

power to prevent it; that you will not under any circumstances expose the name of any member of this order, nor reveal the existence of such an association; that you will answer an imperative notice issued by the proper authority, *obey* the command of the State Council, president or his deputy, while assembled by such notice, and respond to the claim of a sign or cry of the order, unless it be *physically* impossible; that you will acknowledge the State Council of \_\_\_\_\_ as the Legislative head, the ruling authority, and the supreme tribunal of the order in the State of \_\_\_\_\_, acting under the jurisdiction of the national council of the United States of North America; binding yourself in the penalty of excommunication from the order, the forfeiture of all intercourse with its members, and being denounced in all the societies of the same as a willful traitor to your God and country."

Next comes the oath or obligation taken on being elected or admitted to the second degree, much of which is similar to the preceding, but varying from that in some essential particulars. Here it is.

"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 other council to which you may be attached, so long as they do not conflict with the Constitution of the United States, nor that of the State in which you reside: that you will, under all circumstances, if in your power so to do, attend to all regular signs or summons that may be thrown or sent to you by a brother of this or any other degree of this order: that you will support in *all political matters*, for all political offices, *members of this order in preference to other persons*: that if it may be done legally, you will, when elected or appointed to any official station conferring on you the power to do so, REMOVE ALL FOREIGNERS, ALIENS OR ROMAN CATHOLICS from office or place in your gift. You do also promise and swear, that this and all other obligations which you have previously taken in this order, shall be KEPT THROUGH LIFE sacred and inviolate. All this you promise and declare as Americans to sustain and abide