

affection, thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem, and our inviolable attachment to the principles of our Order.

With proper respect, therefore, to the established customs of the country in which we live; with due deference to our superiors in church and state, and with unlimited goodwill to all mankind, we appear here, clothed as Masons, and publicly express our perfect submission to the laws of the land, our unceasing devotion to peace and order, and our ardent desire, as far as is in our power, to promote the welfare of our fellow-men. Invested with the badges of innocence, we humbly bow to the will of the universal Parent, and implore His blessing on every zealous endeavor to promote peace and good order, and earnestly pray for perseverance in the principles of piety and virtue.

My brethren the great Creator having been pleased out of His mercy to remove our worthy brother from the cares and troubles of a transitory existence to a state of eternal duration, and thereby to weaken the chain by which we are united man to man, may we who survive him anticipate our approaching fate,