

*W. M.*—May the Lord bless us and keep us ; may the Lord be gracious unto us, and grant that our intentions may be crowned with success.

*Response*—" So mote it be."

*W. M.*—Glory be to God in the highest ; on earth peace and good-will towards men.

*Response*—" So mote it be, henceforth and forever more. Amen."

*The Secretary will then advance and deposit the scroll in the grave.*

*W. M.*—Friend and brother, we bid thee a long, a lasting farewell. Thou are at rest from thy labors ; may it be in holy peace.

*Response*—" Amen. So mote it be."

*The Senior Deacon then hands the Worshipful Master the Apron.*

*W. M.*—The lamb-skin apron of a Mason is more ancient than the golden fleece, or Roman eagle, and more honorable than the star and garter or any other order in existence, being the badge of innocence and the bond of friendship.