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C.—To preside over and govern the Council, to confer this Order of Knighthood on those whom the Council shall approve; to preserve inviolate the Laws and Constitution of the Order; dispense Justice, reward merit, encourage Truth, and inculcate the sublime principles of universal benevolence.

S.M.*—Sir Knight Chancellor, it is my order that a Council of Knights of the Red Cross be now opened and stand open for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it. This order you will communicate to the Sir Knight Master of the Palace, and he to the Sir Knights.

C.—Sir Knight Master of the Palace, it is the order of the Sovereign Master that a Council of Knights of the Red Cross be now opened for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it. This order you will communicate to the Sir Knights.

M. of P.—Sir Knights, it is the order of the Sovereign Master that a Council of Knights of the Red Cross be now opened for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it.

The High Priest recites prayer, or this may be omitted.

S. M.—Sir Knights, I now declare this Council of Knights of the Red Cross opened in due form. Sir Warder, inform the Sentinel; Sir Knights, be seated.

^{*} The Sovereign Master may omit this, and simply declare the Council open, in the form given.