

The Rule of the Society of S. *Sylveſter*

We, Mag. Pietari Pentinpoika Uu, O. Pel. etc.; Dom. Johan Magnuffon Kivifuo, O. Lindq. etc.; and Dom. Dubhghall mac Ébhearáird, having come together in the purſuit of heraldic arts, have adopted this Rule to aid in ſuch endeavour both ourſelves and thoſe who may join us.

Chapter i: In the purſuit of heraldic knowledge begins the life of the Brothers and Siſters of S. *Sylveſter*.

The Rule and life of the Society of S. *Sylveſter* is this, namely, to purſue knowledge and foſter practice of heraldry, onomastics, and the courtly arts in this our Known World, by living in obedience, learning, and teaching.

Brother Pietari promiſes obedience and reverence to the Laurel Queen of Arms and her canonically appointed ſucceſſors, and to the College of Arms; and the other brothers and ſi-

I alſo warn and exhort theſe fame brothers and ſiſters, that in conſultation that they do, their expreſſions be conſidered and diplomatic, for the utility and edification of the people, when announcing to them faults and virtues of their deſigns.

Let the Brothers and Siſters not engage in conſultation in any group, when the Principal Herald has ſpoken againſt their doing ſo. And let no brother or ſiſter at all dare work with clients, unleſs they will have been examined by the Brother general of this Society or his deſignated aſſiſtant and approved, and there be conceded to them by the fame the office of conſultation.

Chapter vi: On conſultation.

Let the Brothers and Siſters not engage in conſultation in any group, when the Principal Herald has ſpoken againſt their doing ſo. And let no brother or ſiſter at all dare work with clients, unleſs they will have been examined by the Brother general of this Society or his deſignated aſſiſtant and approved, and there be conceded to them by the fame the office of conſultation.

provincial and Cuſtodes be able, if they want and if it will ſeem to be expedient for them, once in the fame year to call their brothers and ſiſters together in convent in their own provinces.

princeſ / baron and baroneſs, our [foreign] 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 council 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 council, 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 conſeſſor of arms; and not diſcover them in any wife except treaſon aboveſaid.

Alſo you ſhall promiſe and ſwear if you be in any place where you hear debate or peril between two gendles which you be privy to, if ſo be it that you be required by prince,

Minä N.N. lupaan ja vakuutan P. *Sylveſter*in veljeſtölle ja P.P:n, priorini edeſſä olevani rehellinen ja kuuliainen opikelleſſani ja harjoit-

by announcing ſuch a wiſh to my Prior.

I, N.N., promiſe to the Society of S. *Sylveſter*, and in the preſence of P.P., my Prior, honeſty and obedience in my purſuit for and uſe of knowledge in the Heraldic arts, as ſet forth in the Rule of this Society. I promiſe this with the intent of learning to become a full Brother / Siſter of the Society, and with the knowledge that I can be freed of this promiſe by announcing ſuch a wiſh to my Prior.

Sylveſter

The Vows of the Society of S.

Given at the Convent of S. *Silveſter* in Hukka, on S. *Bartholomew*'s eve, in the xxxiiij year of the Known World.

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 Princeſ / Baron and Baroneſs, our [foreign] 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 Princeſ / Baron and Baroneſs, our [foreign] 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

Minä N.N. lupaan ja vakuutan P. *Sylveſter*in veljeſtölle ja P.P:n, priorini edeſſä olevani rehellinen ja kuuliainen opikelleſſäni ja harjoit-

ciety and under the graveſt of circumſtances.

I, N.N., promiſe to the Society of S. *Sylveſter*, and in the preſence of P.P., my Prior provincial, perpetual honeſty and obedience in my purſuit for and uſe of knowledge in the Heraldic arts, as ſet forth in the Rule of this Society. Moreover, I promiſe not to conſciouſly break this Rule even in my activities outſide the ſphere of Heraldry. This I promiſe with the clear underſtanding that I can only be freed of this promiſe by the Brother general of the Society and under the graveſt of circumſtances.

Final Vows

Let the Brothers and Siſters not engage in conſultation in any group, when the Principal Herald has ſpoken againſt their doing ſo. And let no brother or ſiſter at all dare work with clients, unleſs they will have been examined by the Brother general of this Society or his deſignated aſſiſtant and approved, and there be conceded to them by the fame the office of conſultation.

taeſſani airuen taitoja, niin kuin veljeſtön Säännöſſä anotaan. Tämän lupaan vakaana aikomukſenani kehittyä veljeſtön varmaifekſi veljeſki / ſiſarekſi ſekä tietäen, että voin vapautua lupaukſeſtani kertomalla tällaiſeſta aikomukſeſta priorilleni.

ters are bound to obey Brother Pietari and his ſucceſſors.

Chapter ij: Concerning thoſe who wiſh to adopt this life, and how they ſhould be received.

If any would deſire to adopt this life and would come to our brothers or ſiſters, let them ſend them to their Prior, to whom alone, and not to others, is the permiſſion to receive novices conceded. Let the Priors indeed examine them diligently concerning their devotion to Heraldry and the Rules of the College of Arms.

And if they believe theſe things and want to obſerve them faithfully and firmly unto the end, let them accept from theſe the vows of novitiate. Afterwards let them grant them

the clothes of probation, that is, a ſhort tunic and a hood. Having truly finiſhed the time of probation and having been examined by their Prior provincial, let them be received to obedience, promiſing to obſerve always this life and

on the General Convent.

Chapter v: On the Brother general of this ſociety; and the Brother general of the ſociety; and on the General Convent.

been ordained by the aforeſaid Brother.

And if at any time it may appear to all the Priors that the Cuſtodes, and to the Cuſtodes, aforeſaid Brother or Siſter is not ſufficient for the vice and common utility of the Society, the aforeſaid brothers and ſiſters, to whom the electing has been given, are bound to chooſe another as their Brother general. Indeed, and after the General Convent, let any two of the Priors

Rule. And let thofe who have already promised obedience have a tunic of full length and a hood.

Chapter iij: Concerning the heraldic office and commenting; and in what manner the brothers and sisters ought to go through the world.

Heralds are to perform their courtly duties according to the customs of the land. In accepting submissions they should likewise follow local practice, save that they should encourage their clients to good heraldic and onomastic style, even beyond that required by the College of Herald.

And should the customs of the land permit, each convent should strive to be active in the procuring of submissions, either in helping one of their brothers and sisters to hold an office in the College of Herald, or in commenting on submissions. But I warn and exhort them, not to despise nor judge people who with to submit bad but still registrable names

or arms, but rather let each one judge and describe his very self.

Indeed, I counsel, warn and exhort my brothers and sisters, that when they go about through the world, they are not to quarrel nor contend in words, nor are they to judge others, but they are to be honest, peaceable, modest and fair, speaking uprightly to all, as is fitting.

Chapter iiij: On the penance to be imposed on brothers and sisters who are misbehaving.

If any of the brothers and sisters should commit acts against this Rule or their office as a herald, the aforesaid brothers or sisters are bound to have recourse to their Prior provincial as soon as they can, without delay. Indeed let the Priors themselves with mercy enjoin upon them a penance. And they should beware, not to grow angry and be distressed on account of the misconduct of another, since anger and distress impede diplomacy in themselves and in others.

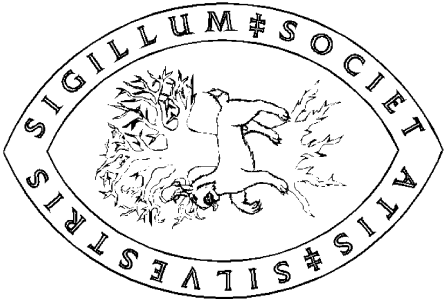
Creation of a Herald or Purfuivant

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

In witness thereof we call forth all members of the College of Herald 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



ani ja harjoitettavaksi airuen taitoja, niin kuin veljestön Säännössä lanotaan. Samoin lupaan, ereten muistakaan toimittani tietoisesti riko veljestön Sääntöä vastaan. Tämän lupaan ymmärtäen, että minut voi lupaukseni vapauttaa vain veljestön kenraaliveli mitä vakavimpien syiden nojalla.

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 lay the truth to your knowledge.

If receiving 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 aforesaid you swear truly to keep with all your might and power.

follow the Rule as changed.

This Rule we have decided to adopt. But should it prove insufficient, and the society wish to amend it, let it be with a majority vote at two successive General Convents, with the unanimous approval of the Brother General and the Custodes. And even if the Rule is changed, let each and every one of those who have given their vow to follow it decide whether they wish to continue following the old Rule or change to the new one; but let new brothers and sisters thenceforth vow to follow the Rule as changed.

The Confirmation of the Rule

clients.

Indeed I warn and exhort the brothers and sisters that they beware of all pride, vain glory, envy, avarice, detraction and murmuring, and that those who are ignorant of letters not care to learn letters; but let them strive, so that above all things they should desire to be good heralds and to have honesty, and patience with clients.

A SILVESTRINE

VADEMECCUM

being a

Compendium of Texts

useful for a Herald

Chapter vii: On the admonition and correction of the brothers and sisters.

brothers and sisters.

Let those who are Priors and servants of the other brothers and sisters, visit and warn them and humbly and charitably correct them, not commanding them anything which is contrary to their nature and our Rule. Indeed let the brothers and sisters who are subjects remember that for the sake of Heraldry they have to a degree renounced their own wills. Whence I firmly command them, to obey their Priors in all things which they have promised to observe and which are not contrary to their nature or to our Rule. And wherever the brothers or sisters are, who know and understand that they themselves are not able to observe the Rule spiritually, they should and can have recourse to their Priors. Indeed let the Priors receive them charitably and kindly and be so familiar with them, that they can speak to them and act as lords with their servants; for so it should be, because the Priors are the servants of all the brothers and sisters.

