



## **MARRIAGE CEREMONY**

### **Introduction**

A marriage contract between two persons is the most important and solemn act of their whole lives, and must, therefore, be entered into with a due consideration of its duties and responsibility. A happy marriage means two souls with but a single thought, two hearts that beat as one.

Having impressed upon you the great weight and importance of the step you are about to take, I will now proceed with the solemn rites of matrimony.

### **TO MAN**

Will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together in the estate of Matrimony; to love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and in adversity, for better or for worse, whatever your lot in life may be, and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as you both shall live?

### **TO WOMAN**

Will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together in the estate of Matrimony; to love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and in adversity, for better or for worse, whatever your lot in life may be, and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as you both shall live?

### **TO MAN**

You may now invest your bride with her wedding ring.

### **THE RING**

The wedding ring has neither beginning nor end. It is a symbol of endless faith and trust. It is a symbol of love everlasting. It is not only a sustaining power in prosperity, but also a comfort in time of need. May it ever remind you both of the solemn vows and obligations which you have this day taken, and keep you steadfast therein and faithful to the end.

### **CLASP HANDS**

As you now join hands, may you always go hand in hand through life, loving and trusting each other.

Having made satisfactory answers to all questions put to you, and having shown your willingness to become husband and wife, and having solemnly promised to love, honor and comfort each other so long as you both shall live, now, therefore, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Illinois, I pronounce you husband and wife.

May your life be a long and happy one. With best wishes for your future welfare, I congratulate you. (Shake hands)



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