

FORMS AND RITUAL OF THE ORANGE ORDER,
TO BE OBSERVED IN PRIVATE LODGES
OF
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

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OPENING PRAYER.

Almighty God and Heavenly Father, who of thy Gracious providence and tender mercy towards us, didst wonderfully conduct thy servant King William, and bring him safely through many difficulties^ to preserve us, from the attempts of our enemies to bereave us of our religion and laws, we humbly praise and magnify thy most glorious name for thy unspeakable goodness towards us, expressed in this act of thy mercy. Be thou still our mighty Protector, and scatter our enemies that delight in blood; infatuate and defeat their counsels' abate their pride, assuage their malice, and confound their devices: strengthen the hands of our present gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria and all that are put in authority under her, with judgement and justice, to cut off all such workers of iniquity as turn religion into rebellion, and faith into faction, that they may never prevail against us, or triumph in the ruin of thy church amongst us; but that our gracious Sovereign and her realms, being preserved in thy true religion, and by thy merciful goodness protected in the same, we may all duly serve thee, and give thee thanks in thy holy congregation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy Kingdom come; thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

[The following shall be the order for business in a Private Lodge:]

1. The Lodge to be opened with Prayer.
2. The Lecture to be repeated.

3. Minutes of former Meeting read.
4. Members to be proposed.
5. Members to be initiated.
6. Public business connected with the principles, honor or prosperity of the institution discussed.
7. Lecture repeated.
8. Lodge closed with Prayer.

RITUAL OF INITIATION.

[The Candidate for admission shall be introduced between two brethren, each carrying in one hand an Orange Rod, decorated at the top with Orange ribbons, one of whom must lie his proposer or seconder, who shall carry in his hand the Holy Bible, with the Book of Regulations placed thereon, and on their coming to the foot of the Table, opposite to the Master — the Brethren all sitting (strictly silent) in their places — the Master shall say] —

Master. — Brethren, whom do you introduce?

Introducer. — A. B., a worthy friend.

Master. — What do you carry in your hand?

Introducer.— The Word of God?.

Master. — Do you reverence that Word?

Introducer. — We do.

Master. — What is that other Book?

Introducer. — The Book of Regulations of the Orange Association.

Master. — Arc you acquainted with the rules therein contained?

Introducer. — We are.

Master. — Do you act in conformity to those Rules?

Introducer. — We do.

Master. — [Addressing himself to the Candidate.] Friend, what do you desire of this meeting?

Candidate. — Of my own free will I desire to be admitted into your Loyal Association.

Master. — Friend, kneel down.

[The Candidate shall then kneel down at the table (all the Brethren standing) the Chaplain or Brother appointed, shall read the following portions of Scripture] —

"O Lord God of our Fathers, art not thou God in Heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdom of the heathen? and in thy hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?" 2 Chron. c.xx. v.6.

"Who is like unto thee. O Lord, among the Gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders: Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou has redeemed; thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation." Exod. c.xv v. 11, 13.

"And it shall be for a token upon thine hand, and for frontlets between thine eyes, for by strength of hand the Lord brought us forth out of Egypt; thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year." Exod. c. xiii. v. 16, 10.

[Here the Obligation shall be administered by the Master.]

ORANGE OBLIGATION.

"I, A- B-, do solemnly and voluntarily swear that I will, to the utmost of my power support and defend Her present Majesty, Queen Victoria, and her lawful heirs and successors, in the sovereignty of Great Britain and Ireland, and of these Provinces dependent on, and belonging to the said kingdom; so long as she, he, or they, shall support and maintain the Protestant Religion, and the laws of this Country; that I will to the utmost of my power, defend her against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatever, which shall or may be made against Her person Crown or dignity; that I will do my utmost endeavours to disclose and make known to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies and attempts which I shall know to be against her, him or any of them ; that I will steadily maintain the connexion between the Colonies of British North America and the Mother Country, and be ever ready to resist all attempts to weaken British influence, or dismember the British Empire; that I will, when lawfully called on, assist the civil and military powers in the just and lawful discharge of their special duties, in repelling and subduing every enemy who may seek to disturb or injure the Queen, the Protestant Religion, or this Country in general; that I will be true and faithful to every Brother Orangeman in all just actions; that I will not wrong him, or know him to be wronged or injured, without giving him due notice thereof, and preventing it if in my power; that I will ever hold sacred the name of our glorious deliverer, King William the Third, Prince of Orange, in grateful remembrance of whom, I solemnly promise, if in my power, to celebrate His victory over James at the Boync, in Ireland, on the first day of July (old style) in every year by assembling with my Brethren in their Lodge Room; that I am not nor ever will be a Roman Catholic or Papist, nor am I now or ever will be a member of any society, or body of men, that are enemies to Her Majesty and our glorious Constitution. I swear that I never was to my knowledge or belief, reported and rejected or expelled from any Orange Lodge, and lastly, I do solemnly promise and declare that I will do my utmost to support and maintain the Loyal Orange Institution, obey all regular summonses, and pay all just dues, if in my power, and observe and obey all the rules and ordinances of the same; and that I will always conceal, and never in any way whatsoever disclose or reveal the whole or any part of the signs, words, or tokens, that are now about to be privately communicated to me, unless I shall be duly authorized to do by the proper authorities¹ of the Orange Institution, of which I am now about to become a member.

So help me God, and keep me steadfast in this, my Orangeman's Obligation."

¹ *The proper authority is the Grand Lodge of British North America.*

[The Chaplain or Brother appointed shall read the following portions of Scripture.]

"Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God ! therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved now are we the sons of God ; and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him, purifieth himself, even as he is pure. — Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law, for sin is the transgression of the law. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: who soever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother, abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue ; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. And this IS the commandment. That we should believe on the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another as he gave us commandment."— First John, c. iii v. 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23.

[Here the following prayer shall be read. — (All Kneeling).]

Almighty God, Judge of all men, to whom all hearts be open, and from whom no secrets are hid, look down, we beseech thee, upon us who are now assembled beneath thy all-seeing eye, Thou hatest the deceitful heart; to thee the false tongue is an abomination. Strengthen us, then, we implore thee, that we may ever avoid falsehood, and cleave to that which is true; dispose us to brotherly love and Christian charity, to be true and faithful to our Brethren in all just actions; and as we do now receive this dear friend into our benevolent and loyal association, may we be admitted to thy

Heavenly Kingdom; in thy name and looking to thy Providence to direct us to what is right, we do now receive this thy servant to a membership in our Society, trusting that thou wilt so guide and govern his heart and actions, that he may long continue an ornament to our association, and a firm and steadfast supporter of thy Church and People. *Amen.*

[The Candidate shall then rise, and the Master shall take him by the hand and say:]

Master. — We receive thee, dear Brother, into the religious and Loyal Association of Orangemen, trusting that thou wilt abide a devoted servant of God, a true believer in his Son, Jesus Christ, a faithful subject of our Queen, and supporter of our Constitution: keep thou firm in the Protestant faith ; make thyself a friend of all pious and peaceable men, avoiding strife and seeking benevolence; slow to take offence, and offering none. In the name of the Brotherhood, I bid thee welcome, and pray thou mayest long continue among them, a worthy Orangeman, fearing God, and loving the Brotherhood, honouring the King and maintaining the law.

[The Signs and Passwords of the Association shall then be communicated to the new Brother, according to rule, after which the Chaplain or Brother appointed shall say:]

“ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men.” St. Luke c. ii v. 13.

CLOSING PRAYER.

O God, whose name is excellent in all the earth, and thy glory above the Heavens, who hast so often miraculously preserved our Church and State from the secret contrivance and open violence of numerous conspirators, we bless and adore thy Gracious Majesty, for thy marvellous loving kindness to our Church and Nation, in the preservation of our religion and liberties; and we humbly crave, that the devout sense of thy repeated mercies, may renew and increase in us, a spirit of steady allegiance to our present gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria ; and a spirit of fervent zeal for our holy religion, which thou hast so wonderfully rescued and established, a blessing to us and to our posterity; all which we humbly beg, for the sake of our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. — *Amen.*

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. — Amen.

[At the General Election of Officers in December the Past Master shall proceed to install the newly elected Master, who shall then proceed to install the following

Officers, viz. :
Secretary,
Treasurer, and
Committeemen.]

OBLIGATION OF A MASTER AND DEPUTY MASTER.

I. A. B., do swear that I do not undertake the office of President for any private or personal emolument or advantage; that I will use the authority with which I am invested as President; to keep proper behaviour and sobriety in the Lodge, over which I am to preside, and to cause a due observance of the rules and regulations of the Society, by all the Members of my Lodge, and lastly, I swear that I will not certify for any person, without having first proved him, and being satisfied in my conscience, that he is a person of good character.

OBLIGATION OF A SECRETARY.

I, A. B., do swear that I will faithfully preserve the papers and all other documents of the Lodge, that may be committed to my charge; that I will not myself, sign seal, or cause to be signed, or sealed, nor lend the Lodge seal, so that it may be affixed to any forged paper, or irregular Orangeman's Certificate; and lastly, that I will deliver up all the property of the Lodge when requested by the Master and other officers so to do.

OBLIGATION OF A TREASURER

I, A. B., do swear that I will faithfully preserve all monies or other property, that I may receive for the use of my Lodge, and that I will fairly account for the same, when requested so to do by the Master and the officers of the Lodge.

OBLIGATION OF A COMMITTEEMAN.

I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that I will exercise the privilege, functions, and duties of a committeeman, faithfully, conscientiously, and impartially; that I will use whatever

influence I may possess for the benefit of my Lodge particularly; and generally for the interest of the Order, to the best of my skill; knowledge, and cunning.