

Succession of the Crescent Principal Herald

At the Crown's convenience, the court Herald shall summon the Retiring and Incoming Principal Heralds to kneel before the Throne.

OUTGOING CRESCENT PRINCIPAL HERALD:

Your Majesties, I, *N*, Crescent Principal Herald of Caid, for reasons of which Your Majesties have been apprised, do beg leave to be relieved of my duties.

KING

Have you then nominated a successor to this office?

OUTGOING CRESCENT PRINCIPAL HERALD:

I have, your Majesty, and here present *N*.

KING

***N*, are you prepared to accept and execute the duties of the office of the Crescent Principal Herald?**

INCOMING CRESCENT PRINCIPAL HERALD:

I am, Your Majesties, and pledge faithfully to serve you.

HERALD:

From ancient times, it has been the custom for persons aspiring to the estate of Principal Herald to swear an oath regarding the duties of that honorable office. Are you prepared to swear that oath?

INCOMING CRESCENT:

I am.

KING

Let the title pass.

Crescent places his hands upon the Sword of state to swear fealty.

HERALD:

You shall swear by your Oath, and by the faith that you owe unto the Crown Our Sovereign Lord and Lady, whose arms you bear, that you shall truly keep such things as are comprised in the articles following:

First, whensoever the Crown shall command you to bring any message to any other Monarch, Prince, Estate, or any other Person out of their Realm, or within the same, that you shall do it honorably and truly to the advantage of Our Sovereigns and this Their Realm, and true Report bring again to Their Majesties, always keeping yourself secret, save to such persons as you be commanded to utter your charge unto.

Secondly, you shall do your full diligence to have Knowledge of all the Nobles within the Realm which should bear Coats in the field in the Service of Our Sovereigns or their Lieutenants, Officers, or Commissioners, which you shall impartially note and register.

Thirdly, you shall not be strange to teach Pursuivants or Heralds, and also you shall keep duly your Chapters, to the increase of cunning in the Office of Arms.

Finally, you shall observe and keep, to your Cunning and power, all such Oaths as you made when you were created a Pursuivant to the Honor and Worship of Noblesse and Integrity of Living, namely in Eschewing dislandered places and persons reproached, and to be more ready to excuse than to blame any Noble Person, unless you be charged to say the Sooth by the Crown in place Judicial; and also you shall promise truly to Register all Acts of Honor in manner and forme as they be done, as far forth as your Cunning and Power may extend.

INCOMING CRESCENT PRINCIPAL HERALD:

I so swear.

The new Crescent may respond to each clause by saying "I will" or "I so swear", or reserve response until the oaths are completed. The new Crescent may conclude the oath by saying

So help me God and the Holy Evangelists, and by the Cross of this Sword that longeth to Knighthood.

or

All this I swear by the Great Sword of Caid.

Or another such phrase. The preceeding oath is taken from an oath for a King of Arms from 1686, somewhat edited to remove references to inherited honors, the subordination of the heralds to the Marshal and Constable (which was true in England but is not in Caid), and to make the oath more gender neutral.

KING:

Then by your oath, I create you, N., Crescent Principal Herald of Caid.

The Crown pours water over the new herald's head. The retiring herald invests the new herald with the emblem of the office, namely the chain of state.

KING:

Before the Peers of this Realm, I do here invest you, N., as Crescent Principal Herald. May all good fortune and good will attend you.

HERALD:

As the Crescent Herald is a Great Officer of Caid, therefore does he swear fealty to Crown and Kingdom.

The King accepts the Great Sword of State, holds it horizontally, and Crescent places his hands upon the Sword to swear fealty.

Do you, the Crescent Principal Herald of Caid, swear fealty and service to the Crown and Kingdom of Caid, that you will faithfully discharge your office, obeying their Majesties' lawful commands in all matters concerning this Realm; and, mindful that the harmony of Caid springs from your own deeds, that you will deal courteously and fairly with those of every degree, until the Crown depart Their Throne, or death take you, or the world end?

INCOMING CRESCENT PRINCIPAL HERALD:

I so swear.

KING AND QUEEN

And We, for Our part, swear fealty to this, the Crescent Principal Herald of Caid, and to those who serve him; to protect and defend them against every creature with all Our power, until We depart from Our Throne, or death take Us, or the world end.

So say We, K., King of Caid.

And so say We, Q., Queen of Caid.

The King raises up Crescent and congratulates him/her, while Herald exhorts cheers from the populace for the former and current Principal Heralds. The Heralds retire.

Regalia Required for this ceremony: silver or gilt cup, Great Sword of State, Crescent's Chain of State