

**The Book of Ceremonies
of the
Kingdom of Drachenwald**



January 2017

Contents

| | | |
|----------|---|----|
| Part I | Royalty..... | 1 |
| 1 | Invocation to the Crown Lists..... | 2 |
| 2 | Investiture of the Crown Prince and Princess..... | 4 |
| 3 | Coronation..... | 5 |
| Part II | Royal Peers..... | 16 |
| 1 | Investiture of a Count and Countess..... | 17 |
| 2 | Investiture of a Duke and Duchess..... | 21 |
| Part III | Peerage Orders..... | 25 |
| 1 | Order of Chivalry..... | 26 |
| 2 | Order of the Laurel..... | 37 |
| 3 | Order of the Pelican..... | 46 |
| 4 | Order of Defence..... | 56 |
| Part IV | Grant of Arms -level Awards..... | 66 |
| 1 | Investiture of a Landed Baron / Baroness..... | 67 |
| 2 | Investiture of a Court Baron / Baroness..... | 70 |
| Part V | Award of Arms -level Awards..... | 73 |
| 1 | Orden des Lindquistringes..... | 74 |
| 2 | Order of the Panache..... | 75 |
| 3 | Order of the Silver Guard..... | 76 |
| Part VI | Non-Armigerous Awards..... | 77 |
| 1 | The King's Order of the Companions of Albion..... | 78 |
| 2 | The Queen's Order of Courtesy..... | 82 |
| 3 | The Sigillum Regis et Reginae..... | 86 |
| 4 | The Order of the Dragon's Tear..... | 89 |
| 5 | The Order of the Dragon's Bowle..... | 90 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 6 The Order of the Dragon's Jewel..... | 91 |
| 7 The Order of the Dragon's Pride..... | 92 |
| 8 Popular Company of Sojourners..... | 93 |
| 9 The Order of the Hospitallers of Albion..... | 94 |
| Part VII Other Ceremonies..... | 95 |
| 1 Creation of a Herald or Pursuivant..... | 96 |
| Part VIII Oaths..... | 100 |
| 1 Coronation Oath..... | 101 |
| 2 Kingdom Officers' Oath..... | 102 |
| 3 Peers' Oath..... | 103 |
| 4 Oath of Fealty for Principalities and Baronies..... | 104 |
| 5 Herald's oath..... | 105 |

Introduction

The Drachenwald Book of Ceremonies was originally compiled by Mistress Adelaide de Beaumont, then Schwarzdrachen Herald, as a part of the project of Drachenwald becoming a Kingdom. Ten years later, Marcus and Anna, then Crown Prince and Princess, commissioned a revision of the ceremony and oaths for their coronation, and this led to an updated Second Edition of the entire book. Now that the Order of Defence has become a fourth order of bestowed peerage, it is time to go through the Book of Ceremonies again.

While new editions of the Book of Ceremonies have only been published once a decade, one should keep in mind that a book like this is by its nature a work in progress: new ceremonies appear and old ones are changed as needed. However, most changes that happen over the years are minor, and this is as it should be. Ceremonies are one of the fundamental aspects of this Society, and while it is possible to change them, this should be done slowly and with reverence.

Nevertheless, while the standard ceremonies change relatively little over time, there is room for alternate ceremonies and oaths. There is a companion volume to this Book that includes such additional material; more would be welcome.

In service,

Pietari Uv

Version History

- First edition: 1993, ed. by Adelaide de Beaumont
- Second edition: 2004, ed. by Pietari Uv
- Third edition: 2017, ed. by Pietari Uv

Part I Royalty

For brevity, the ceremonies are written as if the Sovereign and the Sovereign's heir were male and the Consort and the Consort's heir female. While this is the most common case it is by no means the only possibility. If necessary, change the wording as appropriate.

1 Invocation to the Crown Lists

Herald:

Their Royal Majesties command the presence of all entrants in the Crown Lists, that they should present themselves and their consorts before the Crown.

Couples approach the thrones one at a time, exchange a few words with the Crown, receive usually some token of the day, withdraw slightly and kneel.

Herald:

My Lords and Ladies, you know well that true gentles enter combat not for their own personal glory, but rather to advance the honour of their consorts; and to prove, by their courtesy and valour upon the field, their worthiness of that honour.

Be mindful, as you fight, of your consort's honour as well as your own, for your consort personifies all honour and loyalty, beauty and truth – they embody the love that is worthy of great reward.

Therefore, today you fight in the Crown Lists not to gain power for yourself, not for your own glory and honour, as you may in other lists. You fight instead for the honour and glory of the one whose favour you bear upon the field, whom you would advance by your valour, skill and courtesy.

And should victory be granted you this day, you will declare and crown your consort as Crown Princess or Prince of Drachenwald, and heir to the land by your side for the days to come.

King:

You have heard the reasons for Our lists. Each of you here today has a lady or lord whose favour you would advance, whom you would crown this day as your consort, should you prove victorious upon the field. Is it still your desire to participate in these lists?

Entrants:

It is.

Queen:

Do each of you now affirm that you, and your consorts, fulfil all the qualifications for fighting today as set forth by Our laws?

Entrants:

We do.

King:

And do you all here know the Rules of the Lists and swear to abide them?

Entrants:

We do.

Queen:

Then bear your favours bravely into battle, and prove the worth and virtue of your consorts, whether in victory or in honourable defeat. You have Our leave to withdraw and prepare.

2 Investiture of the Crown Prince and Princess

Herald:

_____, given victory this day upon the field of honour, Their Majesties command you to present yourself and your Lady _____ before the thrones.

Victor and consort come forward, bow and kneel. King and Queen rise. Courtiers with the Coronets come forward from the Royal entourage, bow before King and Queen and kneel beside Victor and Consort. King and Queen stand up and take the Coronets from the cushions. Courtiers remain kneeling.

King:

_____, by your valour and skill, you have most nobly advanced the honour of your Lady and won yourself a high estate. I do hereby acknowledge your right to rule in these Our lands.

Queen:

And you, _____, by your grace and beauty you have inspired your champion to victory. I do hereby acknowledge your right to rule in these Our lands.

King and Queen hold the Coronets high above the heads of the victor and the consort and crown them, while they speak the following words.

King & Queen:

Be thou Crown Prince / Princess of Drachenwald.

King and Queen raise Crown Prince and Princess, while the herald speaks/screams the following words.

Herald:

For the new Crown Prince and Princess of Drachenwald, Vivant! Vivant! Vivant!

King, Queen, Crown Prince and Princess sit down on their thrones and the Royal court continues with regular business.

3 Coronation

Opening

Herald:

All rise!

All rise for their Dread Majesties _____ and _____, Noble and wise rulers of the Kingdom of Drachenwald, from Aarnimetsä to Adamestor, undoubted and sole Sovereigns of all lands lying on this side of the Atlantic Sea!

King & Queen process in, they enter the court area and are seated. They (usually) give the populace the right to be seated.

Herald:

The court may be seated.

Pause for people to seat themselves.

The Herald may prompt:

Your Majesties, do you have any words for these, Your people?

King & Queen make personal statements from their thrones.

Calling forward the Heirs

King:

Herald, call forward Our heir, the Crown Prince of Drachenwald.

Herald:

Their Majesties call before them Crown Prince _____, heir to the throne of Drachenwald.

If the Heirs do not have their own heralds, the following is spoken by the royal herald:

Prince's Herald:

Make way, make way for His Royal Highness _____,

Crown Prince of Drachenwald!

Prince comes forward, makes reverence, but remains standing. Any escort retires save his Champion, if present.

Prince:

Your Majesty, You accepted me as Your successor on the night of my victory in the Crown lists. I come before you now to claim the Crown and Throne of Drachenwald, as it is my right.

King:

Indeed they shall be yours, for you are my true and undoubted heir.

A champion of the Prince can throw down a gauntlet in challenge here, saying:

Champion:

Let any who would dispute this right come forward now, or forever be silent!

King:

Know you all, that anyone challenging this right can try to fight His Highness, but only above my dead body!

Short pause by everybody. The Champion or his man collects his gauntlet, makes reverence and retires.

Queen:

Your Highness, great are the burdens of the Crown; you cannot bear them alone. Who will share this burden and rule beside you?

Prince:

She who inspired me to victory: _____ .

Queen signals herald.

Herald:

Their Majesties call before them Crown Princess _____ , heiress of Drachenwald.

If the Heirs have their own heralds:

Princess' Herald:

Make way, make way for Her Royal Highness _____ ,
Crown Princess of Drachenwald!

Princess comes forward, makes reverence and takes the hand of the Prince. It is best they stand at an oblique angle to the King and Queen so that their words may be heard by all.

Any escort retires.

King/Herald:

Heirs to the throne of Drachenwald, listen well.

The Crown is a weighty burden. As King and Queen you will stand highest in the sight of Your people, but You must nonetheless take upon Yourselves the heaviest burdens and the gravest responsibilities.

Queen/Herald:

You must at all times place the good of the Kingdom before Your own interests. You must be a source of strength and wisdom for Your people.

King/Herald:

You must be foremost in valour upon the battle ground and gentlest in courtesy of all Nobles. You must foster the pursuits of peace and beauty as well as the arts of war. You must see that the scales of justice balance fairly for high and low alike.

Queen/Herald:

You must take counsel, make just laws and You must lead Your people to prosperity.

King/Herald:

Knowing these things, do You still desire to take the Crowns of Drachenwald?

Prince & Princess:

With all my heart.

Coronation Oath

King/Herald:

Let the Seneschal come forward and administer the coronation oath.

The Kingdom Seneschal comes forward, bows and stands beside the Queen's throne. The Crown Prince and Princess keep standing and put their right hand on the Book (ideally, a nicely bound book of the Corpora and/or Kingdom law) or on a sword.

If the incoming Crown have their own heralds, the herald(s) of the outgoing Crown take off their tabards during the swearing of oaths and give them to the heralds of the incoming Crown.

Seneschal:

Do you swear to love all that is true and fair, and fight all falsehoods, lies and injustice, both with Your Royal powers and with justice?

Prince/Princess:

We do.

Seneschal:

Will You be true to Your people, confirm to them their old rights and privileges, and not take away from anyone what is rightfully theirs, except after proper verdict of law?

Prince/Princess:

We so swear.

Seneschal:

Will You protect the Realm to the best of Your ability, so that when the time comes You will leave Your successors a strong Kingdom, as is their due?

Prince/Princess:

We so swear.

The Seneschal retires.

Crowning

The Heirs kneel on the cushions before the outgoing Crown, who stand up.

If the Heirs are to be anointed, they are anointed here with such chrism as they think best. Likewise it is here that they may take up such sceptre, orb and swords of justice and mercy as they please or as tradition demands.

Two nobles come forward with cushions and kneel beside Prince and Princess. King & Queen remove their coronets and place them on the cushions, the courtiers bow and retire from the Presence.

The following should be as simultaneously as possible:

King & Queen remove their Crowns and hold them above the heads of Prince/ Princess.

King:

Queen:

King & Queen (together):

Be thou King / Queen.

With this last sentence, the old King & Queen crown the new King & Queen. They raise them, so that They stand beside them.

Herald:

For Their Majesties _____ and _____ , Vivant, vivant, vivant!

Former King & Queen step back in front of the new King & Queen and bow.

Former King:

Your Majesties, let us be the first to congratulate You both and wish You all success and a bountiful reign.

King:

We thank You. You are released by our word from the burden of the Crown which we now bear in your stead. Go now with Our blessings and

the thanks of Drachenwald.

Herald:

For _____ and _____, Vivant, vivant, vivant!

Outgoing King and Queen bow and retire with their retinue, led by their heralds.

Oaths of Office

Herald:

Let those Officers of State who are ready to swear their oaths of office come forward.

The officers of state come forward and kneel. The herald reads the oath.

Herald:

Do you swear on your honour to hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Officers:

We do.

Herald:

Will you give Them such obedience as is Their due, obeying Their commands in such matters as are Theirs to command?

Officers:

We will.

Herald:

Will you be true officers of the Kingdom, discharging your duties to the best of your ability?

Officers:

We will.

King:

And We in turn promise to support You with Our royal power and justice.

So say We _____ , Rex.

Queen:

And so say We _____ , Regina.

The officers retire.

Fealty for Peers

The peers can be called forward all at once, by order, or singly. If there are many it is better to call them by their orders since otherwise they swear in a great mob. If they are called at once, it is done like this:

Herald:

Let all Peers of Our realm who wish to swear fealty at this time come forward.

If each group of peers are called separately they are called as follows:

Herald:

Let all Royal Peers who wish to swear fealty at this time come forward.

Herald:

Stand forth those of the Most Ancient Order of the Chivalry who are ready to swear fealty.

Let all members of the Order of the Chivalry who wish to swear fealty at this time come forward.

Herald:

Stand forth those of the Right Worshipful Order of the Laurel who are ready to swear fealty.

Herald:

Stand forth those of the Right Noble Order of the Pelican who are ready to swear fealty.

Herald:

Stand forth those of the Right Trusty Order of the Defence who are ready to swear fealty.

Peers come forward, bareheaded and ungirt, and bow and kneel as to do homage. If possible they swear their oath on a book or on a sword or other relic. If there are many, the book, sword or other relic should be brought forward so that they may be on many sides of it. It is not meet to force them to assemble touching each other's bodies in order to conduct their oath as though it were electric current.

Herald:

Will you swear on your honour (and on this book/sword/relic) to hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Peers:

We will.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Peers:

We do.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Peers:

We will.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you, the

- Peers of our Realm

- Royal Peers
- Knights
- Companions of the Order of the Laurel
- Companions of the Order of the Pelican
- Companions of the Order of Defence

and your households, all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____, Rex.

Those peers who reserve their insignia until they have sworn may replace their insignia.

The peers retire.

Homage for Territorial Prince(sse) and Baron(esse)s

Those nobles who hold their lands in fief directly from the Crown are called up to swear homage in order of precedence of the principality / barony. At the time of compiling this edition, these territories are the Principalities of Nordmark and Insulae Draconis and the Baronies of Knights Crossing and Aarnimetsä.

For brevity, only Nordmark is written out in full; the others follow suit. The landed nobles may have their own oaths instead of the one suggested here.

Herald:

Let the Prince and Princess of Nordmark come forward to swear homage.

Nordmark Herald:

Make way, make way for _____ and _____, Prince and Princess of Nordmark!

the Prince and Princess come forward as for homage, ungirt and bareheaded, make reverence and kneel. Unlike fealty, homage is sworn with hands between those of the overlord, so the prince and princess put their hands between those of their sovereigns.

Nordmark Herald / Prince(ss):

Let all present and to come know that we _____ and _____, Prince and Princess of Nordmark, swear to be your vassals of life and limb and acknowledge verily to You _____ and _____, King and Queen of Drachenwald, and to Your successors that we hold and ought to hold as a fief the Principality of Nordmark. For this we make homage and fealty with hands and with mouth to You our King and Queen and to Your successors, and we swear that we will always be faithful vassals to You and to Your successors in all things in which a vassal is required to be faithful, and we will defend You and all Your successors and the Kingdom and Principality against all malefactors and invaders, and we will give You power over all the castles and manors in the Principality, in peace and in war, whenever they shall be lawfully claimed by You or by Your successors.

And if we or our heirs or their successors do not observe to You or to Your successors each and all the things declared above, and should come against these things, we wish that the aforesaid fief should by that very fact be handed over to You and to the Kingdom of Drachenwald and to Your successors.

Prince:

So say I _____, Prince.

Princess:

And so say I _____, Princess.

King:

We receive the homage and fealty for the Principality, in the way and with the agreements and understandings written above; and likewise We concede to you and your heirs and their successors, the Princes and Princesses of Nordmark, all the castles and manors and places aforesaid, as a fief. And We promise to you and to your heirs and successors that We will be a good and faithful lord and lady concerning all those things described above.

So say We _____, King.

Queen:

And so say We _____, Queen.

Closing

Herald:

There being no further business, I do hereby declare this court closed (or prorogued until *the time of the evening court*)!

All rise for Their dread Majesties _____ and _____ of Drachenwald!

King & Queen stand up, precession forms. During the procession the herald says the following and has better to be fast, before the crowd starts crying themselves!

Herald:

Long live the King! Long live the Queen! Long live Drachenwald!

The territorial nobles may withdraw in state. The members of the court may then withdraw as they please.

Part II Royal Peers

Here, too, the ceremonies are written as if the current and former Sovereign were male and the current and former Consort female. The ceremonies also assume that the reign that ended was either the first or second for both of them, and that the former Consort had not already reigned as Sovereign. If these assumptions do not hold please change the wording as appropriate and omit sections that are not relevant.

1 Investiture of a Count and Countess

Herald:

Their Majesties do hereby call before Them _____ and _____, for they have greatly enriched Our realm and We would honour them.

Count & Countess come forward, bow and kneel.

King:

_____, having won the Crown of this Our beloved realm and having ruled honourably as its King, We do hereby affirm you as Count. Will you accept this honour from Our Hand?

Count:

I will, Your Majesty.

King:

In consensus with the Peerage, make known Our Royal will.

Herald reads Count's scroll, hands it to King. King hands it to Count.

Queen:

_____, having by your beauty, grace, and virtue inspired your champion to win for you the Royal Crown of this, Our beloved Kingdom and having ruled as its honourable Queen, We do hereby affirm you as Countess. Will you accept this honour from Our Hand?

Countess:

I will, Your Majesty.

Queen:

In consensus with the Peerage, let the scroll be read.

Herald reads Countess's scroll, hands it to Queen. Queen hands it to Countess.

King:

Let Their Excellencies receive the Coronets of their new rank.

Courtiers come forward from the Royal Entourage and kneel beside Count & Countess. King & Queen stand up and take the Coronets from the cushions. King & Queen hold the Coronets above the heads of Their Excellencies. King and Queen place the coronets on Their Excellencies heads, as They says the following.

King & Queen :

Be thou henceforth known as

King:

Count _____ .

Queen:

Countess _____ .

King and Queen sit down and usually make personal statements to the new Count & Countess.

If wanted:

Count:

Your Majesties, we would swear fealty to You and the kingdom of Drachenwald.

Count & Countess kneel before King & Queen, they place their hands on the Sword of State, King & Queen place theirs above them.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Count & Countess:

We so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the

benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Count & Countess:

We so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Count & Countess:

We so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you, Peers of our Realm, and your households, all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____, Rex.

Herald:

Count _____, you may depart; Countess _____, please remain.

Count stands up, bows and departs.

Herald:

For Their Excellencies _____ and _____, Vivant! Vivant!
Vivant!

Pause

Their Majesties command the presence of all members of the Order of the Rose.

Members of the order come forward and kneel.

Herald:

A rose is a glorious flower, worthy of all admiration, yet underneath all elegance it has fierce thorns to defend itself. Similarly, a Queen inspires her subjects to noble deeds and fosters hospitality but will, when necessary, defend her realm and subjects with all her might.

Queen:

_____, having ruled this kingdom as its queen, we will confirm you as a Companion of the Rose.

The Queen gives a rose or a similar token.

King:

Let the new Companion of the Rose be vested as befits her rank.

Two members of the order place a cloak of the order around the new member's shoulders.

Herald:

For the newest Companion of the Rose, _____, Vivat! Vivat!
Vivat!

The order departs.

2 Investiture of a Duke and Duchess

Herald:

Their Majesties do hereby call before Them _____ and _____, for they have greatly enriched Our realm and We would honour them.

Duke & Duchess come forward, bow and kneel.

King:

_____, having twice won the Crown of this Our beloved realm and having twice ruled honourably as its King, We do hereby affirm you as Duke. Will you accept this honour from Our Hand?

Alternative:

_____, having won the Royal Crown twice and having ruled honourably as King of Drachenwald and of _____, We do hereby affirm you as Duke. Will you accept this honour from Our Hand?

Duke:

I will, Your Majesty.

Courtier comes forward from the Royal Escort and kneels beside the Duke. King stands up, removes County Coronet from Duke's head and places it on the cushion. King sits down. Courtier stands up, bows before Their Majesties and retires to the Royal Escort.

King:

In consensus with the Peerage, make known Our Royal will.

Herald reads Duke's scroll, hands it to King. King hands it to Duke.

Queen:

_____, having by your beauty, grace, and virtue twice inspired your champion to win for you the Royal Crown of this, Our beloved Kingdom and having twice ruled as its honourable Queen, We do hereby affirm you as Duchess. Will you accept this honour from Our Hand?

Alternative:

_____, having by your beauty, grace, and virtue twice inspired your champion to win for you the Royal Crown of this, Our Kingdom of Drachenwald and of _____, and having ruled each honourably as Queen, We do hereby affirm you as Duchess. Will you accept this honour from Our Hand?

Duchess:

I will, Your Majesty.

Courtier comes forward from the Royal Escort and kneels beside the Duchess. Queen stands up, removes County Coronet from Duchess's head and places it on the cushion. Queen sits down. Courtier stands up, bows before Their Majesties and retires to the Royal Escort.

Queen:

In consensus with the Peerage, let the scroll be read.

Herald reads Duchess's scroll, hands it to Queen. Queen hands it to Duchess.

King:

Let Their Graces receive the Coronets of their new rank.

Courtiers come forward from the Royal Escort, with Ducal Coronets on the cushions and kneel beside the Duke & Duchess. King and Queen stand up. King and Queen take Ducal Coronets from the cushions and hold it above Their Graces heads. King and Queen place the coronets on Their Graces heads, as They says the following.

King & Queen:

Be thou henceforth known as

King:

Duke _____ .

Queen:

Duchess _____ .

King and Queen sit down and usually make personal statements to the new Duke & Duchess.

If wanted:

Duke:

Your Majesties, we would swear fealty to You and the kingdom of Drachenwald.

Duke & Duchess kneel before King & Queen, they place their hands on the Sword of State, King & Queen place theirs above them.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Duke & Duchess:

We so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Duke & Duchess:

We so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Duke & Duchess:

We so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you, Peers of our Realm, and your households, all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____ , Rex.

If the first reign of the outgoing Consort was as Sovereign, insert the ceremony for the Order of the Rose here. Otherwise:

Duke and Duchess stand up, bow and depart.

Herald:

For Their Graces _____ and _____ , Vivant!
Vivant! Vivant!

Part III Peerage Orders

1 Order of Chivalry

Invocation of the Vigil

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of all members of the Order of Chivalry.

The order comes forward.

Queen:

Good my Peers, We seek counsel! Will you give us this?

Order:

Yes.

King:

Word has reached us that there is one amongst Our people who is a Peer in truth, but not in name. Is this so?

Order:

Yes.

Queen:

Let us summon the candidate.

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of _____.

King:

My Lord/Lady/other appropriate title, your skill with arms is known to us, your virtues beyond reproach. It is our wish to make you a member of the Order of Chivalry.

Herald:

The invocation may be performed instead by the candidate's sponsor or by a

senior member of the Order.

It is necessary that I address you, concerning aspects of Peerage and Chivalry. It is often said that Peerage is an honour. It is surely that – but more, it is a responsibility, which you should not take upon yourself lightly, but with sobriety and sincerity. The oath you will be offered will bind you in fealty to Coronet and Crown; and it is well that you should understand what you are about to promise.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of the Pelican:

The Order of the Pelican is the order of Service, and yet, a Knight and a Master of Arms must serve as well: not only the Crown, but the land as a whole, each member of the Chivalry performing to the best of their ability, and then to that point of performance where sacrifice is required. A Peer must be willing to do good works, and must do then more frequently and more extensively than their friends who are not Peers.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of the Laurel:

The Order of the Laurel is the order of the Arts and Sciences, but a Knight and a Master of Arms must also encourage the Arts and Sciences, not just by appreciating them, but by participating in their practice, for what the strong arm of the warrior wins may be made barren and cold by the battle; only the warm heart can nurture the land and its people and bring them to their fullest potential.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of Defence:

The Order of Defence is the order noted for its deadly art and scholarship of weapons, but a Knight and a Master of Arms must be equally skilled in diverse arts martial, either on a tourney field or in war, always striving to become more skilled in the arts and practice them with grace, and to teach those willing to learn.

The Knights and the Masters of Arms are the Order of Chivalry, and as such, they stand as the foremost examples of gentle behaviour, valour, and honour. A member of this Order must display equal grace in victory and in defeat; he must not suffer injustice, but neither should he seek vengeance; he must remember that as his reputation depends upon his skill in delivering blows, so it also depends upon the way in which he receives them. Be mindful that a Peer guides, not only by his word, but also by the example he sets for others. Continue to live by the Code of Chivalry: to protect the weak and defenceless; to respect and defend the

honour of ladies; and to teach these values to others that may seek the true standard of Chivalry. The Code is your guide in your conduct with others, whether they be fellow Peers, or the humblest member of the populace; for indeed, the lowlier the station of those with whom you treat, the greater is your influence over them. Deal with them justly and fairly, regardless of station, be gracious and courteous to all, be an example to whom others can look.

To accept elevation to the Peerage is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you, keep these words in your heart, as you prepare for your new status.

Queen:

Good peers, please escort _____ to h____ vigil to consider our offer and please give h____ your guidance and council in this matter.

Induction to the Order of Chivalry

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of the Chivalry.

Members of the Order assemble and kneel.

Herald:

Since ancient times it has been recognised that there are certain warriors who are much deserving of high honour, not only by their skill at arms, but by their noble behaviour, which has come to define the meaning of Chivalry.

Therefore was created the Order of the Chivalry, to recognise those who, possessing all the other skills, virtues and attributes appropriate to members of the Peerage, shall also have distinguished themselves by their prowess in armoured combat and chivalrous demeanour. The Order consists of two equal parts, Knighthood and Mastery of Arms.

And the symbols of Knighthood are a white belt and an unadorned chain, while the symbol of Mastery of Arms is a white baldric. The white belt and baldric betoken the honour with which the knight or master girds himself, and the chain the fealty the knight swears. And this Order ranks in precedence with the Orders of the Laurel, the Pelican, and Defence. It carries with it a Patent of Arms.

Escort:

Your Majesties, having consulted with the Order, is it Your desire to increase our numbers at this time?

King:

It is. Please bring the candidate forward.

Escort brings candidate forward.

Escort:

My liege, it is my privilege, to present You _____, that he may be made a member of our order.

At this point it is possible to have members of the peerage orders to speak for the candidate:

Herald:

Not only Artfulness of Swordmanship and eye of measure but also the strength of arm and chivalry of heart make one a true warrior. Order of Chivalry stands as primary of these attributes.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Chivalry to speak for the candidate?

Knight:

Speaks about the chivalry and prowess in arms of the candidate.

Herald:

But whilst Force of Arms may defend a Realm, it does not make it flourish. Without the Arts and Sciences, the land is bare and barren. The Order of the Laurel is the Order of the Arts and Sciences. But to appreciate what he fights for, a member of the Chivalry must have knowledge of the Arts and Sciences.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of the Laurel to speak for the candidate?

Laurel:

Speaks of the candidate in respect to their accomplishments in / appreciation of arts and sciences.

Herald:

No matter the greatness of the Warrior or the Artisan, without Service, they remain isolated, shared not with the Realm. The Order of the Pelican is the Order of Service, but a member of the Chivalry must also serve the Crown and the Realm.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Pelican to speak for the candidate?

Pelican:

Speaks of the service done by the candidate.

Herald:

By all manner of arms and combat the Kingdom is defended and championed. While the Order of Defence is the Order of Steel, Swordsmanship and Art of Arms, a member of the Chivalry is also a keen student and teacher of these arts.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of Defence to speak for the candidate?

Defence:

Speaks of the candidate's long dedication, skill and inspiration in the arts of combat and of his grace in field and court

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Rose to speak for the candidate?

Herald:

A warrior may be mighty, but without courtesy and honour __he is no Peer. The Order of the Rose speaks for courtesy and honour.

Rose:

Speaks of the courtesy of the candidate.

Herald:

Drachenwald has many Peers, but many more who are not Peers, and their voice is mighty, to be ignored at the peril of all! Is there a message from the People of the Realm in regard to this candidate?

Representative of the populace:

Speaks of the largesse, humility or fairness the candidate exhibits in how he interacts with the rest of the society.

King turns to the sponsor.

King:

Do you, Sir/M_____, and the other members of your order affirm h____ worthiness for this high honour, accepting h____ as your peer in chivalry, honour and valour upon the field?

Knights:

We do.

King:

My Lady Queen, is it Your judgement, that the candidate fulfils all the requirements of the Order of Chivalry?

Queen:

It is my Lord. All who know _____ find h____ to be a gentleperson in all respects.

King:

_____, well pleased with your prowess on the field and your gentle conduct at all the times, responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to create you a member of the Order of Chivalry. Will you accept from Us this honour?

Candidate:

I will, Your Majesty.

Queen:

Do you wish Us to create you a Knight, and swear fealty to us, or would you rather become a M____ of Arms?

Candidate:

King:

Make known Our Royal will.

Herald reads scroll, hands it to King. King hands it to candidate.

In case the candidate opts for Knighthood:

Queen:

Let the candidate's sword be brought forward.

The candidate' sponsor girds the candidate with the sword belt. During this, the Queen adds the following words.

Queen:

Remain forever worthy of this sword _____ , and bear in mind that a sword has two edges, Justice and Mercy.

King:

Let the candidate be vested with his spurs.

A member of the Chivalry puts the spurs on the candidate.

Herald:

Be mindful that a knight guides, not only by his word, but also by the example he sets for others. Continue to live by the Code of Chivalry: protect the weak and defenceless, respect and defend the honour of ladies and teach these values to others that may seek the true standard of knighthood.

King:

With what sword do you wish to be knighted?

Candidate answers, e.g. Sword of State, Sponsor's sword, etc.. The King receives the named sword and if the King is not a knight, the sponsor moves around to the right of the throne and lays his hand over the King's. The candidate is struck with the flat side, once on the right shoulder, once on the left and then once on the top of head. During this, the King says the following.

King:

I dub thee once, I dub thee twice, I name thee Knight!

Pause.

Sir _____ , let this be the last blow you receive without giving answer.

King delivers the buffet, preferably to the right shoulder, firmly but not injuriously. The buffet may be left out completely if the candidate has strong hesitations. Queen receives the white belt and girds the knight with it.

Queen:

Wear this belt, Sir _____ , and keep it as you would your honour, unblemished and unstained.

King receives Sword of State. Knight places his hands on the sword, King and Queen place their hands upon knight's hands.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Knight:

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Knight:

I so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their

Realm?

Knight:

I so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you and your household all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____ , Regina

King:

And so say We _____ , Rex.

King receives chain. King hangs chain around knights neck, as he says the following.

King:

Take this chain, and let its weight ever remind you of the fealty you have sworn.

In case the candidate opts for Mastery of Arms:

Queen:

Let the candidate's sword be brought forward.

The candidate' sponsor girds the candidate with the sword belt. During this, the Queen adds the following words.

Queen:

Remain forever worthy of this sword _____ , and bear in mind that a sword has two edges, Justice and Mercy.

King:

Let the candidate be vested with his spurs.

A member of the Chivalry puts the spurs on the candidate.

Herald:

Be mindful that a Master of Arms guides, not only by his word, but also by the example he sets for others. Continue to live by the Code of Chivalry: protect the weak and defenceless, respect and defend the honour of ladies and teach these values to others that may seek the true standard of Chivalry.

Queen receives the white baldric and girds the m___ with it.

Queen:

Wear this baldric, M___ _____ , and keep it as you would your honour, unblemished and unstained.

King:

Congratulations, Sir/M___ _____ . Go now to your peers.

2 Order of the Laurel

Invocation of the Vigil

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of all members of the Order of the Laurel.

The order comes forward.

Queen:

Good my Peers, We seek counsel! Will you give us this?

Order:

Yes.

King:

Word has reached us that there is one amongst Our people who is a Peer in truth, but not in name. Is this so?

Order:

Yes.

Queen:

Let us summon the candidate.

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of _____.

King:

My Lord/Lady/other appropriate title, your skill in the arts and sciences is known to us, your virtues beyond reproach. It is our wish to make you a member of the Order of the Laurel.

Herald:

The invocation may be performed instead by the candidate's sponsor or by a

senior member of the Order.

It is necessary that I address you, concerning aspects of Peerage and Chivalry. It is often said that Peerage is an honour. It is surely that – but more, it is a responsibility, which you should not take upon yourself lightly, but with sobriety and sincerity. The oath you will be offered will bind you in fealty to Coronet and Crown; and it is well that you should understand what you are about to promise.

The next paragraph may be read by a Knight or Master / Mistress of Arms:

The Knights and the Masters of Arms are the Order of Chivalry, but no less chivalrous behaviour will be expected of you. As a Peer of the Realm you must endeavour to live, as you have until now, by the rules of courtesy and gentle behaviour. This courtly ideal is your guide in your conduct with others, whether they be fellow Peers, or the humblest of the populace; for indeed, the lowlier the station of those with whom you treat, the greater is your influence over them. Deal with them justly and fairly, regardless of station, be gracious and courteous to all, be an example to whom others can look.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of Defence:

The Order of Defence is the order noted for its deadly art and scholarship of weapons, but you too are expected to apply to your own art and scholarship with tenacity and grace, to defend what is right, and to share your knowledge with those willing to learn.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of the Pelican:

The Order of the Pelican is the order of Service, but each Master and Mistress of the Laurel, too, has the responsibility to serve: not only the Crown, but the land as a whole, each Laurel performing to the best of their ability, and then to that point of performance where sacrifice is required. A Peer must be willing to do good works, and must do them more frequently and more extensively than their friends who are not Peers.

The Order of the Laurel is the Order most noted for artistry and scholarship. Members of the Orders of Chivalry, Pelican, and Defence, as Peers of the Realm, are expected to have some measure of artistic talent or skill, but a Laurel exemplifies this talent to a degree far greater than that of the other Peers, and greater still than that of the populace at large. Rightly or wrongly, a Laurel is taken as an authority, whose words carry

considerable weight; do not therefore choose your words lightly. Remember that just as your praise can encourage a young artisan beyond any other force, your censure can crush a budding talent of which the land may, by your actions, forever be deprived.

To accept elevation to the Peerage is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you, keep these words in your heart, as you prepare for your new status.

Queen:

Good peers, please escort _____ to h____ vigil to consider our offer and please give h____ your guidance and council in this matter.

Induction to the Order of the Laurel

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Laurel.

Members of the Order assemble and kneel.

Herald:

It has long been recognised that there are those among us who are much deserving of high honour, but who, by reason of the nature and direction of their services and achievement, come not to the glory of warrior or throne, yet without whom Our land would not be half so blest.

Therefore was created the Order of the Laurel, to recognise those who, possessing all the other skills, virtues and attributes appropriate to members of the Peerage, shall also have distinguished themselves by their outstanding achievement in the Arts and Sciences.

And the symbols of this Order is a medallion bearing a laurel wreath, for the chaplet of laurel has long been acknowledged as a mark of superior achievement. And this Order ranks in precedence with the Orders of Chivalry, the Pelican, and Defence. It carries with it a Patent of Arms.

Escort:

Your Majesties, having consulted with the Order, is it Your desire to increase our numbers at this time?

King:

It is. Please bring the candidate forward.

Escort brings candidate forward.

Escort:

My liege, it is my privilege, to present _____, that he may be made a member of our order.

At this point it is possible to have members of the peerage orders to speak for the candidate:

Herald:

Without the Arts and Sciences, the land is bare and barren, for only they make the Realm flourish. The Order of the Laurel is the Order of the Arts and Sciences.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Laurel to speak for the candidate?

Laurel:

Speaks of the achievements of the candidate in the arts and sciences.

Herald:

But while the arts and sciences enhance the Realm, it must be fostered by strength and chivalry. The order of Chivalry stands as primary of these attributes, but they are also required of a member of the Order of the Laurel.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of Chivalry to speak for the candidate?

Knight:

Speaks about the chivalry and/or prowess in arms of the candidate.

Herald:

No matter the greatness of the Artisan or the Warrior, without Service, they remain isolated, shared not with the Realm. The Order of the Pelican is the Order of Service, but a member of the Order of the Laurel must also serve the Crown and the Realm.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Pelican to speak for the candidate?

Pelican:

Speaks of the service done by the candidate.

Herald:

The Kingdom is defended and championed by many different arts. While the Order of Defence is the Order of Steel, Swordsmanship and Art of Arms, a member of the Order of the Laurel is also a keen student and teacher of his own arts.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of Defence to speak for the candidate?

Defence:

Speaks about the candidate's grace and long dedication to the art.

Herald:

An artisan may be skilled, but without courtesy and honour he is no Peer. The Order of the Rose speaks for courtesy and honour.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Rose to speak for the candidate?

Rose:

Speaks of the courtesy of the candidate.

Herald:

Drachenwald has many Peers, but many more who are not Peers, and their voice is mighty, to be ignored at the peril of all! Is there a message from the People of the Realm in regard to this candidate?

Representative of the populace:

Speaks of the largesse, humility or fairness the candidate exhibits in how he interacts with the rest of the society.

King turns to the sponsor.

King:

Do you, M_____ , and the other members of your order

affirm h___ worthiness for this high honour, accepting h___ as your peer in artistic / scientific endeavour and the other attributes of peerage?

Laurels:

We do.

King:

My Lady Queen, is it Your judgement, that the candidate fulfils all the requirements of peerage?

Queen:

It is my Lord. All who know _____ find h___ to be a gentleperson in all respects.

King:

_____, right mindful of your achievement and service to Our land, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to create you a M___ of the Laurel. Will you accept from Us this honour and this badge of your achievement?

Candidate:

I will, Your Majesty.

King:

Make known Our Royal will.

Herald reads scroll, hands it to King. King hands it to candidate. King receives the medallion from the provider, usually a member of the Order. It is appropriate to here relate to the history of the medallion, if any. King places medallion around candidates neck, as he says the following.

King:

_____, take from Our hands this token of your achievement and Our esteem. Henceforth be M_____.

Queen:

Let the new M___ be vested as befits h___ new rank.

A chaplet of laurel leaves is placed on the new peer's head and a Laurel's cloak is placed around the peer's shoulders, while the herald says the following.

Herald:

From ancient times, the chaplet of laurel has been placed on the heads of those worthy of special honour and recognition.

The cloak is the outward sign of the Laurel's new status as a peer of the realm.

King:

M _____ , is it your wish to swear fealty to us at this time?

Laurel:

If yes:

King receives Sword of State. Laurel places his hands on the sword, King and Queen place their hands upon Laurel's hands.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Laurel:

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Laurel:

I so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Laurel:

I so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you and your household all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____, Rex.

King raises new Master/Mistress of the Laurel.

King:

Congratulations, M_____ . Go now to your peers.

3 Order of the Pelican

Invocation of the Vigil

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of all members of the Order of the Pelican.

The order comes forward.

Queen:

Good my Peers, We seek counsel! Will you give us this?

Order:

Yes.

King:

Word has reached us that there is one amongst Our people who is a Peer in truth, but not in name. Is this so?

Order:

Yes.

Queen:

Let us summon the candidate.

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of _____.

King:

My Lord/Lady/other appropriate title, your skill with arms is known to us, your virtues beyond reproach. It is our wish to make you a member of the Order of the Pelican.

Herald:

The invocation may be performed instead by the candidate's sponsor or by a

senior member of the Order.

It is necessary that I address you, concerning aspects of Peerage and Chivalry. It is often said that Peerage is an honour. It is surely that – but more, it is a responsibility, which you should not take upon yourself lightly, but with sobriety and sincerity. The oath you will be offered will bind you in fealty to Coronet and Crown; and it is well that you should understand what you are about to promise.

The next paragraph may be read by a Knight or Master / Mistress of Arms:

The Knights and the Masters of Arms are the Order of Chivalry, but no less chivalrous behaviour will be expected of you. As a Peer of the Realm you must endeavour to live, as you have until now, by the rules of courtesy and gentle behaviour. This courtly ideal is your guide in your conduct with others, whether they be fellow Peers, or the humblest of the populace; for indeed, the lowlier the station of those with whom you treat, the greater is your influence over them. Deal with them justly and fairly, regardless of station, be gracious and courteous to all, be an example to whom others can look.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of the Laurel:

The Order of the Laurel is the order of the Arts and Sciences, but a Pelican must also encourage the Arts and Sciences, not just by appreciating them, but by participating in their practice, for the greatest service you can render to your Land is to make it whole and harmonious, and devoid of the beauty and braces of Art, that it cannot be.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of Defence:

The Order of Defence is the order noted for its deadly art and scholarship of weapons, but you too are expected to serve and defend the Crown and their realm with tenacity and grace, and to teach those willing to learn the arts of maintaining this our Society.

The Order of the Pelican is unique among the four orders of Peerage. Every Peer of the Realm, be they of the Order of the Chivalry, Laurel, Defence or Pelican, has the responsibility to serve: not only the Crown, but the land as a whole, each performing to the best of their abilities. But the service expected of a Pelican is far greater than that expected of the other Peers, and greater still than that expected of the populace at large. You must be the first to offer your help, and the last to accept reward; you must not falter when the task becomes more difficult than you

anticipated; and you must not remain content with your past accomplishments, for although they are great, and for this reason are you being created a Peer, it is by your future achievements that you will be judged by those who seek to follow the example of a Peer.

To accept elevation to the Peerage is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you, keep these words in your heart, as you prepare for your new status.

Queen:

Good peers, please escort _____ to h____ vigil to consider our offer and please give h____ your guidance and council in this matter.

Induction to the Order of the Pelican

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of the Pelican.

Members of the Order assemble and kneel.

Herald:

It has long been recognised that there are those among us who are much deserving of high honour, but who, by reason of the nature and direction of their services and achievement, come not to the glory of warrior or throne, yet without whom Our land would not be half so blessed.

Therefore was created the Order of the Pelican, to recognise those who, possessing all the other skills, virtues and attributes appropriate to members of the Peerage, shall also have distinguished themselves by their sustained and exemplary service to the Society.

The symbols of this Order is a medallion bearing a Pelican in her Piety, for as we all know, the Pelican will, when necessary, nourish her young with blood from her own breast. Hence, the Pelican has come to represent sacrifice, and become the symbol of the good servant. And this Order ranks in precedence with the Orders of Chivalry, Laurel, and Defence. It carries with it a Patent of Arms.

Escort:

Your Majesties, having consulted with the Order, is it Your desire to increase our numbers at this time?

King:

It is. Please bring the candidate forward.

Escort brings candidate forward.

Escort:

Your Majesty, it is my privilege, to present _____, that he may be made a member of our order.

At this point it is possible to have members of the peerage orders to speak for the candidate:

Herald:

No matter the greatness of the Warrior or the Artisan, without Service, they remain isolated, shared not with the Realm. The Order of the Pelican is the Order of Service.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Pelican to speak for the candidate?

Pelican:

Speaks of the service done by the candidate.

Herald:

But while service upholds the Realm, it must be done with strength and chivalry. The order of Chivalry stands as primary of these attributes, but they are also required of a member of the Order of the Pelican..

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of the Chivalry to speak for the candidate?

Knight:

Speaks about the chivalry and/or prowess in arms of the candidate.

Herald:

But whilst service may uphold a Realm, it does not make it flourish. Without the Arts and Sciences, the land is bare and barren. The Order of the Laurel is the Order of the Arts and Sciences. But to appreciate why __he serves the Kingdom, a member of the Pelican must have knowledge of the Arts and Sciences.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Laurel to speak for the candidate?

Laurel:

Speaks of the candidate in respect to their accomplishments in / appreciation of arts and sciences.

Herald:

The Kingdom is defended and championed in many different ways. While the Order of Defence is the Order of Steel, Swordsmanship and Art of Arms, a member of the Order of the Pelican is also defending the Realm in h_____ own manner.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of Defence to speak for the candidate?

Defence:

Speaks about the candidate's grace and long dedication to the kingdom and society.

Herald:

A servant may do great works, but without courtesy and honour ___he is no Peer. The Order of the Rose speaks for courtesy and honour.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Rose to speak for the candidate?

Rose:

Speaks of the courtesy of the candidate.

Herald:

Drachenwald has many Peers, but many more who are not Peers, and their voice is mighty, to be ignored at the peril of all! Is there a

message from the People of the Realm in regard to this candidate?

Representative of the populace:

Speaks of the largesse, humility or fairness the candidate exhibits in how he interacts with the rest of the society.

King turns to the sponsor.

King:

Do you, M_____, and the other members of your order affirm h____ worthiness for this high honour, accepting h____ as your peer in service and in the other attributes of peerage?

Pelicans:

We do.

King:

My Lady Queen, is it Your judgement, that the candidate fulfils all the requirements of peerage?

Queen:

It is my Lord. All who know _____ find h____ to be a gentleperson in all respects.

King:

_____, right mindful of your achievement and service to Our land, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to create you a M____ of the Pelican. Will you accept from Us this honour and the badge of your achievement?

Candidate:

I will, Your Majesty.

Herald:

Will you, to the best of your ability, continue in the cause of service, as you most surely have until now, and seek to increase your labours and talents nobly, and train any dependants you may have to do likewise, so far as it is within your powers?

Candidate:

I will, upon my honour.

King:

Make known Our Royal will.

Herald reads scroll, hands it to King. King hands it to candidate. King receives the medallion from the provider, usually a member of the Order. It is appropriate to here relate to the history of the medallion, if any. King places medallion around candidates neck, as he says the following.

King:

_____, take from Our hands this token of your achievement and Our esteem. Henceforth be M_____ .

Queen:

Let the new M_____ be vested as befits h_____ new rank.

A cap of maintenance is placed on the new peer's head and a Pelican's cloak is placed around the peer's shoulders, while the herald says the following.

Herald:

Since times immemorial, the cap of maintenance is the symbol of the Pelican, for just as the cap of maintenance supports the crown and makes it easier to bear, so the Pelican supports the Kingdom and eases the burden of its rulers.

The cloak is the outward sign of the Pelican's new status as a peer of the realm.

King:

M_____, is it your wish to swear fealty to us at this time?

Pelican:

If yes:

King receives Sword of State. Pelican places his hands on the sword, King

and Queen place their hands upon Pelican's hands.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Pelican:

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Pelican:

I so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Pelican:

I so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you and your household all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____, Rex.

King raises new Master/Mistress of the Pelican.

King:

Congratulations, M_____ . Go now to your peers.

4 Order of Defence

Invocation of the Vigil

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of all members of the Order of Defence.

The order comes forward.

Queen:

Good my Peers, We seek counsel! Will you give us this?

Order:

Yes.

King:

Word has reached us that there is one amongst Our people who is a Peer in truth, but not in name. Is this so?

Order:

Yes.

Queen:

Let us summon the candidate.

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of _____.

King:

My Lord/Lady/other appropriate title, your skill with arms is known to us, your virtues beyond reproach. It is our wish to make you a member of the Order of Defence.

Herald:

The invocation may be performed instead by the candidate's sponsor or by a

senior member of the Order.

It is necessary that I address you, concerning aspects of Peerage, Courtesy and the Scholarship of Defence. It is often said that Peerage is an honour. It is surely that - but more, it is a responsibility, which you should not take upon yourself lightly, but with sobriety and sincerity. The oaths you will be offered will bind you in fealty to Coronet and Crown; and it is well that you should understand what you are about to promise.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of the Pelican:

The Order of the Pelican is the order of Service, and yet, a Master of Defence must serve as well: not only the Crown, but the land as a whole, each companion of the Defence performing to the best of their ability, and then to that point of performance where sacrifice is required. A Peer must be ready and willing to do good works, and must do them more frequently and more extensively than their friends who are not Peers.

The next paragraph may be read by a Master / Mistress of the Laurel:

The Order of the Laurel is the order of the Arts and Sciences. The Art of Defence may be the defining one for a swordmaster, but he too must endorse and encourage the full field of Arts and Sciences, not only by appreciating, but by participating in their practice, for what the skills of a swordmaster might win may be made barren and cold by the combat itself; only the warm heart can nurture the land and its people and bring them to their fullest potential. Heed well the example of teaching from the Companions of the Laurel, as that is the very art that in addition to your own you will require to fully achieve the estate of a mastery.

The next paragraph may be read by a Knight or Master / Mistress of Arms:

The Knights and the Masters of Arms are the Order of Chivalry, but no less chivalrous behaviour will be expected of you. As a Peer of the Realm you must endeavour to live, as you have until now, by the rules of courtesy and gentle behaviour. The courtly ideal is your guide in your conduct with others, whether they be fellow Peers, or the humblest of the populace; for indeed, the lowlier the station of those with whom you treat, the greater is your influence over them. Deal with them justly and fairly, regardless of station, be gracious and courteous to all, be an example to whom others can look.

The Order of Defence is the order noted for its deadly art and scholarship of weapons. The swordmasters of the order stand as the foremost

examples of grace and form, not only in swordplay but in all manner of courtliness setting the standard of the gentles in our royal courts. A companion of Defence, a swordmaster, must display equal grace in victory and in defeat; he must not suffer injustice, but neither should he seek vengeance; he must remember that as his reputation depends upon his skill in delivering sure thrusts and clever cuts, so it also depends upon the way in which he receives them. Be mindful that a Peer guides, not only by his word, but also by the example he sets for others.

As a swordmaster you need to continue your scholarship and study of not only the Art of Defence and all others of the courtly arts as being a Master is being a scholar who is now responsible for not only his own improvement but of the improvement of others as well. Remember the demands and dictates of courtesy, honour, and chivalry and being true to the Order you are about to enter, defend them by your life, limb and heart, both In fields of combat and halls of our Courts. Teaching the love of them as well as your art to all those who look upon you for guidance.

To accept elevation to the Peerage is to accept these responsibilities. I pray you, keep these words in your heart, as you prepare for your new status.

Queen:

Good peers, please escort _____ to h____ vigil to consider our offer and please give h____ your guidance and council in this matter.

Induction to the Order of Defence

Herald:

Their Majesties command the presence of the Masters and Mistresses of the Order of Defence.

Members of the Order assemble and kneel.

Herald:

It has long been recognized that not only in the tournament combat and melee, but in the study and practice of the Art of Defence as well, is the true strength and prowess of the Kingdom forged. Since times of antiquity has this art been practised, honed and taught by those first amongst the swordsmen who have dedicated themselves to pursuit of the mastery of steel. A number of these also possess the virtues we expect and demand from the peers of our Society, they are much deserving of our recognition and tribute, not only by their skills with true edge of steel, but their nobility of heart, grace of their manner and service to our realms as whole.

Therefore was created the Order of Defence, the fourth Order of the Society bearing a Patent of Arms and ranking equally with the Orders of Chivalry, Laurel and Pelican, to be bestowed on the worthiest of our gentles when elevating them to the ranks of Peers of the realm. The Order of Defence exists to recognize those of our Swordsmen, Warriors and Scholars of the Arts of Arms who display not only these but also all other qualities expected from the Peers of the Realm and who by their love of Arts not only that of defence and their service and largesse support these lands and the Crown.

Escort:

Your Majesties, having consulted with the Order, is it Your desire to increase our numbers at this time?

King:

It is. Please bring the candidate forward.

Escort brings candidate forward.

Escort:

Your Majesty, it is my privilege, to present _____ , that _he may be made a member of our order.

At this point it is possible to have members of the peerage orders to speak for the candidate:

Herald:

By all manner of arms and combat the Kingdom is defended and championed. The Order of Defence is the Order of Steel, Swordsmanship and Art of Arms.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of Defence to speak for the candidate?

Defence:

Speaks about the candidate's long dedication, skill and inspiration in the art of defence and of his grace in field and court.

Herald:

No matter the greatness of the Warrior or the Artisan, without Service, they remain isolated, shared not with the Realm. The Order of the Pelican is the Order of Service, but a M_____ of Defence must also serve the Crown and the Realm.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of the Pelican to speak for the candidate?

Pelican:

Speaks of the service done by the candidate.

Herald:

Not only Artfulness of Swordsmanship and eye of measure but also the strength of arm and chivalry of heart make one a true warrior. The Order of Chivalry stands as primary of these attributes.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Chivalry to speak for the candidate?

Knight:

Speaks about the chivalry and/or prowess in arms of the candidate.

Herald:

But whilst Force of Arms may defend a Realm, it does not make it flourish. Without the Arts and Sciences, the land is bare and barren. The Order of the Laurel is the Order of the Arts and Sciences. But to appreciate what ___he defends, a M_____ of Defence must have knowledge of the Arts and Sciences.

Queen:

Is there a member of the Order of the Laurel to speak for the candidate?

Laurel:

Speaks of the candidate in respect to their accomplishments in / appreciation of arts and sciences.

Herald:

A swords__man may be mighty, but without courtesy and honour ___he is no Peer. The Order of the Rose speaks for courtesy and honour.

King:

Is there a member of the Order of the Rose to speak for the candidate?

Rose:

Speaks of the courtesy of the candidate.

Herald:

Drachenwald has many Peers, but many more who are not Peers, and their voice is mighty, to be ignored at the peril of all! Is there a

message from the People of the Realm in regard to this candidate?

Representative of the populace:

Speaks of the largesse, humility or fairness the candidate exhibits in how he interacts with the rest of the society.

King turns to the sponsor.

King:

Do you, M_____, and the other members of your order affirm h____ worthiness for this high honour, accepting h____ as your peer in service and in the other attributes of peerage?

Pelicans:

We do.

King:

My Lady Queen, is it Your judgement, that the candidate fulfils all the requirements of peerage?

Queen:

It is my Lord. All who know _____ find h____ to be a gentleperson in all respects.

King:

_____, right mindful of your achievement and service to Our land, and responsive to the wishes of your peers, We are minded to create you a M____ of Defence. Will you accept from Us this honour and the badge of your achievement?

Candidate:

I will, Your Majesty.

Herald:

Will you, to the best of your ability, continue in the cause of service, as you most surely have until now, and seek to increase your labours and talents nobly, and train any dependants you may have to do likewise, so far as it is within your powers?

Candidate:

I will, upon my honour.

King:

Make known Our Royal will.

Herald reads scroll, hands it to King. King hands it to candidate. King receives the collar of the order from the provider, usually a member of the Order. It is appropriate to here relate to the history of the collar, if any. King places the collar around candidate's neck, as he says the following.

King:

_____, take from Our hands this token of your achievement and Our esteem. Henceforth be M_____ .

Queen:

Let the new M_____ be vested as befits h_____ new rank.

A cloak of the order is placed around the peer's shoulders, while the herald says the following.

Herald:

As a cape defends the body from cold, so defends a Master of Defence the realm and crown. As the cape displays the sign of the Masters' new status as a peer of the realm, underneath it carries the symbol of the Order of the Dragon's Steel so the heritage of the Order of Defence in the lands of Albion would not be forgotten.

The particular sign for a Master of Defence is the white collar of maintenance where the collar's pure colour symbolizes his honour, intentions and aspirations the very name of the garment reminding him how he as a peer, ought to maintain the realm, the crown and our common ideals thus making the crown lighter to bear as he defends the king, queen and their realm from all that might wish harm or slurs upon the Golden shields of the Kingdom and Society.

King:

M_____, is it your wish to swear fealty to us at this time?

Defence:

If yes:

King receives Sword of State. The new peer places his hands on the sword, King and Queen place their hands upon his hands.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Defence:

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Defence:

I so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Defence:

I so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you and your household all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____ , Rex.

King raises the new Master/Mistress of Defence.

King:

Congratulations, M_____ . Go now to your peers.

Part IV Grant of Arms -level Awards

In Drachenwald, baronage, both territorial and of the court, ranks between peerage and grant-level awards. The ceremonies for investing barons and baronesses are accordingly listed in the section of grant-level awards. A Grant of Arms is often given with a court barony, but this is not automatic and so must be explicitly proclaimed at court.

There is no specific ceremony for giving a plain Grant of Arms. These are given rather rarely, and the normal method is like with plain Awards of Arms. The person is called to the Royal presence; the Crown then has the opportunity to talk about the accomplishments of the person, after which the herald reads the scroll and calls for vivats.

The Order of the Dragons Steel, so far Drachenwald's only order bearing a Grant of Arms, was closed at the investment of the first members of the Order of Defence. Accordingly, the ceremony has been removed.

1 Investiture of a Landed Baron / Baroness

Divestiture

If there were predecessor(s) to the Barony, this should be done either right before the investiture or at an earlier court.

Herald:

The Baron(ess) of _____ has asked for an audience, and it is hereby granted.

The outgoing Baron and/or Baroness come forward and kneel.

Baron(ess):

Your Majesties, we have now served You and Your predecessors as the Baron(ess) of _____ for _____ years, and we would retire from this office.

King/Queen:

thanks the outgoing Baron(ess)

Royal retainers come forward with pillows. The outgoing Baron and/or Baroness take off their coronets and hand them to the King and Queen, who put them on the pillows. The retainers retire, and after a short pause so do the ex-Baron and/or ex-Baroness.

Herald:

To _____, former Baron(ess) of _____, Vivat! Vivat!
Vivat!

Investiture

Herald:

Their Majesties call forward _____ .

The incoming Baron and/or Baroness come forward and kneel.

King/Queen:

It is Our wish to create you the Baron(ess) of _____ . Will you accept this from us, and swear fealty to us?

Baron(ess):

I will.

Royal retainers come forward with the baronial coronet(s) on pillow(s). If there are both a Baron and a Baroness, the King and Queen both take a coronet and as simultaneously as possible put the coronet on the head of one of them, saying

King/Queen:

_____, be Baron(ess) of _____ .

The King and Queen receive the Sword of State. The Baron and/or Baroness place their hands on the sword, and the King and Queen their hands upon the Baron(esse)s.

Herald:

Do you _____ , Baron(ess) of _____ , acknowledge verily to these _____ and _____ , King and Queen of Drachenwald, and to Their successors that you hold and ought to hold as a fief the Barony of _____ , and make for the same homage and fealty with hands and with mouth to these your King and Queen and to Their successors?

Baron(ess):

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you swear that you will always be a faithful vassal to Their Majesties and to Their successors in all things in which a vassal is required to be faithful, and defend Them and all Their successors and the Kingdom and _____ against all malefactors and invaders, give Their Majesties power over all the castles and manors in the _____, in peace and in war, whenever they shall be lawfully claimed by Their Majesties or by Their successors?

Baron(ess):

I so swear.

Herald:

And if you or your heirs or their successors do not observe to Their Majesties or to Their successors each and all the things declared above, and should come against these things, the aforesaid fief should by that very fact be handed over to Their Majesties and to the Kingdom of Drachenwald and to Their successors.

Baron(ess):

I so swear.

King and Queen raise the Baron(ess).

Herald:

To _____, Baron(ess) of _____, Vivat! Vivat! Vivat!

2 Investiture of a Court Baron / Baroness

Herald:

Their Majesties call forward _____ .

The prospective Baron / Baroness comes forward and kneels.

King:

It is Our wish to create you the Baron(ess) of Our court [and bestow on you a Grant of Arms]. Will you accept this from us?

Baron(ess):

I will.

Queen:

Let the scroll be read.

Herald reads the scroll and hands it to Queen. Queen hands it to Baron(ess).

King:

Let H___ Excellency receive the Coronet of h___ new rank.

A royal retainer comes forward with the baronial coronet on a pillow. The King takes it and puts it on the head of one of them, while the Queen says

Queen:

_____, be Baron(ess) of the Court of Drachenwald.

The King and Queen receive the Sword of State. The Baron and/or Baroness place their hands on the sword, and the King and Queen their hands upon the Baron(esse)s.

King:

Baron(ess) _____ , is it your wish to swear fealty to us at this time?

Baron(ess):

If yes:

King receives Sword of State. Baron(ess) places his hands on the sword, King and Queen place their hands upon those of the Baron(ess)'.

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Baron(ess):

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Baron(ess):

I so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Baron(ess):

I so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you and your household all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____ , Rex.

King and Queen raise the Baron(ess).

Herald:

To _____ , Baron(ess) of the Court of Drachenwald, Vivat! Vivat!
Vivat!

Part V Award of Arms -level Awards

There is no formal ceremony for giving a plain Award of Arms. The normal method is for the person to be called to the Royal presence; the Crown then has the opportunity to talk about the accomplishments of the person, after which the herald reads the scroll and calls for vivats.

The three armigerous orders listed here rank above a plain Award of Arms, and if the recipient has not already got an AoA it comes by Kingdom law automatically with the membership in the order. In such a case, this should be proclaimed at court, for example by reading the scroll that mentions the fact explicitly.

1 Orden des Lindqustringes

Herald:

Their Majesties call forward all members of the Orden des Lindqustringes.

The members come forward and kneel, leaving space for the recipient.

Herald:

As the King and Queen serve the people of Drachenwald throughout Their reign, they set the example of service for all Their subjects. All those who enjoy the beauty and prosperity, that is Drachenwald, are expected to render service when required, to the best of their abilities.

There are those few, however, whose service consistently exceeds the expectations of their offices or ranks and who are, therefore, especially worthy of reward.

The Orden des Lindqustringes was created to honour the memory of one whose great honour and service helped to build our beloved land. It is given to those persons who have served Drachenwald above and beyond the normal contributions of a loyal subject.

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

Recipient comes forward, bows and kneels. King and Queen may make personal statements.

Herald reads scroll and hands it to King. King names the artist of the scroll, shows it to the populace and hands it to recipient. King raises recipient, lets the Order hug him/her and, when they are done, gives them leave to depart.

Herald:

For _____ , the newest member of the Orden des Lindqustringes,
Vivat! Vivat! Vivat!

2 Order of the Panache

Herald:

Their Majesties call forward all members of the Order of the Panache.

The members come forward and kneel, leaving space for the recipient.

Herald:

As Their Majesties reward service and valour, so too do They seek to encourage the development of artistic skills and scientific expertise among Their subjects. When an artisan has excelled consistently in the Arts and Sciences, and has shared that beauty and knowledge with others, it becomes not only the duty, but the joy of the Crown to recognize such endeavour.

Therefore was created the Order of the Panache, to be given as a sign of the Crown's recognition of the exceptional skill with which these individuals increase the beauty and wisdom of Drachenwald.

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

Recipient comes forward, bows and kneels. King and Queen may make personal statements.

Herald reads scroll and hands it to King. King names the artist of the scroll, shows it to the populace and hands it to recipient. King raises recipient, lets the Order hug him/her and, when they are done, gives them leave to depart.

Herald:

For _____ , the newest member of the Order of the Panache,
Vivat! Vivat! Vivat!

3 Order of the Silver Guard

Herald:

Their Majesties call forward all members of the Order of the Silver Guard.

The members come forward and kneel, leaving space for the recipient.

Herald:

Many a noble warrior has donned armour in order to pursue their fortunes upon the tourney field or to defend their land from an evil foe.

There are those, however, whose prowess in combat inspires their companions-at-arms and whose noble demeanour brings glory and honour to Drachenwald. These few are especially deserving of reward.

Thus does the Crown recognise such individuals by admitting them to the Order of the Silver Guard, that all may know these gentles and be instructed by their example

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

Recipient comes forward, bows and kneels. King and Queen may make personal statements.

Herald reads scroll and hands it to King. King names the artist of the scroll, shows it to the populace and hands it to recipient. King raises recipient, lets the Order hug him/her and, when they are done, gives them leave to depart.

Herald:

For _____ , the newest member of the Order of the Silver Guard,
Vivat! Vivat! Vivat!

Part VI Non-Armigerous Awards

For all these awards, after the recipients are called to the court, the Crown may address them; after this, the herald reads a scroll if there is one, and the Crown hands the recipient the scroll or a token. While the recipient retires from the presence, the herald calls for vivats.

1 The King's Order of the Companions of Albion

Herald:

In the years before history was recorded in our land, in a dark forest to the North, called in German the “Schwarzwald”, which means the “Black Forest”, there lived an ancient black dragon whose name was Albion. And it was in this forest one winter's day that Albion came across a young boy. He was but fifteen and he was Prince of the land, and his name was Yustav, and he was crying.

And Albion said, “Your Highness, why dost thou sit so in the winter snow?”

Yustav said, “Friend Albion, tomorrow my people go off to hunt, and they would have me be a great hunter, but try as I might, I cannot catch a deer nor kill a fowl, and how shall I be a great Prince if I cannot hunt?”

Albion pondered this a moment, and then with a great wrenching of his mighty jaws, he severed the tail from his body, and he burned it in the fiery flame of his breath. He said unto Yustav, “Take this, my tail, and use it as a spear, and with it you shall kill the swiftest deer, the largest boar, and you shall be hailed in all the lands as the greatest hunter.”

Yustav took the spear upon him, and he went off to the hunt, and when he had returned what Albion had told him was true, for he had killed the swiftest deer, the largest boar, and he was hailed in all the lands as the great hunter.

Whereupon ten years went by, and Albion came upon a somewhat older Prince, now twenty-five, who was sitting in the snow, weeping.

And Albion said, “Your Highness, why dost thou sit weeping in the snow?”

And Yustav said, “Friend Albion, tomorrow my people go to war, but I fear for my life. If only my skin were as hard as yours, then I would be courageous in combat, and fearing no enemy, I could be a warrior. How can I be Prince if I cannot fight?”

Albion pondered this for a moment, and then with a mighty clenching of his claws, he ripped the scales from his flesh, and he heaped them in a

pile before Yustav, saying, “Your Highness, take these my scales. Have them sewn onto a coat, and you shall have the finest armour in all the lands. You will be untouchable in battle. Fearless, you will be hailed as the greatest warrior.”

Yustav took up the scales unto him, took them to his armourer and had them made into a suit of armour. When he returned from the wars, what Albion had told him was true. Fearless in combat, knowing that no blade could touch him, no axe could reach him, he killed the largest number of enemies and was hailed as the greatest warrior.

Twenty years went by, and Albion, a little worse for wear with no tail and no scales, came across the now mature Prince of forty-five who was sitting in the snow, brooding.

And he said, “Your Highness, why dost thou sit so stern of face and pale of countenance?”

And Yustav said, “Friend Albion, I would take me a wife, but the lady that I would have is of great wealth and stature. There is nothing I can give her which she does not already possess. How can I be a Prince if I do not have a Princess?”

Albion pondered this a moment, and then with a mighty clenching of his claws he wrenched the teeth from his very mouth, and he placed them before the Prince, saying, “Your Highness, take these, my teeth. Have them placed in placards of ivory and you shall have the finest combs in all the land to gift your lady with.”

Yustav took up the teeth from him, and had them made into fine combs, and his Princess agreed to marry him, and he lived happily.

Whereupon twenty years went by, and Albion, much weaker, much smaller than before, for with no teeth he could catch only the smallest of field mice, the slowest of fowl, came across a now ageing Prince of sixty-five, who sat shivering in the snow.

And he said, “Your Highness, why dost thou sit here so coldly in the snow?”

Yustav said, “Friend Albion, my bones grow old, and the winters are cold. There is no heat to worm the inner ice. I fear that soon shall I die.”

Albion pondered this a moment, and then with his razor-sharp claws he plucked the heart from his breast, and placed it before the Prince, saying,

“Your Highness, take this, my heart. Have it made into a fine robe, for there is nothing warmer in all the lands. Wear it and you shall live.”

Yustav took up the giant heart and had it made into a robe, and the dragon's words again were true, for Yustav did live.

Ten years went by, and Yustav awoke, and he realised that after all the years, after all the gifts that Albion had given him, so unselfishly, so chivalrously, not once, not once had the Prince thanked him. And he grieved. He told his son, Wilhelm, who would soon be Prince, that he would seek out a friend in the Schwarzwald, and there he went to find his friend, Albion.

Now, as we all know, a dragon may live without scales, or tail, or even teeth, but without a heart the essence, which is the magic of a dragon, is no more, and all that remains are the bones left by the vultures and the dragon's claws. And that is what Yustav found there in the clearing of Albion - the many scattered bones left by the vultures and predators, and the many sable claws of Albion. The Prince fell to his knees and wept.

After many hours, Wilhelm called for a search to find his father, but it was Wilhelm himself who found the Prince there in the landing. He took his father into his arms, and with dying words and rasping breath, Yustav told Wilhelm the story of Albion and of his many gifts, whereupon he died.

Wilhelm took up his father and laid on a great funeral, and he was shortly thereafter made Prince of the land. His first official act as Prince was to make dragons a protected species in the land.

After many years the people, having heard the legend of Albion, lost the old name of their land and took up a new and popular one, calling themselves “Drachenwald”, meaning in the German the “Dragon Forest”, and Albion became the symbol of this land.

The new Prince, who was called Richard, thought that in some manner he should make his memory lasting, and so he created an Order, into which could be admitted only those who their own interests could forget while serving others. So chivalrous, so noble, so true must they be that they would be likened by their peers to the memory of Albion. And he styled the Order “The Royal Order of the Companions of Albion” and he took as its symbol a sable claw of the great dragon. Following the tradition of the

Princes of Drachenwald and of the great Albion himself, do the Kings of Drachenwald reward their most faithful servants, even to this very day.

Pause.

And so does His Majesty call before Him _____ .

(The Albion story was written by Viscount Richard Gilchrest, who created the Order during his reign as Prince.)

2 The Queen's Order of Courtesy

Herald:

Long ago, the lands of Drachenwald were forged into a mighty Kingdom, and in the King's army was a virtuous but impoverished nobleman. One day in the fierce heat of battle, a foul arrow struck him under the arm, where he was lightly armoured, and he fell. The chirurgeon, knowing the esteem in which the man was held, worked long into the night to save him. Eventually, the arrowhead was withdrawn, but it was clear that he could play no further part in that campaign.

“A good and courteous man,” said the King to His Queen, “but he is now of no use to me. Lay him in a carriage and send him home to retire.”

When the man awoke from his fever, the Queen went to him and said, “Sir, your service has been gallant, but in your condition, you can no longer fight. You have leave to depart.”

Though he could not stand, the nobleman sat up and said, “Your Majesty, I can no longer wield my sword, yet I beg that I be allowed to stay so that I may be of use wherever I can, for my heart still beats with a love of Drachenwald.”

And so our nobleman followed the army. His pain and his misery at being unable to fight alongside his King in the front rank was almost beyond endurance.

But, the Queen noted, not once did he complain. He made his bed in the open, along with the servants, shared their meagre rations without demur, fetched firewood and stirred the pot alongside the lowliest cook.

As his wound began to heal, he took further tasks upon himself. He rode with messages from the King, or on errands for the Queen. Even when requests for assistance were made by the lowliest servant, they were greeted with a smile and left with a charming good-day. Never did he think of his own needs, but rather always saw the world through the eyes of those around him, anticipating their needs and making their burdens less wearisome.

Some of the maids had children that ran about their feet whilst they tried to work. The nobleman began to look after the children for a while each day, so that the ladies might have peace. He taught the children games

and skills that would be of benefit to them in later life, and he told them moral tales. These children came from the humblest families – yet our nobleman treated them all with the same grace and courtesy as if they had been the children of the King and Queen themselves.

One day, the army was passing through a region of high mountains in terrible weather. Thunder shook the walls of rock around them, and lightning flashed overhead. Rain turned every stream into a torrent laden with fallen branches and tumbling rocks.

The Queen turned to one of Her ladies-in-waiting, asking, “Where is that kind and gracious lord who was wounded? I would have him organise Our camp for tonight.”

A while later, the lady returned, saying “Your Majesty, it grieves me to tell you, but that gentleman is nowhere to be found.”

The Queen ordered, “Search the army and find this noble lord, for he is of great service to Me, and I would have him at My side.”

Eventually, a young peasant was brought before the Queen.

“Your Majesty,” he said, “it is my fault that your noble servant is not here. Please forgive me.”

“Do not be afraid,” said the Queen, “just tell me what has happened.”

“I am a goatherd,” said the young man, “and my flock provides Your Majesty with fine cheeses and fresh milk. But this morning, when this terrible storm arose, my animals took fright and scattered. That noble lord found me crying at my plight, and immediately set off to find my goats although the thunder threatened to blast him from those dreadful rocks.” The boy turned and pointed to a rocky ridge that climbed thousands of feet to be lost in the clouds.

The King said to the Queen “By God, that man would risk his life even for a mere peasant, and had he already returned, we would never have known his toil. But he has always been so.”

The Queen replied, “it is true that even the greatest deeds can pass unnoticed. But now, We must find our noble friend, for he is in danger in this storm. I beg you to find him.”

Patrols were sent into the mountains, and at length, a trumpet-call sounded. Their Majesties mounted Their steeds, and clambered up the treacherous paths, until They found the soldiers.

“Look!” called the sergeant-at-arms, pointing further ahead. And there, descending through the mist, with staff in hand, guiding a flock of goats, was our nobleman, singing a jaunty song in defiance of the storm.

Surprised to be greeted by such a retinue, the nobleman bowed deeply. “Your Majesties,” he said, “surely you cannot be here on my account. How may I help you?” He spread his arms wide, and Their Majesties could see his hands were cut and grazed from the perilous climb.

The King addressed the nobleman. “Noble lord, I can see your strength has returned, and your courage has evidently not faltered, so you may rejoin the army with my blessing.”

The Queen smiled. “Noble lord,” she said, “We came in search of one whose values We would protect. You never complain at your misfortunes. Not once have you sought attention at the expense of others. Unseen, you work to ensure that the honour of Drachenwald and its people is upheld. But in particular, it is the unstinting courtesy that you have shown to young and old, to noble and low-born alike that has made this long journey and difficult task not a labour, but a joy, and for that We thank you.”

With this, the Queen noticed something in the nobleman's belt. “What is that flower caught in your clothing?” she asked.

The nobleman saw that an edelweiss was lodged in his buckle, so he handed it to the Queen. As he did so, a drop of his blood stained its centre. “It is an edelweiss, Your Majesty, that grows only on the highest peaks, for it was there that I found the goats, sheltering from the gale.”

The Queen turned to Her husband, saying “Your Majesty, I beg of you this boon. The honours of Drachenwald are mostly in Your gift, but I would ask that I, too, may create an Order to which only the most worthy may be admitted.”

“So be it,” replied the King, “know ye all that I grant Her Majesty this wish.”

The Queen spoke again. “Noble friend, your courtesy and love of Drachenwald is an example to us all that is almost beyond reward. But let this flower be now worn as a rare badge of honour, for the Queens of Drachenwald alone to bestow, from now until the world ends.”

And so She pinned the edelweiss on the nobleman's breast, and charged him to promote the study of courtesy for as long as he should live.

And so from that time forth, exceptional individuals have been awarded the Queen's Order of Courtesy, in this fashion, either as a pin or on a silver chain: an edelweiss argent eyed gules.

Pause.

And so does Her Majesty call before Her _____ .

(The story was commissioned by Queen Honor of Restormel and written by Lord Heinrich von Westfelsen.)

3 The Sigillum Regis et Reginae

For both King and Queen

Herald:

The duties and responsibilities of the Crown are many. The King must govern and rule the land. He must be a source of strength and wisdom for his people. He must be foremost in valour upon the battleground, yet gentlest in courtesy of any Noble in the Realm. The Queen must govern and rule the land together with Her Lord, the King. She must be patroness of the arts and sciences. She must be the embodiment of gentle grace, courtesy, virtue and love that Her subjects expect

Although the King and Queen are supported by all loyal subjects whose service They may command, there are those subjects without whom the Crown could not rule half so joyously, for their constant attention to Royal needs makes light the day-to-day details of ruling and their tireless devotion serves to ease the burden of Royal responsibilities.

Therefore was created the Sigillum Coronae, to recognise those individuals, whose personal service to the Crown far exceeds any expected measure. And the badge of the award shall be a white Edelweiss surmounted by a black dragon's head bearing the sigils of the Crown bestowing it.

So now doe Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

The Sigillum Regis (for King)

Herald:

The duties and responsibilities of a King are many. He must govern and rule the land. He must be a source of strength and wisdom for his people. He must be foremost in valour upon the battleground, yet gentlest in courtesy of any Noble in the Realm.

Although He is supported by not only the Queen, but by all loyal subjects whose service He may command, there are those of His subjects without whom the King could not rule half so joyously, for their constant attention to His needs makes light the day-to-day ruling and their tireless devotion serves to ease the burden of Royal responsibilities.

Therefore was created the Sigillum Coronae, to recognise those individuals, whose personal service to the King far exceeds any expected measure. And the badge of the award shall be a black dragon's head charged with the sigil of the King bestowing it.

So now does His Majesty call before Him _____ .

The Sigillum Reginae (for Queen)

Herald:

The duties and responsibilities of a Queen are many. She must govern and rule the land together with Her Lord, the King. She must be patroness of the arts and sciences. She must be the embodiment of gentle grace, courtesy, virtue and love that Her subjects expect.

Although She is supported by not only the King, but by all loyal subjects whose service She may command, there are those of Her subjects without whom the Queen could not rule half so joyously, for their constant attention to Her needs makes light the day-to-day details of ruling and their tireless devotion serves to ease the burden of Royal responsibilities.

Therefore was created the Sigillum Coronae, to recognise those individuals, whose personal service to the Queen far exceeds any expected measure. And the badge of the award shall be a white Edelweiss charged with the sigil of the Queen bestowing it.

So now does Her Majesty call before Her _____ .

4 The Order of the Dragon's Tear

Herald:

Whenever members of the Kingdom gather to fight or dance, revel or conduct business, there are responsibilities which fall to the hosts so that all may enjoy the event. It sometimes happens, however, that a heavy burden falls upon a single individual or a small group, so that a great number of people might find special enjoyment.

Thus was created the Order of the Dragon's Tear, for those worthy souls who, as event stewards, overcome special difficulties or provide a particularly enriching experience for the populace. And these gentles shall be known by a teardrop-shaped pendant worn on a cord in the colours of Drachenwald.

Now therefore do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

5 The Order of the Dragon's Bowle

Herald:

The occasion is always joyous when we gather together. However, the occasion is doubly blessed when We can also enjoy a special display of beauty and art. Therefore was created the Order of the Dragon's Bowle, to be given at the Crown's discretion to those gentles whose care, attention and artfulness in equipping themselves enhances the spirit of the event to the delight of all.

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

6 The Order of the Dragon's Jewel

Herald:

We delight in the presence of children, because We know they represent the future of all We hold dear; but there are those young lords and ladies who contribute to Our Kingdom and the Society not only beyond the measure of their fellows, but beyond the measure of their years as well.

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

7 The Order of the Dragon's Pride

Herald:

The reward of artistic achievement and scientific knowledge is a joyful duty for the Crown, as the product of such labour brings delight to all who are touched by it; but when the skill resides in one of tender years, the joy is especially great, since the Crown rewards not only the work itself, but the promise of greater things to come.

Therefore was created the Order of the Dragon's Pride, to reward artistic or scientific achievement in a young member of the populace.

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____ .

8 Popular Company of Sojourners

Herald:

Our beloved realm was founded by travellers who came to this land from distant shores and made it their home. We are proud that to this day, travellers still come and abide in our land.

But alas, as travellers come, they also go, and often it is our sad task to bid farewell to those whose path leads them away from Drachenwald. It is especially sad when those travellers have served the Kingdom well and become beloved of the people.

Thus was created the Popular Company of Sojourners, to recognise those who leave Drachenwald the richer for their time here. And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____

9 The Order of the Hospitallers of Albion

Herald:

There are times when the Crown of Drachenwald travels to distant lands either to stand with other kingdoms on the field of battle, fighting injustice and defending the weak, or for the pleasure to be gained from foreign travels where the beauty of the Known World may be experienced and enjoyed. During these travels, the Crown is sometimes aided and supported by gentles of those foreign lands, whose sacrifice on behalf of our Crown may be great indeed.

Therefore was created the Order of the Hospitallers of Albion, to reward and thank those gentles or groups who, while not subjects of Drachenwald, have shown unselfish service to Our Kingdom and its Crown during these travels.

And so do Their Majesties call before Them _____

Part VII Other Ceremonies

1 Creation of a Herald or Pursuivant

Herald:

Know that We _____ and _____ , _____ and _____ of _____ , have need of a pursuivant / herald to carry Our messages in peace and war, to be Our voice, and to teach the noble arts of heraldry[, as our loyal servant _____ has done]. Know also that hearing good report of our faithful servant _____ as a gentle(wo)man skilled in the arts of honour we are minded to create h__ as our Pursuivant / Herald [Extraordinary].

In witness thereof we call forth all members of the College of Heraldry and direct them to present _____ before Us!

The heralds come forward, escorting the candidate, and stand aside.

Herald:

Do you _____ , of your own free will, swear to serve your King and Queen / Baron and Baroness as pursuivant / herald?

Candidate:

If swearing:

Herald:

You shall swear by the faith that you owe to the King and Queen / Prince and Princess / Baron and Baroness, our [sovereign] Lord and Lady, whose arms you bear, that you shall truly keep such things as are comprised in the articles following:

Following each of the articles, the candidate responds "I so swear".

If not swearing:

Herald:

By the faith that you owe to the King and Queen / Prince and Princess / Baron and Baroness, our [sovereign] Lord and Lady, whose arms you bear, you shall truly keep such things as are

comprised in the articles following:

Herald:

First, you shall swear that you be true to our high and most excellent prince and princess / baron and baroness, our [sovereign] lord that they are, and to them that make you a herald. And if you should have any knowledge or hear any imagination of treason, you shall discover it to them or to their noble council; and counsel it in no manner.

And you shall promise and swear that you shall be serviceable to all gentle persons to do their commandments to their worship of noble deeds; and to excuse their worship by your good counsel, and ever ready to offer your service to them.

Also you shall promise and swear to be secret and keep the secrets of knights, squires, ladies, gentlewomen, and all manner of gentle folk; a confessor of arms; and not discover them in any wise except treason abovesaid.

Also you shall promise and swear if you be in any place where you hear debate or peril between two gentles which you be privy to, if so be it that you be required by prince, judge, or any other to bear witness, you shall not be without license of both parties, and when you have leave, you shall not testify for any good favour or awe, but say the truth to your knowledge.

If investing a Principal, Principality or Regional Herald

Also you shall promise and swear that you shall pursue learning, and teach officers of arms under you, all manner of things pertaining to nobility.

Also you shall promise and swear that you shall forsake all places of dishonesty and hazard and dishonestly going to common taverns and places of debates and all manner of vices, and take to virtues as much as you are able.

If swearing

Herald:

These articles and other abovesaid you swear truly to keep with all your

might and power.

An attendant moves forward and gives the goblet of water to the sovereign/baron who slowly pours a bit of water from the goblet over the candidate's head while speaking these words:

If swearing

Presiding noble:

Then, by your oath, I do create you pursuivant / herald by the name of _____ . As you shall serve Us as pursuivant / herald, We shall reward you with largesse.

If not swearing

Presiding noble:

I hereby create you pursuivant / herald by the name of _____ . As you shall serve Us as pursuivant / herald, We shall reward you with largesse.

Sovereign/Baron gives the cup to the candidate.

If creating a Pursuivant

Herald:

Let the pursuivant be invested with his tabard of office, and let him wear it athwart as befits his rank of pursuivant, and in no other way.

Attendants move forward and put a tabard on the candidate. The tabard should be put on so that the arms of the tabard are on the candidate's chest and the front and back drape over the candidate's shoulders and arms.

If creating a Herald

Herald:

Let the herald be invested with his tabard of office and let him wear it so that he may be known as a herald.

Attendants move forward and put a tabard over the head of the candidate

so that it is athwart. Then, in a separate and obvious motion, the tabard is turned so that it is worn properly. If the candidate was already wearing a tabard athwart then the attendants turn the tabard so that it is worn properly.

Sovereign:

Arise, _____, and go forth.

The herald exhorts cheers from the populace.

Acknowledgements

This is heavily based on a ceremony composed by Lothar von Katzenellenbogen and subsequently adapted by Eiríkr Sigurðarson for use within the Caidan College of Heraldry.

Part VIII Oaths

1 Coronation Oath

Seneschal:

Will You love all that is true and fair, and fight all falsehoods, lies and injustice, both with Your Royal powers and with justice?

Prince/Princess:

We so swear.

Seneschal:

Will You be true to Your people, confirm to them their old rights and privileges, and not take away from anyone what is rightfully theirs, except after proper verdict of law?

Prince/Princess:

We so swear.

Seneschal:

Will You protect the Realm to the best of Your ability, so that when the time comes You will leave Your successors a strong Kingdom, as is their due?

Prince/Princess:

We so swear.

Modelled after the coronation oath in the King Christopher law of 1440's Scandinavia.

2 Kingdom Officers' Oath

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Officers:

I so swear.

Herald:

Will you give Them such obedience as is Their due, obeying Their commands in such matters as are Theirs to command?

Officers:

I so swear.

Herald:

Will you be a true officer of the Kingdom, discharging your duties to the best of your ability?

Officers:

I so swear.

King:

And We in turn promise to support you with Our royal power and justice.

So say We _____, Rex.

Queen:

And so say We _____, Regina.

Modelled after the oath of allegiance for populace in the King Christopher law of 1440's Scandinavia.

3 Peers' Oath

Herald:

Will you hold _____ and _____ your rightful King and Queen, right until the end of Their lawful reign, and support Their royal might and justice?

Peer:

I so swear.

Herald:

Do you wish to give the Crown such counsel which is to the benefit of Them and Their Realm, and support Them in upholding the laws and fulfilling Their coronation oath?

Peer:

I so swear.

Herald:

And will you keep secret such matters as the Crown wants to keep in confidence, and not divulge such secrets that could harm Their Realm?

Peer:

I so swear.

Queen:

And We in turn promise to grant you, the Peers of our Realm, and your households, all the rights and privileges of old, and to protect you with the Law of the Realm.

So say We _____, Regina

King:

And so say We _____, Rex.

Modelled after the oaths of allegiance for populace and for the King's Council in the King Christopher law of 1440's Scandinavia.

4 Oath of Fealty for Principalities and Baronies

Herald:

Let all present and to come know that I _____ , _____ of _____ , acknowledge verily to You _____ and _____ , King and Queen of Drachenwald, and to Your successors that I hold and ought to hold as a fief the _____ of _____ . For this I make homage and fealty with hands and with mouth to You my King and Queen and to Your successors, and I swear that I will always be a faithful vassal to You and to Your successors in all things in which a vassal is required to be faithful, and I will defend You and all Your successors and the Kingdom and _____ against all malefactors and invaders, and I will give You power over all the castles and manors in the _____ , in peace and in war, whenever they shall be lawfully claimed by You or by Your successors.

And if I or my heirs or their successors do not observe to You or to Your successors each and all the things declared above, and should come against these things, I wish that the aforesaid fief should by that very fact be handed over to You and to the Kingdom of Drachenwald and to Your successors.

Ruling Noble:

So say I _____ , _____ .

Modelled after the oath of fealty of the Viscount of Carcassonne, 1110.

5 Herald's oath

Court herald:

First, you shall swear that you be true to our high and most excellent prince and princess / baron and baroness, our [sovereign] lord that they are, and to them that make you a herald. And if you should have any knowledge or hear any imagination of treason, you shall discover it to them or to their noble council; and counsel it in no manner.

Herald swearing:

I so swear.

Court herald:

And you shall promise and swear that you shall be serviceable to all gentle persons to do their commandments to their worship of noble deeds; and to excuse their worship by your good counsel, and ever ready to offer your service to them.

Herald swearing:

I so swear.

Court herald:

Also you shall promise and swear to be secret and keep the secrets of knights, squires, ladies, gentlewomen, and all manner of gentle folk; a confessor of arms; and not discover them in any wise except treason abovesaid.

Herald swearing:

I so swear.

Court herald:

Also you shall promise and swear if you be in any place where you hear debate or peril between two gentles which you be privy to, if so be it that you be required by prince, judge, or any other to bear witness, you shall not be without license of both parties, and when you have leave, you shall not testify for any good favour or awe, but say the truth to your knowledge.

Herald swearing:

I so swear.

If investing a Principal, Principality or Regional Herald

Court herald:

Also you shall promise and swear that you shall pursue learning, and teach officers of arms under you, all manner of things pertaining to nobility.

Herald swearing:

I so swear.

Court herald:

Also you shall promise and swear that you shall forsake all places of dishonesty and hazard and dishonestly going to common taverns and places of debates and all manner of vices, and take to virtues as much as you are able.

Herald swearing:

I so swear.

Adapted from the oath originally posted to the SCA-HRLDS mailing list by Lothar von Katzenellenbogen.