Michigan Grand Chapter
O. E. S.
Memorial Service

I (Grand Secretary calls the roll.)

W. G. M. (from the East.)

They are no more! No more shall we hear the voices of the Sisters and Brothers who have fallen in life's battle during the year that is past. They have entered upon the sleep that knows no waking. Let us, with loving reverence, assemble around our Altar to pay honor to their memory; and from the bourne wherein they know no travail, may they be conscious of the esteem in which we hold them.

II (Grand Chaplain approaches the Altar [Diagram 1] and kneels; soft music.)

III (Worthy Grand Matron and Asso. Grand Matron approach the Altar [Diagram 1] during the singing of Requiem, "Sleep Thy Last Sleep" verses 1 and 3; bell tolling.)
IV (Remaining Grand Officers, when Requiem is finished, approach the Altar (soft music) forming a triangle [Diagrams 1, 2, 3, 4].)

V (Grand Officers kneel with heads bowed, holding ferns in right hand, forming the chain, keeping triangle perfect.)

C. Chaplain. (Prayer.)

All-wise and merciful, and everywhere-present God; Author of Life and Soul, and of all that moves; who hast made our physical existence but temporary and thus decreed that the pangs and trials of the body, which we endure, shall not be perpetual; and who hast in Thy wise dispensation called the immortal spirits of these dear ones from their earthly habitations; we come to Thee as our only source of comfort and solace in this hour of sorrow.

Heavenly Father, we beseech Thee to let Thy infinite love surround and console these aching hearts of Thy children upon whom the heavy shadows of affliction have fallen since we last gathered together. We thank Thee, O God, for the consciousness which Thou hast implanted in every heart, that Thou dost exist; that the grave is not the end; that there is life for us somewhere—we ask not where—that what we call death is but the pause between two heart-beats, and sometime—we ask not when—we shall find our Sisters and Brothers and all our loved ones; O, the joy of that greeting is beyond human conception; that meeting for all eternity with no more partings and no more tears or sorrow.

With filial love and reverence, we implore Thee, our Father, to extend Thy right hand of graciousness over
this Grand Body; help each member to emulate the example of all the great and good of our Order who have passed to the Grand Chapter above so, that at last, not a single link of our Golden Chain may be missing in the New Jerusalem, that city not made with hands.

Keep us, O God, through our pilgrimage on earth, and when we pass beyond the veil of tears, accept us into Thy Kingdom, where death comes not, and where we may realize the full happiness of loving and serving Thee forever. Amen. (Response.)

VI (G. Officers rise; G. Chaplain remains kneeling.)

W. G. M.

We have formed around our Altar the unhroken triangle, the sign of oneabay;—(ritual, page 54, 5th line) and for ages past a symbol of the Deity, from whom we receive life, and to whom life returns when our transitory sojourn on earth is ended; the three equal sides of the triangle are emblematical of the Trinity; and in their equality reminding us:

(G. Chap.) First:—of GOD'S ALMIGHTY-POWER;

"The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away."

G. Officers. "Blessed be the name of the Lord."

W. G. M. Second:—of GOD'S ALL-KNOWLEDGE; ALL-KNOWING WISDOM;

G. Chap. "The Lord doeth all things well."

G. Officers. "Blessed be the name of the Lord."

W. G. M. Third:—of GOD'S ALL-EMBRACING LOVE;

G. Chap. "The Lord healeth the broken-hearted, and bindeth up their wounds."

G. Officers. "Blessed be the name of the Lord."

G. Officers. Response.

VII (G. Chaplain rises, stepping a few steps back from the Altar, stands with bowed head during the draping of the Altar.)

W. G. M.

Let us, dear Sisters, in loving remembrance, place these evergreens around our Altar, emblematical of our trustful faith and hope of the immortality of the Soul, and the realization of our everlasting happiness beyond the grave. May these ferns remind us that where "dust to dust returneth," arises the beautiful earth flowers with their delicate perfume:

"Emblems of our great resurrection, Emblems of the bright and better Land;" for death is but the initiation into an eternal Life, where the Soul into perfection blossoms.

VIII (Soft music, while G. Officers drape the Altar with ferns formed into half wreaths.)

XI (G. Conductress, Asso. G. Conductress, G. Ruth, and G. Martha advance in straight lines from their positions to the four corners of the Altar; kneeling, they fasten ferns at these points; then still facing the Altar, step slowly back to their places, with bowed heads.)

X (G. Secretary, G. Treasurer, G. Marshal, G. Esther, G. Adah, and G. Electa advance in straight lines from their positions to the sides of the Altar:—the first two, to the east side; second two, to the west; last two, to the south and north respectively;—kneel and fasten ferns at the corners.)
(W. G. M., and A. G. M., retain their positions; soft music continues; the other Grand Officers return to their regular stations [for march, see diagram 5] and remain standing until seated by W. G. M., W. G. M., and A. G. M., approach the Altar in a straight line; kneeling at east and west sides of the Altar, place ferns on the open Bible to form a wreath; rising, W. G. M., steps back a step with bowed head, as also A. G. M., who then steps a few steps to the left; turns and goes to her station, leaving W. G. M., at Altar alone.)

Worthy Grand Matron.

"If we could know
Which of us would be first to go,
Who would be first to breast the swelling tide,
And step alone upon the other side,
If we could know!

"If it were you,
Should I walk softly, keeping death in view?
Should I my love to you more oft express;
If it were you?

"If it were I,
Should I improve the moments slipping by?
Should I more closely follow God's great plan,
Be filled with sweeter charity to man,
If it were I?

"If we could know!
We cannot, and it is better so,
I should forget, just as I do today,
And walk along the same old stumbling way,
If I could know.

"I would not know
Which of us will be first to go,
I only wish the space may not be long
Between the parting and the greeting song;
but when, or where, or how, we're called to go,
I would not know.
XII (W. G. M. turns toward the East as the song begins, "When The Mists Have Rolled Away," and slowly passes to her station; at close of song, seats the G. Chapter.)

XIII (Instructions: — Before the service, the Altar should have white soft material thrown over it, reaching nearly, if not quite, to the floor. Each officer, except G. Chaplain, should have ferns fastened to strong curved wire, forming a half circle, with large pin wired at the back to fasten the half wreath on to the white drapery.)

(Requiem, "Sleep Thy Last Sleep," can be found in many of the Church Hymnals. "When The Mists Have Rolled Away," can be purchased at any music store.)
WHEN THE MISTS HAVE ROLLED AWAY

By Arthur Henshaw

When the mists have roll'd in splendor
From the beauty of the hills,
And the sunshine warm and tender,
 Falls in splendor on the rills,
We may read love's shining letter
In the rainbow of the spray:
We shall know each other better,
When the mists have cleared away.
We shall know as we are known,
Never more to walk alone,
In the dawning of the morning,
When the mists have cleared away.

If we err in human blindness,
And forget that we are dust;
If we miss the laws of kindness,
When we struggle to be just;
Snowy wings of peace shall cover
All the pain that clouds our way,
When the weary watch is over,
And the mists have clear'd away.
We shall know as we are known,
Never more to walk alone,
In the dawning of the morning,
When the mists have clear'd away.

When the mists have risen above us,
As our Father knows his own,
Face to face with those that love us,
We shall know as we are known.
Love beyond the orient meadows,
Floats the golden fringe of day:
Heart to heart we hide the shadows,
Till the mists have clear'd away.
We shall know as we are known,
Never more to walk alone,
When the day of light is dawning,
And the mists have cleared away.
Arranged by
Elvira Ireland Atwood
Grand Chaplain

1909
When Requiem is finished, G. Secretary and G. Treasurer leave their stations,—diagram 2,—when they are in front of G. Marshal and G. Chaplain's station, G. Conductress and Asso. G. Conductress leave their stations and lead the march,—diagram 1.
When G. Secretary and G. Treasurer are opposite the Conductresses stations,—diagram 3,—G. Adah and G. Electra leave their stations; G. Ruth and G. Martha leave their stations when G. Adah and G. Electra pass north and south,—diagram 3.
G. Marshal leaves her station when G. Adah is opposite G. Ruth’s station, falling in behind G. Ruth,—diagram 4; G. Esther leaves her station when G. Marshal reaches X,—diagram 4.
G. Officers return to regular stations: G. Secretary and G. Treasurer lead as arrows point; G. Conductress and Asso. G. Conductress following; aplain falls into line after G. Esther. Each officer turns and goes to her when opposite it.