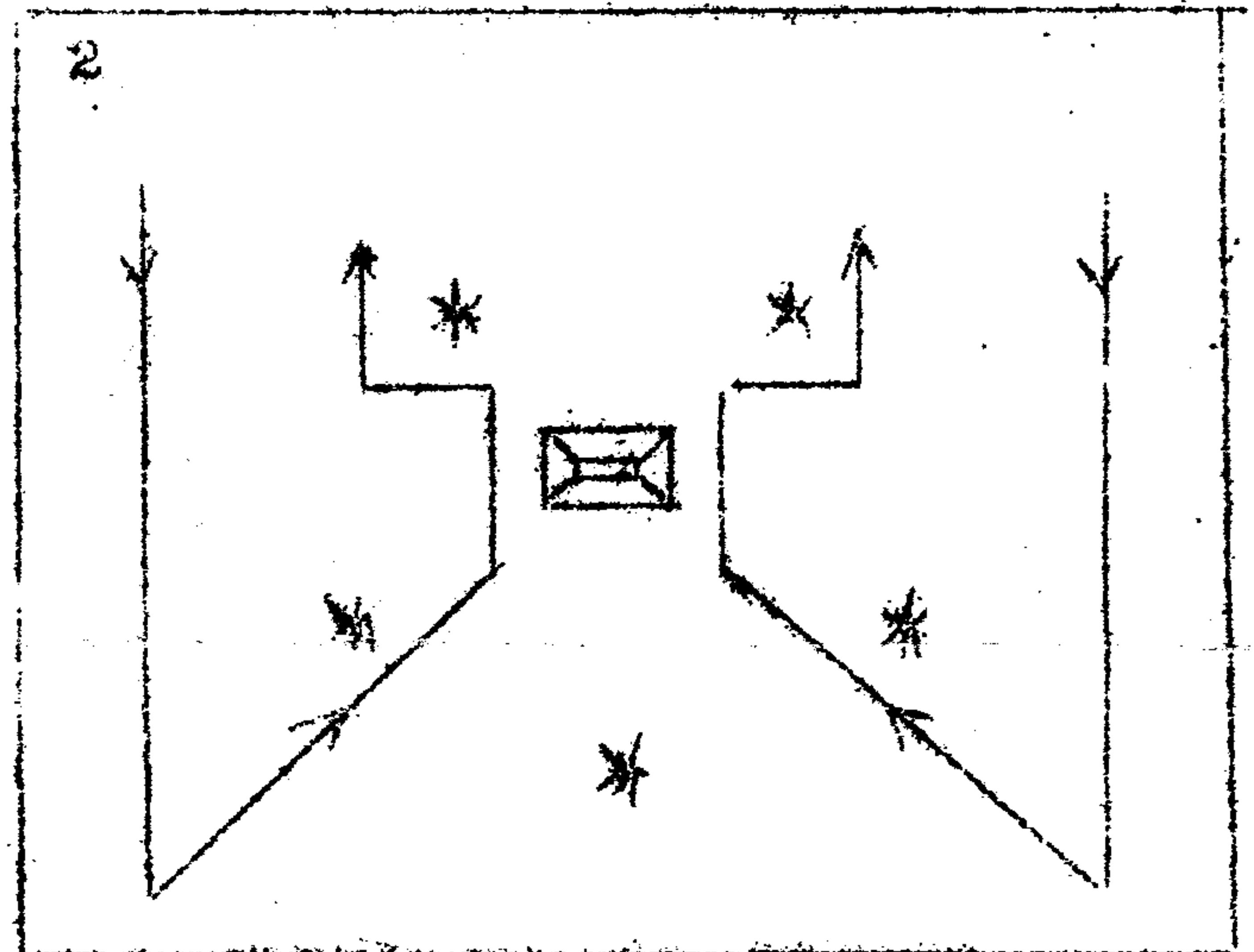
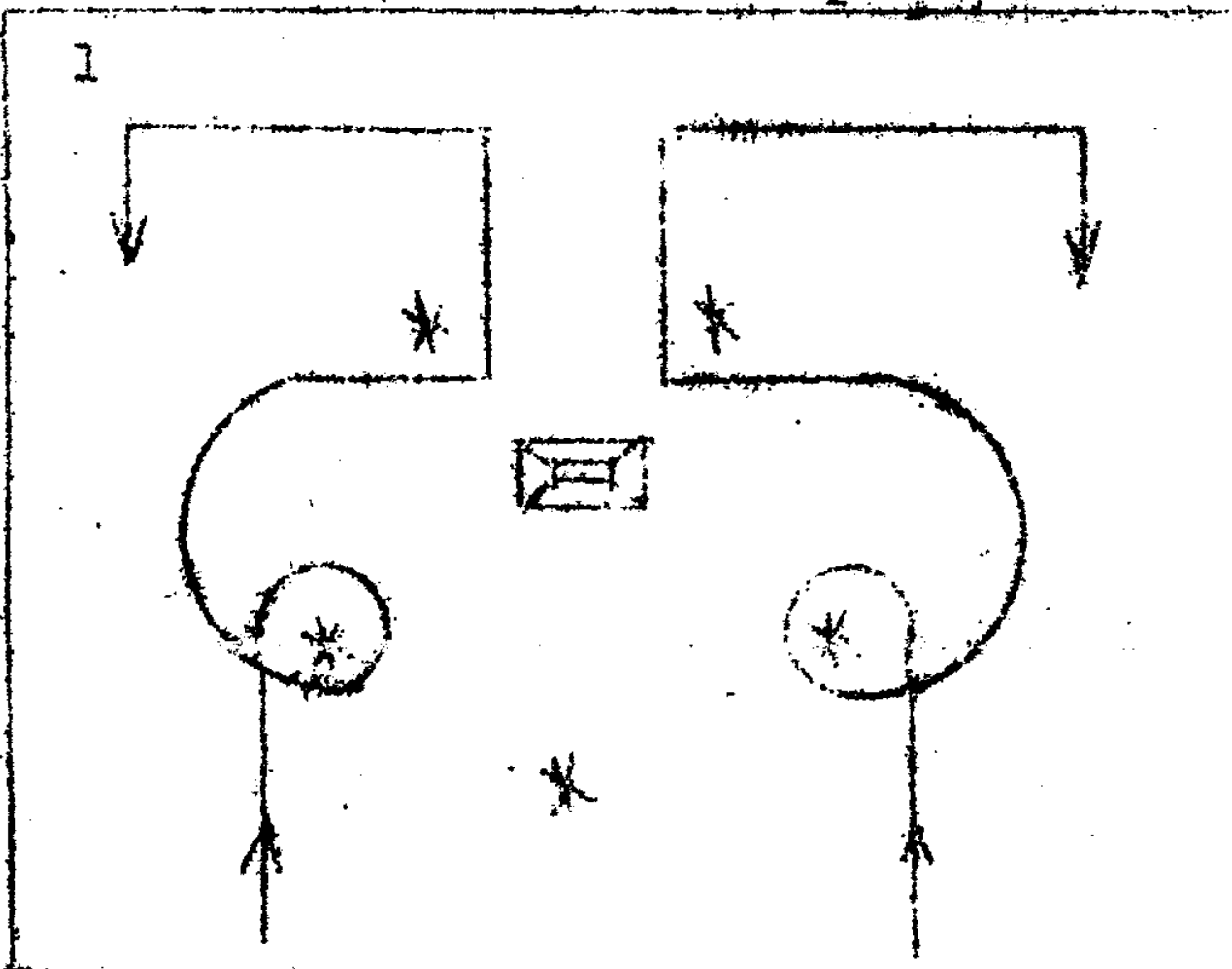
**Costumes.**

Ladies are dressed in white and wear red, white or blue crepe paper capes. Adah should wear blue, Electa, red and Esther, white. Others may wear any of the colors but an equal number of each should appear so that in marching the colors come red, white and blue and repeat.

**Music.**

Stars and Stripes Forever; Star Spangled Banner; America the Beautiful; Jesus the Light of the World and God Bless America.

As music, Stars and Stripes Forever is played - eighteen ladies enter, nine on each side and perform the drill as shown in diagram below.





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In figure four the first six ladies march through the labyrinth and form an aisle in the West between Esther's station and that of the Associate Matron. The second six ladies when coming to Electa and Ada's stations turn North and South and take positions on the outside of the labyrinth. The third group of six form an aisle between the labyrinth and the East. When these positions have been reached a chord is played as a signal for ladies to face inward.

The Worthy Matron calls up the Chapter.

Music- *all rise without sound of gavel & stand with right hand over heart until* Stars and Stripes Forever. The Associate Patron approaches the flag and carries it through the first aisle to the Altar. He holds the flag there. *flag, place in the*

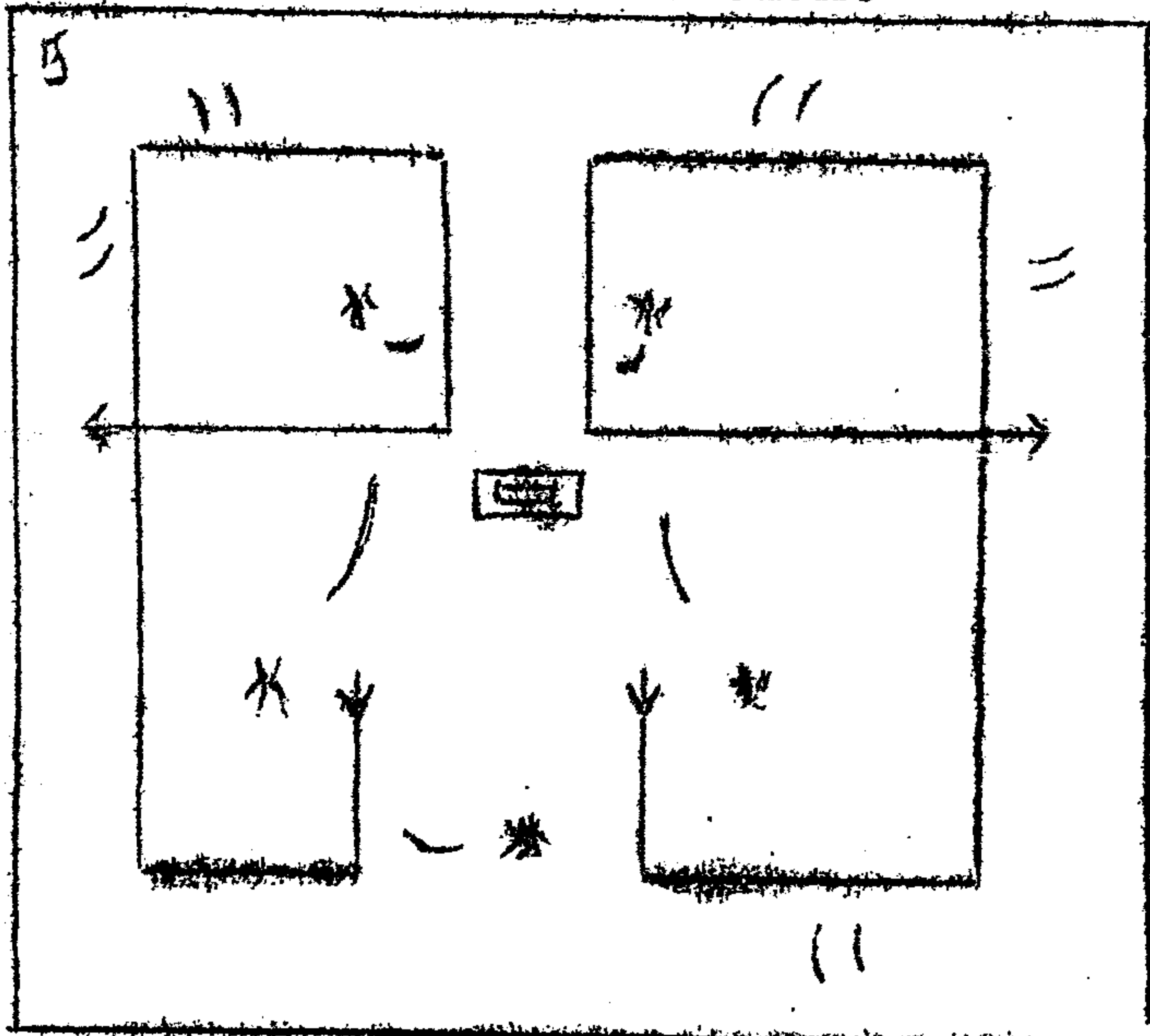
The Worthy Matron says: Let us unite in singing our National anthem. One verse of Star Spangled Banner is sung.

At the close of the song the Associate Patron carries the flag through the third group of ladies and places it in its standard in the East.

The Worthy Patron speaks: Let us join in saluting the flag. After the flag salute has been given the Worthy Matron seats the Chapter.

Music-Stars and Stripes Forever.

A chord faces the ladies West. As they march the second group outside the labyrinth fall in behind the first group and the third group in the East march through the labyrinth and fall into line. They march around the room once and are seated as shown in the diagram. Extra ladies are seated in places reserved for them in the N.E. and E.S. The Associate Patron resumes his station.



"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation <sup>under</sup> indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Worthy Patron then gives the following talk about the flag and our Country.

Our flag was first authorized by Congress on June 14th 1777. This date is now observed as flag day throughout America. Our flag symbolizes national independence and popular sovereignty. It is not the flag of a reigning family or a royal house, but of a hundred million free people welded into a Nation, one and inseparable, united not only by community



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It incarnates for all mankind the spirit of Liberty and the glorious ideal of human freedom; not only freedom of unrestraint or liberty of license, but a unique ideal of equal opportunity of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, safeguarded by stern and lofty principles of duty, of righteousness and of justice and attainable by obedience to self imposed laws.

It embodies the essence of patriotism. Its spirit is the spirit of the American Nation. Its history is the history of the American people. Embazoned upon its folds in letters of living light are names and fame of our heroic dead, the Fathers of the Republic who devoted upon its Altars their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

The flag first rose over thirteen states on the Atlantic seaboard, with a population of some three million people. Today it flies over forty eight states, extending across the continent, and over great islands of the two oceans; and one hundred and thirty millions owe it allegiance. It has been brought to this proud position by love and sacrifice. Citizens have advanced it and heroes have died for it. It is the sign made visible of the strong spirit that has brought liberty and prosperity to the people of America. It is the flag of all of us alike. Let us accord it honor and loyalty.

At the close of this talk one verse of America the Beautiful is sung by a choir or by those present.

The Worthy Matron speaks:

Sisters Star Points, we await your messages.

Music-Stars and Stripes Forever. Adah, Electa and Esther rise at the same time. Adah and Electa march on the outside of the labyrinth to Esther's station. The three approach the Altar together. Each carries the flag which was at her station.

Adah places flag in holder and speaks:

Sisters and brothers, blue stands for reverence to God, loyalty, sincerity justice and truth.

The blue is our nation's endurance

And points to the blue above

The limitless, measureless azure

A type of our Father's love.

Let us ever be true and loyal, willing to show the same courage as Adah in the days of old.

Esther places her flag in holder and says:

White stands for hope, cleanliness of life and rectitude of conduct.

The white is a proud people's honor

Kept spotless and clean as light

A pledge of unflinching justice

A symbol of truth and right.

Let us keep our honor as spotless and our loyalty as enduring as Esther the noble queen found courage to do in time of national distress.

Electa places flag in holder and speaks:

Red stands for valor, zeal and fervency.

The red is the deep crimson life stream

Which flowed on the battle plain

Redeeming our land from oppression



Let us show the same courage and fortitude in our daily lives as Elceta showed in her hour of trial. May we trample under foot all that is unworthy and cling to that which is enduring and everlasting.

Worthy Matron says: Let us unite in prayer. *1 blow*  
 Music-Jesus the Light of the World.

As the Chaplain approaches the Altar the three Star Points resume their stations. Martha and Ruth approach the Altar standing on the North side and South sides and holding up their lighted tapers as the Chaplain kneels to pray.

Prayer.

Our Father which art in Heaven, our hearts rise to Thee in thanksgiving and gratitude for our country. We are so grateful to be its citizens and to have the privilege of loving and serving Thee in our own way. We thank Thee for the freedom we possess. May we ever use it to Thy honor and glory. Bless our country and bless those who are trying to advance the cause of right and liberty through the world. Amen.

The Chaplain rises. Ruth places her taper upon the Altar and says: May the light of constancy and service shone forth in every place over which our flag may fly.

Martha speaks as she places taper upon Altar: May our faith in God, our faith in our beloved country and our faith in the principles of right and justice never falter.

As the three stand together at the Altar one verse of Jesus the Light of the World is sung. At the close of the song they resume their stations.

The Worthy Matron speaks:

To do our best and play our part  
 American in mind and heart  
 To serve the flag and bravely stand,  
 To guard the glory of our land,  
 To be American in deed,  
 God grant us strength to keep this creed.

The Worthy Patron speaks:

Inclosing let us all unite in singing "God Bless America".