

Com. of M. Sir Knights, return swords.

L. P. *

THE INVESTITURE.

L. P. I will now clothe you in the habit of our Order. It is an emblem of penitence since its color represents the hard and cruel life of St. John the Baptist. The white Cross denotes that all our acts should be pure and holy. I now tie this girdle. It is the girdle of humiliation, and teaches us that oftentimes the lowliest acts are the most exalted.

I will now adorn your brow with this wreath of roses and forget-me-nots, a coronet more graceful than the gemmed diadem of a Queen, and more becoming our Order since it betokens eternal love or friendship. Wear this wreath, Sister, and may its fragrance remind you of the sweet savor of universal sisterhood.

I now place on your finger this ring. It denotes the fraternal bond which henceforth exists between you and me, and all associates of our Order. You will now rise.

(The *L. P.* then returns to her station.)

L. P. * * * Sister, you will now retire to the Nave of our Chapter, there to receive adoption at the hands of our belted Knights.