Retiring March

The Marshal carries a baton, which has tied at one end the five Star colors (ribbon).

She carries the baton in a horizontal position, at waist level, marches to the Station of Adah, then circles her chair, Adah follows, Ruth's chair is next circled, Ruth follows after Adah. After each Station has been circled the officer follows at the end of the line.

After Elekta's Station has been circled, the Marshal leads to the position in front of the Chaplain, the Treasurer and Chaplain step in between the Marshal and the Star Points, as the Marshal, passes the A. Cond. she steps in front of the Treas.

The Marshal continues west, turns south, and as she passes the Assoc. Patron and Assoc. Patron they step in line behind her in front of the Assoc. Cond.

The Warder steps in line at the end.

The Marshal turns and marches east, as she passes the Cond. she steps in line in front of the Assoc. Cond. The Sec. steps in line ahead of the Treas.

The Marshal turns west, as she does so, she should be directly in front of the W. and W.P. The officers follow making a double line. The Marshal, turns and faces the east, the W. and W.P. then step forward and fill the vacant space at the end.

The Marshal then steps back into line and "Bless be the tie that binds" is sung.

The Marshal then raises her Baton and the W. and W.P. march out. The officers are led by the Marshal, and follow in double line.

O.E.S. GRAND
CHAPTER LIBRARY
EASTERN STAR MARCH

This commentary should help to clear up any points which you do not understand from the drawings. We have made the conductress's line in red and the associate conductress's line in blue, so that the drawings may be a little easier to follow.

If officers in the march remember to follow the same person, it will avoid confusion.

The introductory page just shows the order of the line of march and where the officers stand in forming the cross.

PAGE 1. This page shows the two lines of march entering the room and forming the cross. When the conductresses get to the top of the cross they leave it; the conductress going south and west to stand at the arm of the cross on the south, and the associate going north and west to stand at the arm of the cross on the north.

After the conductresses have reached their places, the organist strikes a chord and all officers bow their heads and fold their arms over the breast, left over right. Then the song "In the Cross of Christ I glory" is sung.

PAGE 2. The conductresses come back to the east, bow to each other, then turning (as each turns she should face the east and not turn her back on it) the Con. goes south followed by her line of march and the A. Con. goes north followed by her line.

PAGE 3. The lines proceed all the way back to the west and across the west, meeting and walking in pairs just two steps toward the east and then separating again to go up and cross lines between Adah and Electa in front of the altar (the one on the conductress's line is always ahead of her partner in the other line).

They proceed from the front corners and now cross over between Harthe and Ruth and back of the altar to the back corners.

PAGE 4. From the back they proceed to the front and making a round turn go around Adah and Electa and a complete circle around the back as per drawing. They join partners again at the front corners of the altar. These two circles are the only times the square corners are not used. In the front part of this drawing the conductresses and other partners should meet and walk together just a few steps of the circle between Adah and Electa.

PAGE 5. Proceeding from the front of the altar (in couples) they go east, turn square corners to the south and north, and then square corners to the west. As they cross the west they move slowly making it a point to pass the partner in front of the A. N.'s station, then the line moves down the sides to form the hollow square (ritual Page 24).

Page 6. This just shows the march after the worthy matron has been conducted to the East. The conductresses lead the lines of march and the officers drop out at their stations.
Secretary
Treasurer
Marshal
Chaplain

A. Con, Martha, Electa

Alter, Adah, Ruth, Cond.

Martha
Warden
Esther

W. M.
A. M.

This inch space around the room is our rubber matting.

Assoc. Conductress
Treasurer
Chaplain
Electa
Martha
Esther
Assoc. Matron

Conductress
Secretary
Marshal
Adah
Ruth
Warder
Worthy Matron
(Only one on marchers)

(Have tried to show here how the four officers who stand behind the altar have to sort of leave the line to reach their places in the crowd)