



Patriarchs Militant Army of the Crown; and the White Rose

The name “Patriarchs Militant” conveys the two-fold idea of peace and soldierly valor. By combining the term “patriarch” variously derived, but with the common meaning, ‘a leader or chief by lineage’, and in Eastern churches, a dignitary superior to an archbishop, hence, freely interpreted, a peaceful ruler. The word “militant” derived from the Latin of

militants, defined ‘serving as a soldier’. The liberal interpretation thus being, ‘a peaceful ruler serving as a soldier’ or with reasonable license, a *just soldier*.

Universal Justice

The motto of the Patriarchs Militant, *justitia universalis* (*universal justice*), and the battle cry of action, *pax aut bellum*, (*peace or war*), are very appropriately blended with the ever-living characteristics of many of historic fame, heralded as models of human perfection in upright morals, lofty principles, soldiery manhood and chivalrous bearing. Hence the names Chevalier and Lady (*a patent of nobility*), applied to individual members of this branch of the Order, conveys in brief, an idea of the honorable and military teachings thereof. As the motto indicates, this degree is based upon the principle of universal justice and the doctrine of rights, advocated by peaceful methods, but if necessary, defend with exercise of force. It is purely military in its character, organized for purposes of display, and is admirably fulfilling its mission.

Emblems of the Degrees:



A regal crown, with crossed crook and sword, and the Three Links, with the left link being filled with scarlet enamel, the center link with white and the right link with purple. The Army of the Crown is so termed for the reason that the Crown is the symbol of rank; the Sword, of justice; the Shepherd’s Crook, of peace; and the Three Links, the bond of our fraternity. The decoration to be a constant incentive to chivalric deeds.



The White Rose, symbol of purity. Its spotless purity of color and its symmetry of form serve to impress us that in our daily lives our words and our actions should be such that, like the rose, we shed around us a halo that is felt, a presence that falls upon our fellows as does the fragrance of the

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flower, unseen, unheard, yet sweetly refreshing. It is also a symbol of what our thoughts should be and reminds us that in all things it is possible to draw around us the mantel of purity.

The Chevalier and Lady wears the uniform from love of display and they are rarely seen alone, as in union there is strength, and in comradeship enjoyment. The uniform is also worn as a regalia of honor and esteem, because of admiration of the Order, and a wish in so far as may be possible to present the same for public inspection in the most creditable form and create an uplift within and for the Order. However erroneously, it is oft times cited as the degree for young men and women, those with a love of military and display, when as a matter of fact it is those who are most interested within the Lodge and Patriarchal Odd Fellowship, are found enrolled within its ranks, be they old or young. The Militant is the great leveler of social, professional and business distinction, all are exactly alike, an attainment of equality not otherwise obtainable and one appreciated and enjoyed by all members.

The Army of the Crown is ever a legion of the best there is in Odd Fellowship, the Chevaliers and Ladies are the Honor of the Order and pride of their families. The standard of excellence may not always be had when so observed, it were better a recruit of one than critic for all. Standing at the summit of the creation of possibilities will not make a Chevalier, a Canton or an army, the individual effort, "one for all and all for one", will bring about the glorious realization now as in the end. Be prompt in response, brave in defense, unyielding in protection, maintain with firmness, wield with justice and ever wear with honor, surrounds as with a halo the individual Chevalier or Lady within the Army of the Crown.

