**WM**— Who are fit and proper persons to be made Masons?

**Can** — Just, upright and free men, of mature age, sound judgment, and strict morals.

**WM** — How do you know yourself to be a Mason?

**Can**— By the regularity of my initiation, repeated trials and approbations, and a willingness at all times to undergo an examination when properly called on.

**WM**— How do you demonstrate the p of your being a Mason to others?

**Can** — By sns, ts, and the perfect pts of my entrance.

**WM** — These are the usual questions: I will put others if any Brother wishes me to do so.

**JD** *conducts Can by r h direct to N side of WM's ped and a convenient distance from it, both facing S. Releases hand.*

**WM** — Do you pledge your honour as a man, and your fidelity as a Mason, that you will steadily persevere through the ceremony of being passed to the Degree of a FC?

**JD** *prompting Can aloud* — I do *(Can repeats).*

**WM** — Do you likewise pledge yourself that you will conceal what I shall now impart to you with the same strict caution as the other mysteries of Freemasonry?

**JD** *prompting Can aloud* — I do *(Can repeats).*

**WM**— Then I will entrust you with a test of merit, which is a p g and p w leading to the Degree to which you seek to be admitted — *rises, faces Can, and takes the latter's r h in his own r h and holds it* — the p g is given — *adjusts p g by placing Can's t in position before placing his own* — by a distinct p of the t between t f a s js o t h. This p g demands a p w, which is .....

**JD**— *prompting Can, speaks word aloud (Can repeats).*

**WM** — ..... denotes ..... and is usually depicted in our Lodges by an e o c near to a f o w. You must be particularly careful to remember this word, as without it you cannot gain admission into a Lodge in a superior degree. Pass, ..... — *restores Can's r h to l h of JD and sits.*

**JD** *guiding Can, makes a clockwise wheel and conducts Can direct to N of SW's ped. Here he wheels Can clockwise so as to face E and releases hand.*

**JD** *to Can aloud* — Salute the WM as a Mason — *instructs Can in whisper to take Sp, give EA Sn and cut it.*

**JD** *takes Can by r h, makes anti-clockwise wheel with Can and conducts him to door.*

**IG** *goes to door in front of JD and opens it, closing and locking it again when Can has gone out.*

**IG** *and* **JD** *return to seats.*

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**SD** *takes Can's r h, instructs him to step off with l f and leads Can up N side of Lodge to a convenient distance from N E corner and turns with him so as to face S. Leaving Can, SD moves forward to centre line of Lodge, turns and faces Can.*

**SD** *to Can* — The method of advancing from W to E in this Degree is by ..... ..... as if ascending a w s. For your information I will go through them, and you will afterwards copy me.

**SD** *then turns about, and stands at a point opposite WM's ped and about three paces from it, facing S. He places his feet at r angles, h to h, r f pointing W and l f pointing S. He steps off with the l f, lifting his ft at each step as if ascending a w s. In doing so he completes a semi-circle starting on the centre line of Lodge and also finishing on it in front of WM's ped with r f pointing E, l f pointing N, h to h.*

**SD** *then returns to Can, following the semi-circular line in the reverse direction. He then places Can at the same point opposite WM's ped, releases hand and instructs him to go through prescribed steps by standing in front of him and indicating with wand where Can's ft should fall. He then places himself on Can's r as he completes steps.*

**JD** *goes to WM's ped and stands on Can's l at same time as Can and SD arrive there. All three are now in front of WM's ped, SD on r and JD on l of Can, all facing E.*

**WM** — As in every case the Degrees in Freemasonry are to be kept separate and distinct, another Obl will now be required of you, in many respects similar to the former. Are you willing to take it?

**Can** — I am. *(If Can does not answer voluntarily* **SD** *should whisper to him 'Answer.')*

**WM** — Then you will kneel on your r k, your l f formed in a sq, *(Can does so)* place your r h on the VSL, *(Can does so)* while your l a will be supported in the angle of the sq.

**SD** *takes Sq (usually from IPM) and passes it behind Can to JD.*

**JD** *arranges arm of Can in angle of Sq as in H Sn or Sn of P of Second Degree, arm forwards at r a to bdy, forearm at r a to arm and t projecting backwards in f of a sq. JD supports Sq in his r h.*

**WM** *one k* **SW** *one k* **JW** *one k.*

**Ds** *hold wands in l h, cross them over head of Can; both take Sp,* **SD** *gives Sn of F.*

**ALL** *stand, with Sp and Sn of F.*

**WM,** *to Can* — Repeat your name at length and say after me:
I, ..... — *Can gives name in full* — in the presence of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe and of this worthy and worshipful Lodge of FC FMs, regularly held, assembled, and properly dedicated, of my own free will and accord, do hereby — *with l h touches Can's r h* — and hereon — *with l h touches VSL* — solemnly promise and swear that I will always h* *pronounced hail)*, conceal, and never improperly reveal any or either of the mys of or belonging to the Second Degree in Freemasonry, denominated the FC's, to him who is but an EA, any more than I would either of them to the uninstructed and popular world who are not Masons. I further solemnly pledge myself to act as a true and faithful Cn, answer Sns, obey summonses, and maintain the principles inculcated in the former degree. These several points I solemnly swear to observe, without evasion, equivocation, or mental reservation of any kind.

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So help me, A G, and keep me steadfast in this my solemn Obl of a FC FM.

**ALL** *cut Sn.*

**Ds** *lower wands to r h.*

**JD** *removes Sq, and passes it behind Can to SD, who replaces it; JD lowers Can's l h to his side.*

**WM** — As a pledge of your F, and to render this a S O which might otherwise be considered but a serious promise, you will s i w y l t on the VSL *(Can does so).*

**SD** *if necessary instructs in whisper.*

**WM** — Your progress in Masonry is marked by the position of the Sq and Cs. When you were made an EA, both pts were hid; in this Degree one is disclosed, implying that you are now in the midway of Freemasonry, superior to an EA, but inferior to that to which I trust you will hereafter attain.

**WM** *takes Can's r h from VSL with his r h* — Rise, newly obligated FC FM — *restores Can's r h to SD.*

**JD** *returns to seat.*

**WM** *sits.*

**ALL** *(except* **SD** *and Can) sit.*

**SD** *takes Can's r h turns l and conducts him to N side of WM's pedestal so that both are in a position parallel to the pedestal and about two feet from it, facing S towards WM, and releases h.*

**WM** — Having taken the S O of a FC, I shall proceed to entrust you with the secrets of the Degree. You will therefore advance to me as at your initiation.

**SD** *ensures Can takes Sp and gives EA Sn and cuts it.*

**WM** — You will now take another short pace towards me with your l f, bringing the r h into its h as before. *(Can does so)* That is the s r s in Freemasonry, and it is in this position that the mysteries of the Degree are communicated. They consist, as in the former instance, of a Sn, Tn, and Wd, with this difference, that in this Degree the Sn is of a threefold nature — *rises, faces Can, with Sp* — The first part of the threefold Sn is called the Sn of F and is given by p t r h on t l b w t t e i t f o a s — *illustrates and ensures Can copies* — emblematically to shield the repository of your mysteries from the attacks of the insidious. The second part is called the H Sn, or Sn of P, and is given by t u t l h w t t l e i t f o a s — *illustrates and ensures Can copies* — This took its rise at the time that J fought the battles of the Lord, when it was in this position he prayed fervently to the Almighty to continue the l of d, that he might complete the overthrow of his enemies. The third part is the P Sn and is given by d t l h, d t r s a t bt a d i t t s — *illustrates and ensures Can copies.*

This is in allusion to the symbolic penalty at one time included in the Obligation in this degree, which implied that, as a man of honour, a FC FM would rather have had his h t f his bt — *illustrates and ensures Can copies* — than improperly disclose the mysteries entrusted to him. The full penalty was that of having the l b l o, the h t t, a g t t r..bs of the a or d bts o t f a p.

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The G or Tn is given — *takes Can's r h and adjusts g by placing Can's t in position before placing his own*— by a d p o t t o t s j o t h. This G or Tn demands a word, a word to be given with the same strict caution as that in the former degree; that is to say, only in open Lodge or to test or "prove" an unknown Brother and never at length, but always by ls or ss, to enable you to do which I must tell you that the word is .....

**SD** *repeats word aloud and ensures Can repeats it aloud after him.*

**WM** *spells word.*

**SD** *spells word aloud and ensures Can spells it aloud after him.*

**WM** *retaining g* — As in the course of the ceremony you will be called on for this word, the SD will now dictate the answers you are to give. What is this?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — The G or Tn of a FC FM *(Can repeats).*

**WM**— What does it demand?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud*— A word *(Can repeats).*

**WM** — Give me that word.

**SD** *prompting Can aloud (if necessary by phrases) and quickly to prevent him giving word at length* — I was taught to be cautious in this Degree as well as in the former. I will letter or halve it with you *(Can repeats)*.

**WM** — Which you please and begin.

*(At this stage the word is halved.)*

**SD** *gives first half (Can repeats).*

**WM** *gives second half.*

**SD** *gives complete word (Can repeats).*

**WM**— This word is derived from the r h p at the p....way or e...e of KST, so named after....., the Asst H P who officiated at its dedication. The import of the word is, To .....; and when conjoined with that in the former Degree, ....., for God said, 'In ..... I will e this Mine house to stand firm for ever'. Pass, ..... — *places r h of Can in l h of SD and sits.*

**SD** *turns r, controlling Can by holding his r h regains floor of Lodge, turns l, instructs Can in whisper to step off with l f, passes in front of WM's ped to S E corner of Lodge which they 'square'. He leads Can to E side of JW's ped where they stand parallel to ped and a convenient distance from it and releases h.*

**SD** *rests butt of wand on floor with top resting against r shoulder. Sp and FC Sn* — Bro JW, I present to you Bro ..... on his being passed to the Second Degree — *cuts Sn and takes wand in r h again.*

**JW**— I will thank Bro ..... to advance to me as a FC.

**SD** *instructs Can in whisper to take Sp give FC Sn and then to cut Sn, and ensures Can does so.*

**JW** — Have you anything to communicate?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — I have *(Can repeats).*

**SD** *instructs Can to give and hold Sn of F and ensures he does so.*

**SW**— What is that?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud and by suitable phrases* — The Sn of F, emblematically to shield the repository of my mysteries from the attacks of the insidious *(Can repeats)*.

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**SW**— Do you bring anything else?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — I do *(Can repeats).*

**SD** *instructs Can to give and hold H Sn, and ensures he does so.*

**SW** — What is that?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — The H Sn or Sn of P *(Can repeats).*

**SW**— When did it take its rise?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud and by suitable phrases* — At the time that J fought the battles of the Lord, when it was in this position he prayed fervently to the Almighty to continue the l of d that he might complete the overthrow of his enemies *(Can repeats)*.

**SW**— Do you bring anything else?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — I do *(Can repeats).*

**SD** *instructs Can to cut both parts of Sn in sequence and ensures he does so.*

**SW**— What is that?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — The P Sn

*(Can repeats).*

**SW**— To what does it allude?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud and by suitable phrases (Can repeating)* — The symbolic penalty of this degree, which implied that, as a man of honour, a FC FM would rather have had his h t f his bt — *as Can says 't f his bt' prompts him to give and cut Sn of F* — than improperly disclose the mysteries entrusted to him.

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**SW** — Have you anything to communicate?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — I have *(Can repeats).*

**SW** *rises, faces Can, takes Sp and offers hand.*

**SD** *places Can's r h in that of SW and adjusts g from above with l h.*

**SW** *gives g after SD has adjusted Can's r t (retains g throughout colloquy)* — What is this?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud* — The G or Tn of a FC FM *(Can repeats)*.

**SW**— What does it demand?

**SD** *prompting Can aloud*— A word *(Can repeats).*

**SW**— Give me that word.