

THE
NEW MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD,

ADAPTED TO THE

WORK AND LECTURES

AS PRACTISED IN

THE LODGES, CHAPTERS, COUNCILS,

AND

ENCAMPMENTS OF KNIGHTS TEMPLARS,

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

BY CHARLES W. MOORE,
EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

STEREOTYPE EDITION.

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PREFACE.

THIS work was originally prepared by order of the NATIONAL MASONIC CONVENTION, held at Baltimore, Md., in 1843; and was first submitted to the Fraternity in that year. It was favorably received, and has since passed through several editions. It is in very general use in the Lodges of the United States, and has met with unexpected favor in England, and other parts of Europe.

The present edition has been carefully revised; and such corrections and additions have been made as were deemed necessary for the greater perfection of the work. In the performance of this duty, the counsel of experienced and competent Brethren has been freely asked, and given. All extraneous and useless matter, and all indefensible assumptions and fabulous history, with which such works are too frequently encumbered, to the prejudice of the character of our Institution, have been carefully excluded. The work contains just what is required for practical purposes, and nothing more. Absurd and ridiculous pretensions are no more tolerable in societies than in individuals. In the belief that it is now as perfect as it can conveniently be made, the work has been handsomely STEREOTYPED.

A SECOND PART has been prepared; containing the Illustrations, Scriptures, Charges, and forms of Ceremonies, appropriate to CHAPTERS, COUNCILS, and ENCAMPMENTS. This part of the work has been got up with great care. It is enriched with historical illustrations, and is believed to be, in all respects, not only equally correct, but more complete in matter and arrangement, and better adapted to the purposes for which it is designed, than any other similar work extant. In order to meet the wishes of Brethren, who may not need or desire the SECOND PART, the work is published in three forms, and under slightly different titles, as follows:—

- I. "THE MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD," exclusively designed for the use of Lodges and Brethren who have not advanced to the higher degrees.
- II. "THE MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD—PART II," designed as a Text-Book for Chapters, Councils, and Encampments.
- III. "THE NEW MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD," including both the preceding works, bound in one volume. This is a complete and accurate working-book for all the degrees, from the first to that of the Knight Templar.

In the confident belief that these works are better adapted to the purposes for which they are intended than any heretofore in use, and that their general introduction will insure greater uniformity of work, in all the various Orders of Masonry, they are respectfully submitted to the favorable consideration of the Fraternity of the United States.

C. W. M.

BOSTON, MASS., May, 1850.

RECOMMENDATIONS

BY THE

GRAND LECTURERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASS.

MASONIC TEMPLE, Boston, April, 1850.

R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE.

Dear Sir, and Brother:—Having examined the new edition of the "MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD," allow me to state, that, assisted by memory and comparison, I believe the work to be better adapted to the purposes for which it is intended than any other work of the kind.

Should my opinion, or approval, be thought beneficial, in recommending said work to the favorable notice of the Masonic Fraternity, I will, in addition, say, that I purpose to use the same, in connection with the work recently adopted by the "MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS."

This recommendation is given under the conscious belief that it will have a tendency, in some degree, to consummate the purposes of the Grand Lodge, under whose authority I am commissioned, as a *Grand Lecturer*, to aid and assist in accomplishing those purposes.

Yours, fraternally,

W. C. MARTIN

CHARLESTOWN, April, 1850.

R. W. Brother C. W. Moore:—Having carefully examined the "NEW MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD," by you, I take pleasure in recommending it to the Fraternity, as a text-book better adapted to Lodge purposes than any other similar work with which I am acquainted.

It contains all that is proper to be written on the subject it is designed to illustrate, and all that intelligent Brethren will regard as desirable or essential, in the acquisition of a correct knowledge of the Work and Lectures, and Public Ceremonies of the Institution. The arrangement is practical and comprehensive, carefully adapted to the work of the Lodges, and well calculated to guide and facilitate the learner in the acquisition of the ritual. Fraternally yours,

CHARLES B. ROGERS,

One of the Grand Lecturers of the "Grand Lodge of Mass."

- RECOMMENDATIONS.

From GOV. DUNLAP, *Gen. G. H. P. of the Gen. Grand Chapter of the United States.*

BRUNSWICK, ME., July 1, 1850.

Dear Sir:—I have perused with much satisfaction the "NEW MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD" which you had the politeness to send me.

I regard the work as a well arranged MASONIC TEXT BOOK, replete with valuable information upon the subjects on which it treats; and I trust it will have a wide circulation among the members of our Fraternity.

With high regard, Fraternally yours,

ROBERT P. DUNLAP.

CHARLES W. MOORE, Esq., Boston, Mass.

From M. E. Rev. PAUL DEAN.

WESTMINSTER, Aug. 27, 1850.

R. W. Br. Charles W. Moore:—It affords me pleasure to assure you that a careful perusal of your "NEW MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD" has given me great satisfaction. In view of the intelligence, research, and care exhibited in its revision,—the beautiful Plates, and the explanation of the various Masonic Symbols and Emblems,—of the arrangement of the Prayers, Charges, Illustrations, and Ceremonies, from the Entered Apprentice to the Templar Degrees,—together with the quotations of Scripture, chain of history, traditions, principles, usages of the Order, and of the duties of the Brethren, in all the stations and relations of life,—in view of all this, I feel that the author is entitled to the respectful gratitude of the Fraternity; and that the work itself justly claims to be the best and most comprehensive embodiment of Freemasonry yet given to the Masonic Brotherhood; and, as such, is hereby most respectfully recommended to the favorable notice and use of the Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Encampments of the United States.

Yours truly and Fraternally, PAUL DEAN,
Past Gen. G. H. P. Gen. G. Chapter of the U. States.

From M. W. BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, Esq.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, Oct. 3, 1850.

R. W. C. W. MOORE:

Sir Kt. Comp. and Brother:—I have carefully examined the new edition of your "MASONIC TRESTLE-BOARD," containing all that is proper to be written of the work, from Entered Apprentice to Knight Templar, and do not hesitate to give it my full approval.

We have, for years, used the former edition, containing the FIRST PART, in our Blue Lodges, under this jurisdiction, and it has met the general approbation of the Brethren.

The addition of the SECOND PART makes the work as perfect as such a work can well be made; and while I give you my personal thanks for taking upon yourself the trouble and risk of publishing it, I also add my earnest recommendation to the Masonic Fraternity of the whole Union to adopt it as *their* TEXT-BOOK in performing the work in their several Lodges, Chapters, and Encampments.

Truly and Fraternally yours, B. B. FRENCH,

Grand Master of Masons of the District of Columbia, and G. G. Sec. and G. G. Recorder of the G. G. Chapter and Enc. of the United States.

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THE TRESTLE-BOARD.

CHAPTER I.

FREEMASONRY.—A LODGE.—ITS ORGANIZATION.

“FREEMASONRY,” says a learned foreign author, “is a MORAL ORDER, instituted by virtuous men, with the praiseworthy design of recalling to our remembrance the most sublime TRUTHS, in the midst of the most innocent and social pleasures,—founded on LIBERALITY, BROTHERLY-LOVE, and CHARITY.” It is a beautiful SYSTEM OF MORALITY, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols. TRUTH is its centre—the point whence its radii diverge—pointing out to its disciples a correct knowledge of the Great Architect of the Universe, and the moral laws which he has ordained for their government.

A LODGE of MASONS consists of a certain number of Brethren, who are assembled together to expatiate on the mysteries of the Craft; having the HOLY BIBLE open on the Altar, to teach them the sacred principles of religion and justice,—the SQUARE and COMPASS, to remind them of the duties they owe to society and to themselves,—the BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS, where they may study the general statutes of Masonry,—the BY-LAWS, to point out their duty as members of an individual Lodge,—and the WARRANT, or CHARTER, by virtue of which, having been issued by the Grand Lodge, they meet to transact the business of Masonry.

Any number of Masons not less than seven, being well skilled in the work and mysteries of the Craft, and of good report among their Brethren, may petition the Grand Lodge, within the limits of whose jurisdiction they reside, for a Dispensation, authorizing them to ORGANIZE a Lodge for Masonic purposes. When organized, a Lodge consists of the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, Senior and Junior Deacons, Senior and Junior Stewards, and as many members as a majority of the Brethren may determine — though more than fifty will generally be found inconvenient. In addition to the officers here enumerated, it is the indispensable duty of the Master of every Lodge to appoint some trust-worthy and skillful Brother to act as Tyler. A Marshal is also frequently appointed; but he is an officer of convenience, not of necessity.

CHAPTER II.

THE CEREMONIES OF OPENING AND CLOSING A LODGE.

THE rites and ceremonies of Freemasonry form the distinctive peculiarity of the institution. In their nature, they are simple—in their end, instructive. They naturally excite a high degree of curiosity, in a newly initiated Brother, and create an earnest desire to investigate their meaning, and to become acquainted with their object and design. It requires, however, both serious application and untiring diligence, to ascertain the precise nature of every ceremony which our ancient Brethren saw reason to adopt, in the formation of an exclusive system, which was to pass through the world, unconnected with the religion and politics of all times, and of every people among whom it should

flourish and increase.* But the assiduous Mason, with the assistance of an intelligent Master in the Chair — and none but intelligent Brethren should ever be placed in that responsible station — will not fail to derive instruction from every ceremony he may witness, and improvement from every ordinance with which he may become acquainted.

The first business which occupies the Brethren, when assembled at their stated meetings, is what is technically termed the Opening of the Lodge. The ceremonies cannot here be described with any considerable degree of minuteness. We may, however, remark, that, at the well-known signal, the officers and members and visiting Brethren, clothed in their appropriate regalia, repair to their respective stations, and await the commands of the Worshipful Master. It having been previously ascertained that all present are Masons, the avenues of the Lodge are secured, and the ceremony of opening proceeds.

The ceremony of closing differs from that of opening only in the necessary change of phraseology, and in certain precautionary measures. The Brethren present are all expected to assist in the performance of both duties, and much of the beauty and harmony of the scene depends on their quiet deportment and strict attention to the business before them. In this, as in all other Masonic ceremonies, everything like levity or rudeness in speech or action is to be deprecated and avoided. A Mason should never forget that he is a gentleman, and that all the peculiarities he witnesses, or in which he is required to participate, while in the Lodge, are designed to illustrate and inculcate some great moral truth. The peculiar beauty of our ceremonies is, that they all tend to improve the mind, and consecrate the affections to virtue.

The labors and duties of the Lodge should begin and

* Philosophy of Freemasonry.

end with prayer. The Brethren cannot be too often reminded of their dependence on the Almighty Architect of the Universe for every blessing they enjoy. Prayer is an ancient and beautiful custom of the Institution. It was the constant practice of our ancestors. It is enjoined by the Constitutions, and cannot, with propriety, be omitted. There are also certain ancient Charges, one or more of which may be properly rehearsed, either immediately subsequent to the opening, or just previously to the closing, of the Lodge. When business does not prevent, the reading of at least one of them, from the Book of Constitutions, ought never to be omitted. A knowledge of their duties to the Craft, to society, and to each other, cannot be too firmly fixed on the minds of the Brethren.

It has been beautifully said, by an eminent English Brother, that the Master opens the Lodge at sunrise, with solemn prayer; the Junior Warden calls the men from labor when the Sun attains its meridian height; and the Senior Warden* closes the Lodge with prayer at sunset — when the labors of our ancient Brethren ended. The great luminary of creation rises in the East, to open the day, with a mild and genial influence, and all nature rejoices in the appearance of his beams. He gains his meridian in the South, invigorating all things with the perfection of his ripening qualities. With declining strength, he sets in the West, to close the day, leaving mankind at rest from their labors. This is a type of the three most prominent stages in the life of man — infancy, manhood, and age. The first, characterized by the blush of innocence, is pure as the tints which gild the eastern portals of the day; the heart rejoices in the unsuspecting integrity of its own unblemished virtues, nor fears deceit, because it knows no guile. Manhood succeeds; the ripening intel-

* In this country, the Master opens and closes the Lodge.

lect arrives at the meridian of its powers. At the approach of old age, man's strength decays; his sun is setting in the West. Enfeebled by sickness, or bodily infirmities, he lingers on till death finally closes his eventful day; and happy is he, if the setting splendors of a virtuous life gild his departing moments with the gentle tints of hope, and close his short career in peace, harmony, and Brotherly-Love.

CHAPTER III.

PRAYERS AND CHARGES AT THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF LODGES.

PRAYER AT OPENING.

Great Architect of the Universe! In thy name we have assembled, and in thy name we desire to proceed in all our doings. Grant that the sublime principles of Freemasonry may so subdue every discordant passion within us — so harmonize and enrich our hearts with thine own love and goodness — that the Lodge at this time may humbly reflect that order and beauty which reign forever before thy throne. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

A N O T H E R.

Supreme Ruler of the Universe! We would reverently invoke thy blessing at this time. Wilt thou be pleased to grant that this meeting, thus begun in order, may be conducted in peace, and closed in harmony. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

PRAYER AT CLOSING.

Supreme Grand Master! Ruler of Heaven and Earth! Now that we are about to separate, and return to our respective places of abode, wilt thou be pleased so to influence our hearts and minds, that we may each one of us practise, out of the Lodge, those great moral duties which are inculcated in it, and with reverence study and obey the laws which thou hast given us in thy Holy Word. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

B E N E D I C T I O N.

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon us, and all regular

Masons! May Brotherly-Love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us! Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

CHARGE AT OPENING.

The ways of Virtue are beautiful: Knowledge is attained by degrees: Wisdom dwells with contemplation: There we must seek her. Let us, then, Brethren, apply ourselves with becoming zeal to the practice of the excellent principles inculcated by our Order. Let us ever remember that the great objects of our association, are the restraint of improper desires and passions, the cultivation of an active benevolence, and the promotion of a correct knowledge of the duties we owe to God, our neighbor and ourselves. Let us be united, and practise with assiduity the sacred tenets of our Order. Let all private animosities, if any unhappily exist, give place to affection and Brotherly-Love. It is a useless parade to talk of the subjection of irregular passions within the walls of the Lodge, if we permit them to triumph in our intercourse with each other. Uniting in the grand design, let us be happy ourselves, and endeavor to promote the happiness of others. Let us cultivate the great moral virtues which are laid down on our Masonic Trestle-Board, and improve in everything that is good, amiable, and useful. Let the benign Genius of the Mystic Art preside over our councils, and, under her sway, let us act with a dignity becoming the high moral character of our venerable Institution.

ANOTHER CHARGE AT OPENING.

“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity!

“It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard, that went down to the skirts of his garment:

“As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.”

CHARGE AT CLOSING.

Brethren: You are now to quit this sacred retreat of friendship and virtue, to mix again with the world. Amidst its concerns and employments, forget not the duties you have so frequently heard inculcated and forcibly recommended in this Lodge. Be diligent, prudent, temperate, discreet. Remember that around this altar you have promised to befriend and relieve every Brother who shall need your assistance. Remember that you have promised to remind him, in the most tender manner, of his failings, and aid his reformation. Vindicate his character, when

wrongfully traduced. Suggest, in his behalf, the most candid and favorable circumstances. Is he justly reprehended? — Let the world observe how Masons love one another.

These generous principles are to extend further. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. “Do good unto all.” Recommend it more “especially unto them that are of the household of FAITH.”

By diligence in the duties of your respective callings, by liberal benevolence and diffusive charity, by constancy and fidelity in your friendships, discover the beneficial and happy effects of this ancient and honorable Institution.

Let it not be supposed that you have here “LABORED in vain, and spent your STRENGTH for nought; for your WORK is with the LORD, and your RECOMPENSE with your God.”

Finally, Brethren, be ye all of one mind, — live in peace; and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you!

CHAPTER IV.

ON THE QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF CANDIDATES FOR FREEMASONRY.

“WHOSOEVER, from love of knowledge, interest, or curiosity,” say the Constitutions, “desires to be a FREEMASON, is to know that, as his foundation and great corner-stone, he is to believe firmly in the ETERNAL GOD, and to pay that worship which is due to him as the Great Architect and Governor of the Universe. A Freemason is obliged, by his tenure, to observe the moral law; and, if he rightly understand the royal art, he cannot tread in the irreligious paths of the unhappy LIBERTINE, or stupid ATHEIST; nor, in any case, act against the great inward light of his own conscience.

“He will likewise shun the gross errors of bigotry and superstition; making a due use of his own reason, according to that liberty wherewith a Mason is made free. He is charged to adhere to those grand essentials of religion, in which all men agree; leaving each Brother to his own private judgment, as to particular modes and forms.

Whence it follows, that all Freemasons are to be **GOOD MEN AND TRUE** — men of honor and honesty — by whatever religious names or persuasions distinguished — always following the golden precept, ‘Of doing unto all men as they would that all men should do unto them,’ and of worshipping God after that manner and form, which they conscientiously believe to be most acceptable in his sight.”

Another of the Constitutions further provides, that no person shall be admitted a member, unless he be “free born; of mature and discreet age;* of good report; of sufficient natural endowments, and the senses of a man; with an estate, office, trade, occupation, or some visible way of acquiring an honest livelihood, and of working in his Craft, as becomes the members of this most ancient and honorable Fraternity, who ought, not only to earn what is sufficient for themselves and families, but likewise something to spare for works of **CHARITY**, and supporting the true dignity of the royal Craft.”

* * * * *

“No Brother shall propose, for admission into this ancient and honorable Society, any person, through friendship or partiality, who does not possess the moral and social virtues, a sound head and a good heart; and who has not an entire exemption from all those ill qualities and vices which would bring dishonor on the Craft.”

ANCIENT CHARGES.

THE PRIVATE DUTIES OF MASONS.

WHOEVER would be a Mason should know how to practise all the private virtues. He should avoid all manner of intemperance or excess, which might prevent his performance of the laudable duties of his Craft, or lead him into enormities which would

* Not under twenty-one years.

reflect dishonor upon the ancient Fraternity. He is to be industrious in his profession, and true to the Master he serves. He is to labor justly, and not to eat any man's bread for nought; but to pay truly for his meat and drink. What leisure his labor allows, he is to employ in studying the arts and sciences, with a diligent mind, that he may the better perform all his duties, to his Creator, his country, his neighbor, and himself.

He is to seek and acquire, as far as possible, the virtues of patience, meekness, self-denial, forbearance, and the like, which give him the command over himself, and enable him to govern his own family with affection, dignity, and prudence; at the same time, checking every disposition injurious to the world, and promoting that love and service which Brethren of the same household owe to each other.

Therefore, to afford succor to the distressed, to divide our bread with the industrious poor, and to put the misguided traveller into the way, are duties of the Craft, suitable to its dignity, and expressive of its usefulness. But, though a Mason is never to shut his ear unkindly against the complaints of any of the human race, yet when a Brother is oppressed or suffers, he is in a more peculiar manner called to open his whole soul in love and compassion to him, and to relieve him, without prejudice, according to his capacity.

It is also necessary, that all who would be true Masons should learn to abstain from all malice, slander and evil-speaking; from all provoking, reproachful and ungodly language: keeping always a tongue of good report.

A Mason should know how to obey those who are set over him, however inferior they may be in worldly rank or condition. For, although Masonry divests no man of his honors and titles, yet, in the Lodge, preëminence of virtue, and knowledge in the art, is considered as the true source of all nobility, rule and government.

The virtue indispensably requisite in Masons is—**SECRECY**. This is the guard of their confidence, and the security of their trust. So great stress is to be laid upon it, that it is enforced under the strongest obligations; nor, in their esteem, is any man to be accounted wise, who has not intellectual strength and ability sufficient to cover and conceal such honest secrets as are committed to him, as well as his own more serious and private affairs.

DUTIES AS CITIZENS.

A Mason is a peaceable citizen, and is never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior magistrates. He is cheerfully to conform to every lawful authority; to uphold, on every occasion, the interest of the community, and zealously promote the prosperity of his own country. Masonry has ever flourished in times of peace, and been always injured by war,

bloodshed, and confusion; so that kings and princes, in every age, have been much disposed to encourage the craftsmen, on account of their peaceableness and loyalty, whereby they practically answer the cavils of their adversaries, and promote the honor of the Fraternity. Craftsmen are bound, by peculiar ties, to promote peace, cultivate harmony, and live in concord and Brotherly-Love.

DUTIES IN THE LODGE.

While the Lodge is open for work, Masons must hold no private conversation or committees, without leave from the Master; nor talk of anything foreign or impertinent; nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother addressing himself to the Chair; nor behave inattentively, while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; but every Brother shall pay due reverence to the Master, the Wardens, and all his fellows.

Every Brother guilty of a fault shall submit to the Lodge, unless he appeal to the Grand Lodge.

No private offences, or disputes about nations, families, religions, or politics, must be brought within the doors of the Lodge.

DUTIES AS NEIGHBORS.

Masons ought to be moral men. Consequently, they should be good husbands, good parents, good sons, and good neighbors; avoiding all excess injurious to themselves or families, and wise as to all affairs, both of their own household and of the Lodge, for certain reasons known to themselves.

DUTIES TOWARDS A BROTHER.

Free and Accepted Masons have ever been charged to avoid all slander of true and faithful Brethren, and all malice and unjust resentment, or talking disrespectfully of a Brother's person or performance. Nor must they suffer any to spread unjust reproaches or calumnies against a Brother, behind his back, nor to injure him in his fortune, occupation or character; but they shall defend such a Brother, and give him notice of any danger or injury wherewith he may be threatened, to enable him to escape the same, as far as is consistent with honor, prudence, and the safety of religion, morality, and the State; but no further.*

* A Chapter of Prayers and Charges, for occasional use, is given in another part of this work.

CHAPTER V.

ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES.

By the regulations of the Fraternity, a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry, cannot be initiated, in any regular Lodge, without having stood proposed one lunar month, unless a Dispensation be obtained in his favor. All applications for initiation should be made in writing, and in the following form :

“ *To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren, of
——— Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.*

“ The petition of the subscriber respectfully represents, that having long entertained a favorable opinion of your ancient Institution, he is desirous, if found worthy, of being admitted a member thereof.

“ His place of residence is ———, his age ——— years, his occupation ———.

(Signed.)

A. B.”

[Recommended by three or more members of the Lodge.]

This petition, having been read in open Lodge, is placed on file. A committee is then appointed to investigate the character and qualifications of the petitioner. If, at the next regular meeting of the Lodge, the report of the committee be favorable, and the candidate is admitted, he is taken into an adjoining apartment, and required to give his free and full assent to the following interrogations :

1. “ Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, before these gentlemen,* that, unbiassed by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry ?

2. “ Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, before these gentlemen, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry, by a favorable opinion conceived of the Institution, a desire of knowledge, and a sincere wish of being serviceable to your fellow-creatures ?

3. “ Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, before these

*The Stewards of the Lodge are usually present.

gentlemen, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of the Fraternity?"

The candidate, if no objections be urged to the contrary, is then introduced in due and ancient form.

CHAPTER VI.

CEREMONIAL ILLUSTRATIONS.

GENERAL REMARKS.

ANCIENT CRAFT MASONRY is divided into three degrees. It was probably so divided at the building of King Solomon's Temple, perhaps with the design to bear a general reference to the three Orders of the Jewish Priesthood. The same arrangement was subsequently adopted by the Christian Church. It also prevailed in all the ancient mysteries. In a majority of them, the first step, or degree, consisted of probation, purification, and expiation. The second was called the Lesser Mysteries,—into which the candidate passed by solemn ceremonies. The third—to which he was advanced after a long period of additional trial—was denominated the Greater Mysteries. These consisted of fearful rites, introductory to a full revelation of all the ineffable doctrines taught by the Priests; and which the candidate was bound, under an obligation and heavy penalties, never to reveal.

The Essenes, who, says Dr. Oliver, preserved the true Freemasonry from extinction in the dark ages which preceded the advent of Christ, admitted only three steps, or degrees, and the probationary term extended to one year. If, during this period, the candidate gave satisfactory proofs of his temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice, he was accepted, and received the first degree. In this novitiate he

remained another year, before he was passed to the second degree ; and it was not until the expiration of three years, that he was admitted to a full participation in the secrets and benefits of the society. And even then the utmost precaution was used. The candidate was previously bound, by the most solemn vows, to keep inviolably secret the mysteries of his Order, and to act upon and abide by the ancient usages and established customs of the Fraternity. The Brethren distinguished each other, in darkness and in light, by peculiar signals. The most profound silence was imposed at their assemblies ; the Lecturer, only, expounding the tenets of their creed, — which were enfolded in a series of allegorical symbols, — the rest listening with a grave and solemn attention.

REMARKS ON THE FIRST DEGREE.

FIRST SECTION.

It has been truly remarked, that the first step taken by a candidate, on entering a Lodge of Freemasons, teaches him the pernicious tendency of infidelity, and shows him that the foundation on which Masonry rests is the belief and acknowledgment of a Supreme Being ; that to Him, alone, he can look for protection in all the dangers and difficulties he may be called to encounter, in his progress through life ; and it assures him, that, if his faith be well founded in that Being, he may confidently pursue his course, without fear and without danger. The first section of the degree also teaches him, that he is to take the Holy Bible as the rule and guide of his faith, — that he is to Square his actions by the precepts therein contained, — to circumscribe his desires and passions within the Compass of virtue and morality, — and to relieve the necessities of others with the superfluities of his own substance.

A full and perfect knowledge of this section is indispensably necessary to every Mason, who would be serviceable to the Institution, and avail himself of its privileges and its enjoyments. It is the alphabet of Masonry; and must be learned before any progress can be made in the more abstruse and important branches of the study. It consists in general heads, which, while they serve as marks of distinction, enable us not only to try and examine the rights of others, but to prove ourselves.

PRAYER USED AT THE INITIATION OF A
CANDIDATE.

Vouchsafe thine aid, Almighty Father of the Universe, to this our present convention; and grant that this candidate for Masonry may dedicate and devote his life to thy service, and become a true and faithful Brother among us. Endue him with a competency of thy Divine Wisdom, that, by the influence of the pure principles of our Order, he may the better be enabled to display the beauties of holiness, to the honor of thy holy name. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

The following passage of Scripture may be rehearsed during the ceremony:

“Behold! how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity:

“It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard, that went down to the skirts of his garment:

“As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.”*

* Since the more general introduction of music into the Lodges, the following Hymn is sometimes used as a substitute for this passage of Scripture:

MUSIC. — “*Auld Lang Syne.*”

Behold! how pleasant and how good,
For Brethren such as we,
Of the “Accepted” Brotherhood,
To dwell in unity!
’Tis like the oil on Aaron’s head,
Which to his feet distils;
Like Hermon’s dew, so richly shed
On Zion’s sacred hills.

For there the Lord of light and love
A blessing sent with power;

It is the duty of the Master of the Lodge, as one of the precautionary measures of initiation, to explain to the candidate the nature and design of the Institution. And while he informs him, that it is founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue, that it possesses great and invaluable privileges, and that, in order to secure those privileges to worthy men, and worthy men alone, voluntary pledges of fidelity are required,—he will at the same time assure him, that nothing will be expected of him incompatible with his civil, moral or religious duties.

In the course of this section, is given an explanation of that peculiar and appropriate ensign of Freemasonry,

THE LAMBSKIN, OR WHITE LEATHER APRON.

It is an emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Mason,—more ancient than the Golden Fleece, or Roman Eagle,—more honorable than the Star and Garter, or any other Order that can be conferred upon the candidate at that or any future period, by King, Prince, Potentate, or any other person, except he be a Mason; and which it is hoped he will wear with equal pleasure to himself and honor to the Fraternity.

This section closes with a moral explication of the TWENTY-FOUR INCH GAUGE and COMMON GAVEL.

THE TWENTY-FOUR INCH GAUGE

Is an instrument made use of by operative Masons, to measure and lay out their work. But we, as free and accepted Masons, are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of dividing our time. It being divided into twenty-four equal parts, is emblematical of the twenty-four hours of the day; which we are taught to divide into three parts, whereby we find a part for the service of God and a distressed worthy Brother; a part for our usual avocations; and a part for refreshment and sleep.

THE COMMON GAVEL

Is an instrument made use of by operative Masons, to break off

Oh! may we all this blessing prove,
 E'en life forevermore;
 On Friendship's altar rising here,
 Our hands now plighted be,
 To live in *love*, with hearts sincere,
 In *peace* and *unity*.

the rough and superfluous parts of stones, the better to fit them for the builder's use ; but we, as free and accepted Masons, are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of divesting our hearts and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting our minds as living stones, for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

SECOND SECTION.

THIS section is altogether explanatory of the preceding. It beautifully and comprehensively illustrates the ceremonies of initiation ; and while it gratifies, it cannot fail to impress, the mind of the intelligent and right-hearted candidate, with a high sense of the great moral excellences of the degree through which he is passing. It does not, however, admit of printed illustrations. We may only add, that the Lamb Skin, or white Leather Apron, is

THE BADGE OF A MASON.

The Lamb has in all ages been deemed an emblem of innocence. He, therefore, who wears the Lamb Skin as the "Badge of a Mason," is continually reminded of that purity of life and conduct, which is so essentially necessary to his gaining admission into the Celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides.

THIRD SECTION.

THE third and last section of this degree is, perhaps, the most interesting and instructive of the three. Nor is a perfect knowledge of it less essential to a proper understanding of the ceremonies of initiation. Indeed, the Brother who has not made himself familiar with it need not be at the trouble of urging his claims to any great proficiency as a Mason. The principal points illustrated by it are — 1. The FORM. — 2. The SUPPORTS. — 3. The COVERING. — 4. The FURNITURE. — 5. The ORNAMENTS. — 6. The LIGHTS. — 7. The JEWELS. — 8. The SITUATION — and 9. The DEDICATION, of Lodges.

Lodge meetings, at the present day, are usually held in upper chambers, — probably for the better security which such places afford. It may be, however, that the custom had its origin in a practice observed by the ancient Jews, of building their temples, schools, and synagogues, on high hills, — a practice which seems to have met the approbation of the Almighty, who said unto the prophet Ezekiel, “Upon the top of the mountain, the whole limit thereof, round about, shall be most holy.” Before the erection of temples, the *celestial* bodies were worshipped on HILLS, and the *terrestrial* ones in VALLEYS. At a later period, the Christians, wherever it was practicable, erected their churches on eminences.

The FORM of a Lodge is familiar to every Mason.

A Lodge is metaphorically said to be SUPPORTED by three great pillars, called Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty; because it is necessary that there should be Wisdom to contrive, Strength to support, and Beauty to adorn, all great and important undertakings.

And the COVERING is no less than the clouded canopy of heaven, whither all good Masons hope at last to arrive, by aid of the theological ladder which Jacob, in his vision, saw reaching from earth to heaven, — the three principal rounds of which are denominated Faith, Hope, and Charity, — teaching Faith in God, Hope in immortality, and Charity to all mankind. The greatest of these is CHARITY: for our *Faith* may be lost in sight; *Hope* ends in fruition; but Charity extends beyond the grave, to the boundless realms of eternity.

Every well governed Lodge is FURNISHED with the Holy Bible, Square, and Compass.*

* “*Compass* or *compasses*, — or a *pair* of compasses, so named from its legs, — but *pair* is superfluous or improper, and the singular number, *compass*, is the preferable name.” — Webster.

The Bible is dedicated to the service of God, it being the inestimable gift of God to man: * * * the Square to the Master, it being the proper Masonic emblem of his office; and the Compass to the Craft, because, by a due attention to its use, they are taught to regulate their desires, and to keep their passions within due bounds with all mankind, but more especially with their Brethren in Freemasonry.

The ORNAMENTS of a Lodge are the Mosaic Pavement, the Indented Tessel, and the Blazing Star.

The MOSAIC PAVEMENT is a representation of the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple; the INDENTED TESSEL, of that beautiful tessellated border, or skirting, which surrounded it,—with the BLAZING STAR in the centre. The MOSAIC PAVEMENT is emblematical of human life, checkered with good and evil; the INDENTED TESSEL which surrounds it, of those manifold blessings and comforts which surround us, and which we hope to obtain by a faithful reliance on Divine Providence, which is hieroglyphically represented by the BLAZING STAR in the centre.

The MOVABLE and IMMOVABLE JEWELS are also explained in this section.

The ROUGH ASHLER is a stone as taken from the quarry, in its rude and natural state. The PERFECT ASHLER is a stone made ready by the hands of the workmen, to be adjusted by the working-tools of the Fellow-Craft. The TRESTLE-BOARD is for the Master to draw his designs upon.

By the ROUGH ASHLER we are reminded of our rude and imperfect state by nature; by the PERFECT ASHLER, of that state of perfection at which we hope to arrive, by a virtuous education, our own endeavors, and the blessing of God; and by the TRESTLE-BOARD we are also reminded, that, as the operative workman erects his temporal building agreeably to the rules and designs laid down by the Master on his Trestle-Board, so should we, both operative and speculative, endeavor to erect our spiritual building agreeably to the rules and designs laid down by the Supreme Architect of the Universe, in the great book of nature and revelation, which is our spiritual, moral and Masonic Trestle-Board.

LODGES in ancient times were DEDICATED to King Solomon. We have a tradition which informs us, that they were thus dedicated from the building of the first Temple at Jerusalem, to the Babylonish captivity; from thence to the coming of the Messiah, they were dedicated to Zerub-

babel, the builder of the second Temple; and from that time to the final destruction of the Temple by Titus, in the reign of the Emperor Vespasian, they were dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The tradition goes on to say, that owing to the many massacres and disorders which attended that memorable event, Freemasonry fell very much into decay. Many of the Lodges were entirely broken up, and but few could meet in sufficient numbers to constitute their legality. Under these circumstances, a general meeting of the Craft was held in the city of Benjamin, when it was observed that the principal reason for the decline of Masonry, was the want of a Grand Master to direct its affairs. They, therefore, deputed seven of their most eminent members to wait upon St. John the Evangelist, who was at that time Bishop of Ephesus, to request him to take the office of Grand Master. He returned for answer, that, though well stricken in years, (being upwards of ninety,) yet having been in the early part of his life initiated into Masonry, he would take upon himself that office. He did so, and thereby completed by his learning, what the other St. John had accomplished by his zeal, and thus drew what the old records term a line-parallel. After his decease, the Christian Lodges were dedicated to him and St. John the Baptist, they both being regarded as eminent Christian Patrons of Freemasonry.

Since their time, there has been represented, in every regular and well furnished Lodge, a certain POINT WITHIN A CIRCLE, embordered by two perpendicular parallel lines, representing St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. Upon the top of the Circle rests the Book of Masonic Constitutions;* the Point represents an individual Brother, — the Circle, the boundary line of his duty. In going round this Circle, we necessarily touch on the two parallel lines, as well as on the Book of Constitutions; and while a Mason keeps himself circumscribed within their precepts, it is impossible that he should materially err.

* The Book of Holy Scriptures is sometimes substituted for the Book of Constitutions.

The Principal Point of Masonry is three fold, and comprises the exalted virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth — which are the tenets of a Mason's profession. They are thus explained :

BROTHERLY-LOVE.

By the exercise of Brotherly Love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family, — the high and low, rich and poor; who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other. On this principle, Masonry unites men of every country, sect and opinion, and conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.

RELIEF.

To relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent on all men; but particularly on Masons, who profess to be linked together by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection. To soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and to restore peace to their troubled minds, is the grand aim we have in view: On this basis we form our friendships, and establish our connections.

TRUTH.

Truth is a divine attribute, and the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry. On this theme we contemplate, and by its dictates endeavor to regulate our conduct. Hence, while influenced by this principle, hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us, sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us, and the heart and tongue join in promoting each other's welfare, and rejoicing in each other's prosperity.

To this explanation of the above principles, succeeds an illustration of the four cardinal virtues, — Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice :

TEMPERANCE

Is that due restraint upon our affections and passions, which renders the body tame and governable, and frees the mind from the allurements of vice. This virtue should be the constant practice of every Mason, as he is thereby taught to avoid excess, or the contracting of any licentious or vicious habit, the indulgence in which might lead him to disclose some of those valuable secrets which he has promised to conceal and never reveal, and which would consequently subject him to the contempt and detestation of all good Masons. * * *

F O R T I T U D E

Is that noble and steady purpose of the mind, whereby we are enabled to undergo any pain, peril or danger, when prudentially deemed expedient. This virtue is equally distant from rashness and cowardice; and, like the former, should be deeply impressed upon the mind of every Mason, as a safeguard or security against any illegal attack that may be made, by force or otherwise, to extort from him any of those valuable secrets with which he has been so solemnly intrusted, and which was emblematically represented upon his first admission into the Lodge. * * *

P R U D E N C E

Teaches us to regulate our lives and actions agreeably to the dictates of reason, and is that habit by which we wisely judge, and prudentially determine, on all things relative to our present as well as to our future happiness. This virtue should be the peculiar characteristic of every Mason, not only for the government of his conduct while in the Lodge, but also when abroad in the world. It should be particularly attended to in all strange and mixed companies, that the secrets of Masonry may not be unlawfully obtained. * * *

J U S T I C E

Is that standard, or boundary of right, which enables us to render unto every man his just due, without distinction. This virtue is not only consistent with Divine and human laws, but is the very cement and support of civil society; and, as Justice in a great measure constitutes the real good man, so should it be the invariable practice of every Mason never to deviate from the minutest principles thereof. * * *

The illustration of these virtues is accompanied with some general observations peculiar to Masons.

Such is the arrangement of the different sections in the first lecture, which, with the forms adopted at the opening and closing of a Lodge, comprehends the whole of the first degree of Masonry. This plan has the advantage of regularity to recommend it, the support of precedent and authority, and the sanction and respect which flow from antiquity.

C H A R G E A T I N I T I A T I O N I N T O T H E F I R S T
D E G R E E .

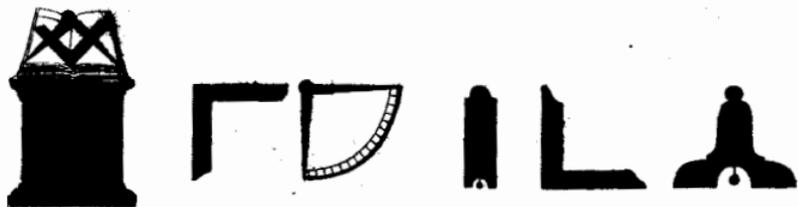
MY BROTHER:—Having passed through the ceremonies of your initiation, allow me to congratulate you on your admission into our ancient and honorable Fraternity. Ancient, as having

existed from time immemorial ; honorable, as tending to make all men so, who are strictly obedient to its precepts. It is an Institution having for its foundation the practice of the social and moral virtues. And to so high an eminence has its credit been advanced, that, in every age and country, men preëminent for their moral and intellectual attainments, have encouraged and promoted its interests. Nor has it been thought derogatory to their dignity, that Monarchs have, for a season, exchanged the sceptre for the trowel, to patronize our mysteries, and join in our assemblies.

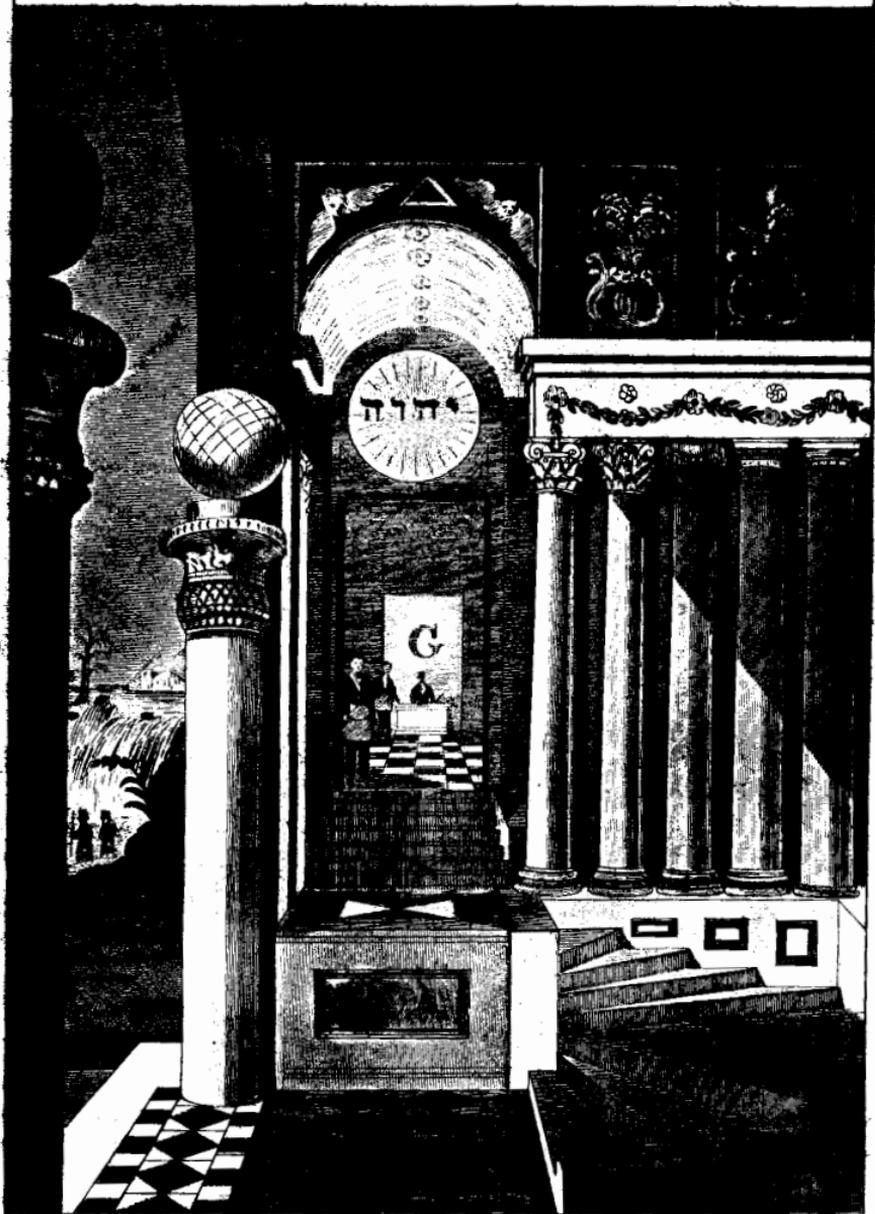
As a Mason, you are to regard the volume of the Sacred Law as the great light in your profession ; to consider it as the unerring standard of truth and justice, and to regulate your actions by the Divine precepts it contains. In it you will learn the important duties you owe to God, your neighbor, and yourself. *To God*, by never mentioning his name but with that awe and reverence which are due from the creature to his Creator ; by imploring his aid on all your lawful undertakings, and by looking up to him, in every emergency, for comfort and support. *To your neighbor*, by acting with him upon the Square : by rendering him every kind office which justice or mercy may require ; by relieving his distresses, and soothing his afflictions ; and by doing to him as, in similar cases, you would that he should do unto you. *And to yourself*, by such a prudent and well regulated course of discipline as may best conduce to the preservation of your corporeal and mental faculties in their fullest energy ; thereby enabling you to exert the talents wherewith God has blest you, as well to his glory, as to the welfare of your fellow-creatures.

As a Citizen, you are enjoined to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties, by never proposing, or countenancing, any act which may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society ; by paying due obedience to the laws under whose protection you live, and by never losing sight of the allegiance due to your country.

As an Individual, you are charged to practise the domestic and public virtues. Let *Temperance* chasten, *Fortitude* support, *Prudence* direct you, and *Justice* be the guide of all your actions. Be especially careful to maintain, in their fullest splendor, those truly Masonic ornaments, — *Brotherly-Love, Relief and Truth*.



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Finally: Be faithful to the trust committed to your care, and manifest your fidelity to your principles, by a strict observance of the Constitutions of the Fraternity; by adhering to the ancient land-marks of the Order; and by refraining to recommend any one to a participation in our privileges, unless you have strong reasons to believe, that, by a similar fidelity, he will ultimately reflect honor on our ancient Institution.

CHAPTER VII.

REMARKS ON SECOND DEGREE.

LIKE all sciences, whether moral or physical, Freemasonry is progressive; and a perfect knowledge of it can only be acquired by time, patience, and a sedulous application to elementary principles. The first degree is admirably calculated to enforce the duties of morality, and imprint on the memory some of the noblest principles which can enrich and adorn the mind. The second degree extends the same plan, but comprehends a more diffusive system of moral science; a more enlarged view is presented to the mind of the candidate; the heart is improved, while the ideas expand under a course of training which blends interest with instruction. And all the illustrations tend to inculcate a knowledge of those three great branches of Masonic morality and true religion — the duties we owe to God, our neighbor, and ourselves.

FIRST SECTION.

The first section of this degree is initiatory, and should be familiar to every Craftsman, but particularly to the officers of the Lodge. If properly illustrated, the candidate is deeply impressed with the importance of the ceremonies through which he is passing, and of the necessity of adhering to all the established usages of the Order.

PRAYER THAT MAY BE USED IN THIS DEGREE.

We supplicate the continuance of thine aid, O Merciful Lord, in behalf of ourselves, and the candidate who kneels before thee. May the work, begun in thy name, be continued to thy glory, and evermore be established in us, in obedience to thy Divine precepts. Amen.

The following passages of Scripture are appropriate to this degree :

I CORINTHIANS: CHAPTER XIII.*

“ Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge ; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind ; charity envieth not ; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil ; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth ; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. * * * And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three ; but the greatest of these is charity.”

AMOS: CHAPTER VII: 7, 8.

“ Thus he showed me ; and behold the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in his hand. And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou ? And I said, a plumb-line. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumb-line in the midst of my people Israel ; I will not again pass by them any more.”

The PLUMB, SQUARE, and LEVEL, are implements peculiar to this degree.

* The following hymn, from Br. THOMAS POWER'S *Masonic Melodies*, is sometimes sung as a substitute for this Scripture :—

Come, Craftsmen, assembled our pleasure to share,
Who walk by the PLUMB, and who work by the SQUARE ;
While travelling in love on the LEVEL of time,
Sweet hope shall light on to a far better clime.

We 'll seek, in our labors, the Spirit Divine,
Our temple to bless, and our hearts to refine ;
And thus to our altar a tribute we 'll bring,
While, joined in true friendship, our anthem we sing.

See Order and Beauty rise gently to view,
Each Brother a column, so perfect and true !
When Order shall cease, and when temples decay,
May each, fairer columns, immortal, survey.

The **PLUMB** is an instrument made use of by operative Masons, to try perpendiculars; the **SQUARE**, to square their work; and the **LEVEL**, to prove horizontals; but we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to make use of them for more noble and glorious purposes. The Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, squaring our actions by the square of virtue, and ever remembering that we are travelling upon the level of time, to "that undiscovered country, from whose bourn no traveller returns."

SECOND SECTION.

THE second section of this degree is principally devoted to the explication of physical science, and the tracing of the goodness and majesty of the Creator, by minutely analyzing his works. The intellectual faculties expand, as a desire of knowledge increases. By the studies attached to this section, the mind is elevated to a communion with its Maker. What a sublime field for moral investigation and critical research do the seven liberal arts and sciences afford! The subtleties of Grammar, Rhetoric, and Logic — the wonderful combinations of Arithmetic — the universal application of Geometry — the delicacy of Music, and the sublimity of Astronomy, have each a separate charm to win the heart and point to a Creator. Circumstances of importance to the Craft, and of peculiar interest to the Mason who delights in the study of the mystic beauties of his profession, are here developed and explained. We may, however, only add, that Masonry is considered under two denominations — Operative and Speculative.

OPERATIVE MASONRY.

By Operative Masonry, we allude to a proper application of the useful rules of architecture, whence a structure will derive figure, strength, and beauty, and from which will result a due proportion and just correspondence in all its parts. It furnishes us with dwellings, and convenient shelters from the vicissitudes and inclemencies of the seasons; and while it displays the effects of human wisdom, as well in the choice as in the arrangement of the sundry materials of which an edifice is composed, it demonstrates that a fund of science and industry is implanted in man, for the best, most salutary, and beneficent purposes.

SPECULATIVE MASONRY.

By Speculative Masonry, we learn to subdue the passions, act upon the Square, keep a tongue of good report, maintain secrecy, and practise charity. It is so far interwoven with religion, as to lay us under obligations to pay that rational homage to the Deity which at once constitutes our duty and our happiness. It leads the contemplative to view with reverence and admiration the glorious works of the creation, and inspires him with the most exalted ideas of the perfections of his Divine Creator.

IN SIX DAYS

God created the heavens and the earth, and rested upon the seventh day; the seventh, therefore, our ancient Brethren consecrated as a day of rest from their labors, thereby enjoying frequent opportunities to contemplate the glorious works of the creation, and to adore their great Creator.

The GLOBES, celestial and terrestrial, are referred to in this section, and their uses explained. It need hardly be said that they are two artificial spherical bodies, on the convex surface of which are represented the countries, seas, and various parts of the earth, the face of the heavens, the planetary revolutions, and other particulars.

THE USE OF THE GLOBES.

Their principal use, besides serving as maps to distinguish the outward parts of the earth, and the situation of the fixed stars, is to illustrate and explain the phenomena arising from the annual revolution, and the diurnal rotation of the earth round its own axis. They are valuable instruments for improving the mind, and giving it the most distinct idea of any problem or proposition, as well as enabling it to solve the same. Contemplating these bodies, we are inspired with a due reverence for the Deity and his works, and are induced to encourage the studies of astronomy, geography, navigation, and the arts dependent on them, by which society has been so much benefited.

THE FIVE ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE are introduced in this section, and severally illustrated. A brief description of them may not, therefore, be inappropriate in this place.

OF ORDER IN ARCHITECTURE.

By order in architecture, is meant a system of all the members, proportions, and ornaments of columns and pilasters; or, it is a regular arrangement of the projecting parts of a building, which, united with those of a column, form a beautiful, perfect, and complete whole.

OF ITS ANTIQUITY.

From the first formation of society, order in architecture may be traced. When the rigor of seasons first obliged men to contrive shelter from the inclemency of the weather, we learn that they first planted trees on end, and then laid others across, to support a covering. The bands which connected those trees at top and bottom are said to have given rise to the idea of the base and capital of pillars; and from this simple hint originally proceeded the more improved art of architecture.

The five Orders are thus classed: the Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, and Composite.

THE TUSCAN

Is the most simple and solid of the five orders. It was invented in Tuscany, whence it derives its name. Its column is seven diameters high; and its capital, base, and entablature, have but few mouldings. The simplicity of the construction of this column renders it eligible where ornament would be superfluous.

THE DORIC,

Which is plain and natural, is the most ancient, and was invented by the Greeks. Its column is eight diameters high, and has seldom any ornaments on base or capital, except mouldings; though the frieze is distinguished by triglyphs and metopes, and triglyphs compose the ornaments of the frieze. The solid composition of this Order gives it a preference, in structures where strength and noble simplicity are chiefly required.

The Doric is the best proportioned of all the Orders. The several parts of which it is composed are founded on the natural position of solid bodies. In its first invention it was more simple than in its present state. In after times, when it began to be adorned, it gained the name of Doric; for when it was constructed in its primitive and simple form, the name of Tuscan was conferred on it. Hence, the Tuscan precedes the Doric in rank, on account of its resemblance to that pillar in its original state.

THE IONIC

Bears a kind of mean proportion between the more solid and delicate Orders. Its column is nine diameters high; its capital is adorned with volutes, and its cornice has dentals. There are both delicacy and ingenuity displayed in this pillar; the invention of which is attributed to the Ionians, as the famous temple of Diana, at Ephesus, was of this order. It is said to have been formed after the model of an agreeable young woman, of an elegant shape, dressed in her hair; in contrast to the Doric order, which was formed after that of a strong, robust man.

THE CORINTHIAN,

The richest of the five orders, is deemed a master-piece of art. Its column is ten diameters high, and its capital is adorned with two rows of leaves, and eight volutes, which sustain the abacus. The frieze is ornamented with curious devices, the cornice with dentals and modillions.

This order is used in stately and superb structures. It was invented at Corinth, by Callimachus, who is said to have taken the hint of the capital of this pillar from the following remarkable circumstance:—Accidentally passing by the tomb of a young lady, he perceived a basket of toys, covered with a tile, placed over an acanthus root—it having been left there by her nurse. As the branches grew up, they compassed the basket, till, arriving at the tile, they met with an obstruction, and bent downwards. Callimachus, struck with the object, set about imitating the figure. The vase of the capital he made to represent the basket; the abacas, the tile; and the volutes, the bending leaves.

THE COMPOSITE

Is compounded of the other orders, and was contrived by the Romans. Its capital has the two rows of leaves of the Corinthian, and the volutes of the Ionic. Its column has the quarter-round, as the Tuscan and Doric order; is ten diameters high, and its cornice has dentals, of simple modillions. This pillar is generally found in buildings where strength, elegance and beauty, are displayed.

OF THE INVENTION OF ORDER IN ARCHITECTURE.

The ancient and original orders of architecture, esteemed by Masons, are no more than three—the *Doric*, *Ionic*, and *Corinthian*, which were invented by the Greeks. To these the Romans have added two—the Tuscan, which they made plainer than the Doric; and the Composite, which was more ornamental, if not more beautiful, than the Corinthian. The first three orders alone, however, show invention and particular character, and essentially differ from each other; the two others have nothing but what is borrowed, and differ only accidentally. The Tuscan is the Doric in its earliest state; and the Composite is the Corinthian, enriched with the Ionic. To the Greeks, therefore, and not to the Romans, we are indebted for what is great, judicious, and distinct, in architecture.

THE FIVE SENSES OF HUMAN NATURE.

The intelligent Mason will readily understand the application of the following illustrations of the senses of HEARING, SEEING, FEELING, SMELLING, and TASTING.

H E A R I N G

Is that sense by which we distinguish sounds, and are capable of appreciating the agreeable charms of music. By it we are enabled to enjoy the pleasures of society, and reciprocally to communicate to each other our thoughts and intentions, our purposes and desires; and thus our reason is rendered capable of exerting its utmost power and energy.

The wise and beneficent Author of Nature intended, by the formation of this sense, that we should be social creatures, and receive the greatest and most important part of our knowledge from social intercourse with each other. For these purposes we are endowed with hearing, that, by a proper exertion of our rational powers, our happiness may be complete.

S E E I N G

Is that sense by which we distinguish objects, and in an instant of time, without change of place or situation, view armies in battle array, figures of the most stately structures, and all the agreeable variety displayed in the landscape of nature. By this sense, we find our way on the pathless ocean, traverse the globe of earth, determine its figure and dimensions, and delineate any region or quarter of it. By it, we measure the planetary orbs, and make new discoveries in the sphere of the fixed stars. Nay, more; by it we perceive the tempers and dispositions, the passions and affections, of our fellow-creatures, when they wish most to conceal them; so that, though the tongue may be taught to lie and dissemble, the countenance will display the hypocrisy to the discerning eye. In fine, the rays of light which administer to this sense are the most astonishing parts of the animated creation, and render the eye a peculiar object of admiration.

Of all the faculties, sight is the noblest. The structure of the eye and its appurtenances evinces the admirable contrivance of nature for performing all its various external and internal motions; while the variety displayed in the eyes of different animals, suited to their several ways of life, clearly demonstrates this organ to be the master-piece of nature's works.

F E E L I N G

Is that sense by which we distinguish the different qualities of bodies; such as heat and cold, hardness and softness, roughness and smoothness, figure, solidity, motion, and extension.

These three senses, *Hearing*, *Seeing*, and *Feeling*, are deemed peculiarly essential to Masons.

S M E L L I N G

Is that sense by which we distinguish odors, the various kinds of which convey different impressions to the mind. Animal and

vegetable bodies, and indeed most other bodies, while exposed to the air, continually send forth effluvia of vast subtilty, as well in the state of life and growth, as in the state of fermentation and putrefaction. These effluvia, being drawn into the nostrils along with the air, are the means by which all bodies are smelled. Hence it is evident, that there is a manifest appearance of design in the great Creator's having planted the organ of smell in the inside of that canal through which the air continually passes in respiration.

T A S T I N G

Enables us to make a proper distinction in the choice of our food. The organ of this sense guards the entrance of the alimentary canal, as that of smelling guards the entrance of the canal for respiration. From the situation of both these organs, it is plain that they were intended by nature to distinguish wholesome food from that which is nauseous. Everything that enters into the stomach must undergo the scrutiny of tasting; and by it we are capable of discerning the changes which the same body undergoes in the different compositions of art, cookery, chemistry, pharmacy, &c.

Smelling and tasting are inseparably connected; and it is by the unnatural kind of life men commonly lead in society, that these senses are rendered less fit to perform their natural offices.

O F T H E S E V E N L I B E R A L A R T S A N D S C I E N C E S .

T H E S E V E N L I B E R A L A R T S A N D S C I E N C E S are also illustrated in this section. A very brief analysis of the character of each may not, therefore, be altogether inappropriate in this place.

G R A M M A R

Is the key by which alone a door can be opened to the understanding of speech. It is Grammar which reveals the admirable art of language, and unfolds its various constituent parts, its names, definitions, and respective offices; it unravels, as it were, the thread of which the web of speech is composed. These reflections seldom occur to any one before their acquaintance with the art; yet it is most certain, that, without a knowledge of Grammar, it is very difficult to speak with propriety, precision, and purity.

R H E T O R I C .

It is by Rhetoric that the art of speaking eloquently is acquired. To be an eloquent speaker, in the proper sense of the word, is far from being either a common or an easy attainment. It is the art of being persuasive and commanding; the art, not only of pleasing the fancy, but of speaking both to the understanding and to the heart.

L O G I C

Is that science which directs us how to form clear and distinct ideas of things, and thereby prevents us from being misled by their similitude or resemblance. Of all the human sciences, that concerning man is certainly most worthy of man. The precise business of Logic is to explain the nature of the human mind, and the proper manner of conducting its several powers in the attainment of truth and knowledge. This science ought to be cultivated as the foundation or ground-work of our inquiries; particularly in the pursuit of those sublime principles which claim our attention as Masons.

A R I T H M E T I C

Is the art of numbering, or that part of the mathematics which considers the properties of numbers in general. We have but a very imperfect idea of things, without quantity, and as imperfect of quantity itself, without the help of Arithmetic. All the works of the Almighty are made in number, weight, and measure; therefore, to understand them rightly, we ought to understand arithmetical calculations; and the greater advancement we make in the mathematical sciences, the more capable we shall be of considering such things as are the ordinary objects of our conceptions, and be thereby led to a more comprehensive knowledge of our great Creator, and the works of the creation.

G E O M E T R Y

Treats of the powers and properties of magnitudes in general, where length, breadth, and thickness, are considered—from a *point* to a *line*, from a *line* to a *superfice*, and from a *superfice* to a *solid*.

A *point* is the beginning of all Geometrical matter.

A *line* is a continuation of the same.

A *superfice* is length and breadth without a given thickness.

A *solid* is length and breadth with a given thickness, which forms a cube, and comprehends the whole.*

O F T H E A D V A N T A G E S O F G E O M E T R Y .

By this science, the architect is enabled to construct his plans, and execute his designs; the general, to arrange his soldiers; the engineer, to mark out grounds for encampments; the geographer, to give us the dimensions of the world, and all things therein contained, to delineate the extent of seas, and specify the

* This definition is sometimes given as follows:—"A *point* is a figure without dimensions, or an indivisible part of space. A *line* is a point continued, and a figure of one capacity, namely, *length*. A *superfice* is a figure of two dimensions, namely, *length* and *breadth*. A *solid* is a figure of three dimensions, namely, *length*, *breadth*, and *thickness*."

divisions of empires, kingdoms, and provinces. By it, also, the astronomer is enabled to make his observations, and to fix the duration of times and seasons, years and cycles. In fine, Geometry is the foundation of architecture, and the root of the mathematics.

MUSIC

Is that elevated science which affects the passions by sound. There are few who have not felt its charms, and acknowledged its expressions to be intelligible to the heart. It is a language of delightful sensations, far more elegant than words; it breathes to the ear the clearest intimations; it touches and gently agitates the agreeable and sublime passions; it wraps us in melancholy, and elevates us in joy; it dissolves and inflames; it melts us in tenderness, and excites us to war. This science is truly congenial to the nature of man; for, by its powerful charms, the most discordant passions may be harmonized, and brought into perfect unison; but it never sounds with such seraphic harmony as when employed in singing hymns of gratitude to the Creator of the universe.

ASTRONOMY

Is that sublime science which inspires the contemplative mind to soar aloft, and read the wisdom, strength and beauty, of the great Creator, in the heavens. How nobly eloquent of the Deity is the celestial hemisphere! — spangled with the most magnificent heralds of his infinite glory! They speak to the whole universe; for there is neither speech so barbarous but their language is understood, nor nation so distant but their voices are heard amongst them.

The heavens proclaim the glory of God;
The firmament declareth the works of his hands.

Assisted by Astronomy, we ascertain the laws which govern the heavenly bodies, and by which their motions are directed; investigate the power by which they circulate in their orbs, discover their size, determine their distance, explain their various phenomena, and correct the fallacy of the senses by the light of truth.

OF THE MORAL ADVANTAGES OF GEOMETRY.

Geometry, the first and noblest of sciences, is the basis on which the superstructure of Freemasonry is erected. By Geometry, we may curiously trace nature, through her various windings, to her most concealed recesses. By it, we discover the power, wisdom and goodness, of the Grand Artificer of the Universe, and view with delight the proportions which connect this vast machine. By it, we discover how the planets move in

their respective orbits, and demonstrate their various revolutions. By it, we account for the return of seasons, and the variety of scenes which each season displays to the discerning eye. Numberless worlds are around us, all framed by the same Divine Artist, which roll through the vast expanse, and are all conducted by the same unerring law of nature.

A survey of nature, and the observation of her beautiful proportions, first determined man to imitate the Divine plan, and study symmetry and order. This gave rise to societies, and birth to every useful art. The architect began to design; and the plans which he laid down, being improved by time and experience, have produced works which are the admiration of every age.

The lapse of time, the ruthless hand of ignorance, and the devastations of war, have laid waste and destroyed many valuable monuments of antiquity, on which the utmost exertions of human genius have been employed. Even the Temple of Solomon, so spacious and magnificent, and constructed by so many celebrated artists, escaped not the unsparing ravages of barbarous force. Freemasonry, notwithstanding, has still survived. The *attentive ear* receives the sound from the *instructive tongue*, and the mysteries of Masonry are safely lodged in the repository of *faithful breasts*. Tools and implements of architecture, most expressive, are selected by the Fraternity, to imprint on the memory wise and serious truths; and thus, through a succession of ages, are transmitted unimpaired the most excellent tenets of our Institution.

CHARGE AT INITIATION INTO THE SECOND DEGREE.

MY BROTHER: — Being advanced to the second degree of Freemasonry, I congratulate you on your preferment.

Masonry is a progressive moral science, divided into different degrees; and as its principles and mystic ceremonies are regularly developed and illustrated, it is intended and hoped that they will make a deep and lasting impression on the mind.

It is unnecessary to recapitulate the duties which, as a Fellow-Craft, you are bound to discharge. Your general good reputation affords satisfactory assurance that you will not suffer any consideration to induce you to act in any manner unworthy of the re-

spectable character you now sustain. But, on the contrary, that you will ever display the discretion, the virtue, and the dignity, which become a worthy and exemplary Mason.

Our laws and regulations you are strenuously to support; and be always ready to assist in seeing them duly executed. You are not to palliate, or aggravate, the offences of your Brethren; but in the decision of every trespass against our rules, you are to judge with candor, admonish with friendship, and reprehend with justice.

The impressive ceremonies of this degree are calculated to inculcate upon the mind of the novitiate the importance of the study of the liberal arts and sciences,—especially of the noble science of Geometry, which forms the basis of Freemasonry; and which, being of a divine and moral nature, is enriched with the most useful knowledge; for while it proves the wonderful properties of nature, it demonstrates the more important truths of morality. To the study of Geometry, therefore, your attention is specially directed.

Your past regular deportment and upright conduct have merited the honor we have conferred. In your present character, it is expected that at all our assemblies you will observe the solemnities of our ceremonies,—that you will preserve the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity sacred and inviolable,—and thus, by your example, induce others to hold them in due veneration.

Such is the nature of your engagements as a Fellow-Craft, and to a due observance of them you are bound by the strongest ties of fidelity and honor.

CHAPTER VIII.

REMARKS ON THIRD DEGREE.

As before remarked, Freemasonry in every degree is progressive. A knowledge of it can only be attained by time, patience, and application. In the first degree, we are taught the duties we owe to God, our neighbor, and our-

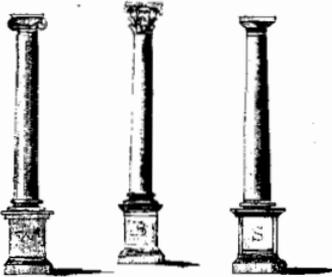
Section 1.



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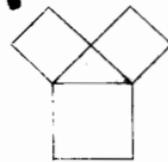
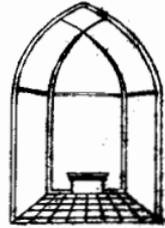
Section 3.



1453 Columns.
2,900 Pilasters.
3 Grand Masters.
3,300 Overseers.
80,000 Fellow Crafts.
70,000 Entered Apprentices.



3



selves. In the second, we are more thoroughly inducted into the mysteries of moral science, and learn to trace the goodness and majesty of the Creator, by minutely analyzing his works. But the third degree is the cement of the whole. It presents us with a series of historical facts and ceremonies, illustrating many passages in the Jewish Scriptures, and referring to the fundamental truths of our holy religion. It is calculated to bind men together by mystic points of fellowship, as in a bond of fraternal affection and Brotherly-Love. It is among Brethren of this degree that the ancient landmarks of the Order are preserved, and it is from them that we derive that fund of information which none but ingenious and expert Masons can supply. It may be truly said, that but few ever attain to a perfect knowledge of it; yet it is not less true, that they who gain by merit the marks of preëminence and distinction which it confers, receive a reward which amply compensates them for their attention and assiduity.

It is also from Brethren of this degree that the rulers of the Craft are selected; because it is only from those who are capable of giving instruction that we can reasonably expect to receive it. And well would it be for our Lodges, and for the Fraternity at large, if the ancient regulation were more strictly observed, that no Brother should be permitted to be raised to this degree who had not made himself thoroughly proficient in the two preceding.

Divested of those duties and ceremonies which more immediately appertain to the degree of a Past Master, this is divided into three sections, throughout the whole of which we are taught to circumscribe our conduct within the boundary line of our duties to God and man.

FIRST SECTION.

The first section in this, as in the two preceding degrees, is initiatory; and a knowledge of it is indispensable to

every Brother who is desirous of holding office, or who would make himself useful in the ceremonial transactions of the Lodge.

The following passage of Scripture is introduced and read by the Master :—

ECCLESIASTES XII. 1—7.*

“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them ; while the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain : in the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, and the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low. Also, when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond-tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail : because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets : or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was : and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”

*The following Hymn is occasionally introduced as a substitute for the Scripture :

MUSIC — *Bonny Doon.*

Let us remember, in our youth,
 Before the evil days draw nigh,
 Our GREAT CREATOR, and his TRUTH,
 Ere memory fail, and pleasure fly ;
 Or sun, or moon, or planet's light
 Grow dark, or clouds return in gloom ;
 Ere vital spark no more incite ;
 When strength shall bow, and years consume.

Let us in youth remember Him,
 Who formed our frame, and spirits gave,
 Ere windows of the mind grow dim,
 Or door of speech obstructed wave ;
 When voice of bird fresh terrors wake ;
 And music's daughters charm no more,
 Or fear to rise, with trembling shake,
 Along the path we travel o'er.

In youth, to God let memory cling,
 Before desire shall fail, or wane,
 Or e'er be loosed life's silver string,
 Or bowl at fountain rent in twain ;

All the implements of Masonry, indiscriminately, properly belong to Brethren of this degree, and may be illustrated in this section. The TROWEL, however, is more particularly referred to.

THE TROWEL

Is an instrument made use of by operative Masons to spread the cement which unites the building into one common mass ; but we, as free and accepted Masons, are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of spreading the cement of Brotherly-love and affection, — that cement which unites us into one sacred band, or society of friends and Brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work, and best agree.

SECOND SECTION.

This section recites the historical traditions of the Order, and presents to view a picture of great moral sublimity. It exemplifies an instance of virtue and firmness seldom equalled, and never excelled.

The following prayer may be used in the ceremony of this degree, by the Master, if the occasion requires, or renders it expedient : —

Almighty and Eternal God! Great Architect and Ruler of the Universe! — at whose creative fiat all things first were made! — We, the frail creatures of thy Providence, humbly implore thee to pour down on this convocation, assembled in thy holy name, the continual dew of thy blessing. And we especially beseech thee to impart thy grace to this thy servant, who offers himself a candidate to partake with us the mysterious secrets of a Master Mason. Endue him with such fortitude that, in the hour of trial, he faint not ; but pass him safely, under thy protection, through the valley of the shadow of death, that he may finally arise from the tomb of transgression, and shine as the stars for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Response. So mote it be.

For man to his long home doth go,
And mourners group around his urn ;
Our dust to dust again must flow,
And spirits unto God return.

The following Prayer is used at the raising of a Brother to this degree: —

Thou, O God! knowest our down-setting and our uprising, and understandest our thoughts afar off. Shield and defend us from the evil intentions of our enemies, and support us under the trials and afflictions we are destined to endure while travelling through this vale of tears. Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth as a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not. Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee; thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass: turn from him, that he may rest till he shall accomplish his day. For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. But man dieth and wasteth away; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he? As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and dryeth up, so man lyeth down, and riseth not up till the heavens shall be no more. Yet, O Lord! have compassion on the children of thy creation; administer them comfort in time of trouble, and save them with an everlasting salvation.

So mote it be. Amen.

THIRD SECTION.

This section illustrates certain hieroglyphical emblems, and inculcates many useful and impressive moral lessons. It also details many particulars relative to the building of the Temple at Jerusalem.

This magnificent structure was founded in the fourth year of the reign of Solomon, on the second day of the month Zif, being the second month of the sacred year. It was located on Mount Moriah, near the place where Abraham was about to offer up his son Isaac, and where David met and appeased the destroying angel. Josephus informs us, that, although more than seven years were occupied in building it, yet, during the whole term, it did not rain in the daytime, that the workmen might not be obstructed in their labor. From sacred history we also learn that there was not the sound of axe, hammer, or any tool of iron, heard in the house while it was building.

It is said to have been supported by fourteen hundred and fifty-three columns, and two thousand nine hundred and six pilasters, all hewn from the finest Parian marble. There were employed in its building, three Grand Masters; three thousand and three hundred Masters, or Overseers of the Work; eighty thousand Fellow-Crafts; and seventy thousand Entered Apprentices, or bearers of burthens. All these were classed and arranged in such manner, by the wisdom of Solomon, that neither envy, discord, nor confusion, was suffered to interrupt or disturb the peace and good fellowship which prevailed among the workmen.

In front of the magnificent porch were placed the two celebrated pillars — one on the left hand, and one on the right hand. They are supposed to have been placed there as a memorial to the children of Israel, of the happy deliverance of their forefathers from Egyptian bondage, and in commemoration of the miraculous pillars of fire and cloud. The pillar of fire gave light to the Israelites, and facilitated their march, and the cloud proved darkness to Pharaoh and his host, and retarded their pursuit. King Solomon, therefore, ordered these pillars to be placed at the entrance of the Temple, as the most conspicuous part, that the children of Israel might have that happy event continually before their eyes, in going to and returning from Divine worship.

In this section are also explained a variety of appropriate emblems, with which the skillful Brother will not fail to make himself familiarly acquainted. Among them are the following : —

THE THREE STEPS,

Usually delineated upon the Master's Carpet, are emblematical of the three principal stages of human life; viz., youth, manhood, and age. In youth, as Entered Apprentices, we ought industriously to occupy our minds in the attainment of useful knowledge; in manhood, as Fellow-Crafts, we should apply our knowledge to the discharge of our respective duties to God, our neighbor, and ourselves; that so, in age, as Master Masons, we

may enjoy the happy reflection consequent on a well-spent life, and die in the hope of a glorious immortality.

THE POT OF INCENSE

Is an emblem of a pure heart, which is always an acceptable sacrifice to the Deity; and as this glows with fervent heat, so should our hearts continually glow with gratitude to the great and beneficent Author of our existence, for the manifold blessings and comforts we enjoy.

THE BEE-HIVE

Is an emblem of industry, and recommends the practice of that virtue to all created beings, from the highest seraph in heaven, to the lowest reptile of the dust. It teaches us that, as we came into the world rational and intelligent beings, so we should ever be industrious ones; never sitting down contented, while our fellow-creatures around us are in want; especially when it is in our power to relieve them, without inconvenience to ourselves,

When we take a survey of nature, we view man in his infancy, more helpless and indigent than the brutal creation; he lies languishing for days, months, and years, totally incapable of providing sustenance for himself, of guarding against the attacks of the wild beasts of the field, or sheltering himself from the inclemencies of the weather.

It might have pleased the great Creator of heaven and earth to have made man independent of all other beings; but, as dependence is one of the strongest bonds of society, mankind were made dependent on each other for protection and security, as they thereby enjoy better opportunities of fulfilling the duties of reciprocal love and friendship. Thus was man formed for social and active life, the noblest part of the work of God; and he that will so demean himself as not to be endeavoring to add to the common stock of knowledge and understanding, may be deemed a *drone* in the *hive* of nature, a useless member of society, and unworthy of our protection as Masons.

THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS, GUARDED BY THE TYLER'S SWORD,

Reminds us that we should be ever watchful and guarded in our thoughts, words and actions, particularly when before the uninitiated; ever bearing in remembrance those truly Masonic virtues, *silence* and *circumspection*.

THE SWORD, POINTING TO A NAKED HEART,

Demonstrates that justice will sooner or later overtake us; and although our thoughts, words and actions, may be hidden from the eyes of man, yet that

ALL-SEEING EYE,

Whom the SUN, MOON, and STARS obey, and under whose watchful care even COMETS perform their stupendous revolutions. pervades the inmost recesses of the human heart, and will reward us according to our merits.

THE ANCHOR AND ARK

Are emblems of a well-grounded *hope*, and a well-spent life. They are emblematical of that divine *ark* which safely wafts us over this tempestuous sea of troubles, and that *anchor* which shall safely moor us in a peaceful harbor, where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary shall find rest.

THE FORTY-SEVENTH PROBLEM OF EUCLID.

This was an invention of the ancient philosopher, the great Pythagoras, who, in his travels through Asia, Africa and Europe, was initiated into several orders of Priesthood, and is said to have been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. This wise philosopher enriched his mind abundantly in a general knowledge of things, and more especially in Geometry, or Masonry. On this subject he drew out many problems and theorems; and among the most distinguished, he erected this, which, in the joy of his heart, he called *Eureka*; signifying, in the Grecian language, *I have found it*; and upon the discovery of which, he is said to have sacrificed a hecatomb. It teaches Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.

THE HOUR-GLASS

Is an emblem of human life. Behold! how swiftly the sands run, and how rapidly our lives are drawing to a close! We cannot, without astonishment, behold the little particles which are contained in this machine, how they pass away almost imperceptibly, and yet, to our surprise, in the short space of an hour, they are all exhausted. Thus wastes man! to-day he puts forth the tender leaves of hope; to-morrow blossoms, and bears his blushing honors thick upon him; the next day comes a frost, which nips the shoot; and when he thinks his greatness is still aspiring, he falls, like autumn leaves, to enrich our mother earth.

THE SCYTHE

Is an emblem of time, which cuts the brittle thread of life, and launches us into eternity. Behold! what havoc the scythe of time makes among the human race; if by chance we should escape the numerous evils incident to childhood and youth, and, with health and vigor, arrive to the years of manhood, yet without we must soon be cut down by the all-devouring Scythe of time, and be gathered into the land where our fathers have gone before us.

CHARGE AT INITIATION INTO THE THIRD DEGREE

MY BROTHER :— Your zeal for our Institution, the progress you have made in our mysteries, and your steady conformity to our useful regulations, have pointed you out as a proper object for this peculiar mark of our favor.

Duty and honor now alike bind you to be faithful to every trust ; to support the dignity of your character on all occasions ; and strenuously to enforce, by precept and example, a steady obedience to the tenets of Freemasonry. Exemplary conduct on your part, will convince the world that merit is the just title to our privileges, and that on you our favors have not been undeservedly bestowed.

As a Master Mason, you are authorized to correct the irregularities of your less informed Brethren ; to fortify their minds with resolution against the snares of the insidious, and to guard them against every allurement to vicious practices. To preserve unsullied the reputation of the Fraternity, ought to be your constant care ; and, therefore, it becomes your province to caution the inexperienced against a breach of fidelity. To your inferiors in rank or office, you are to recommend obedience and submission ; to your equals, courtesy and affability ; to your superiors, kindness and condescension. Universal benevolence you are zealously to inculcate ; and, by the regularity of your own conduct, endeavor to remove every aspersion against this venerable Institution. Our ancient landmarks you are carefully to preserve, and not suffer them, on any pretence, to be infringed, or countenance a deviation from our established customs.

Your honor and reputation are concerned in supporting with dignity the respectable character you now bear. Let no motive, therefore, make you swerve from your duty, violate your vows, or betray your trust ; but be true and faithful, and imitate the example of that celebrated artist whom you have this evening represented. Thus you will render yourself deserving of the honor which we have conferred, and worthy of the confidence we have reposed in you.

CHAPTER IX.

REMARKS ON THE PRESENT OR PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

THIS degree is usually classed as the *fifth* in order; which arrangement carries it into a foreign organization, independent of the authority of the Grand Lodges. It is not, however, necessarily connected with any other than the symbolic degrees. It therefore more properly follows as the *fourth* in order.

It should be carefully studied and well understood by every Master of a Lodge, the duties appertaining to whose responsible station are many and various — embracing the whole range of Masonic labors, from the Apprentice to the Master — including the Opening and Closing of Lodges — the Initiating, Crafting, and raising of Masons — the forms of Installation and Consecration, in Grand as well as subordinate Lodges — the ceremonies of Laying the Corner Stones of public edifices — of forming and conducting Processions — the Constitution of new Lodges — the Dedication of Masonic Halls — the Conducting of Funeral Ceremonies and services, — with all the detail that go to make up these general duties, and which are particularly set forth in the following sections.

FIRST SECTION.

ON THE MANNER OF CONSTITUTING A LODGE.

Any number of Master Masons, not under seven, desirous of forming a new Lodge, must apply, by petition, to the Grand Lodge of the State in which they reside, as follows: —

FORM OF A PETITION FOR A NEW LODGE.

“*To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of* —.

The undersigned petitioners, being Ancient Free and Accepted Master Masons, having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart,

and willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Masonry, respectfully represent—

“That for the convenience of their respective dwellings, and for other good reasons, they are desirous of forming a new Lodge in the town of ———, to be named ———. They therefore pray for letters of dispensation, or a warrant of constitution, to empower them to assemble, as a legal Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry, in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original forms of the Order, and the regulations of the Grand Lodge. They have nominated and do recommend Brother A. B. to be the first Master; C. D. to be the first Senior Warden, and E. F. to be the first Junior Warden, of said Lodge. If the prayer of the petition shall be granted, they promise a strict conformity to all the constitutions, laws and regulations, of the Grand Lodge.”

This petition, being signed by at least seven regular Masons, and recommended by a Lodge, or Lodges, adjacent to the place where the new Lodge is to be holden, is delivered to the Grand Secretary, who lays it before the Grand Lodge.

If the petition meets the approbation of the Grand Lodge, a dispensation is ordered to be issued, which is signed by the Grand or Deputy Grand Master, and authorizes the petitioners to assemble *as a legal Lodge*, for a specified time.

When Lodges, which are at first instituted by Dispensation, have passed a proper time of probation, they make application to the Grand Lodge for a Charter of Constitution. If this be obtained, the Grand Master appoints a day and hour for constituting and consecrating the new Lodge, and for installing its Master, Wardens, and other officers.

If the Grand Master, in person, attends the ceremony, the Lodge is said to be constituted in *ample form*; if the Deputy Grand Master only, it is said to be constituted in *due form*; but if the power of performing the ceremony is vested in a subordinate Lodge, it is said to be constituted in *form*.

CEREMONY OF CONSTITUTION.

On the day and hour appointed, the Grand Master and his officers meet in a convenient room, near to that in which the Lodge to be constituted is assembled, and open the Grand Lodge in the three degrees of Masonry.

The officers of the new Lodge are to be examined by the Deputy Grand Master; after which they return to their Lodge.

The new Lodge then sends one of its members to the Grand Master, with the following message, viz.,—

“ MOST WORSHIPFUL—

“ The officers and Brethren of—— Lodge, who are now assembled at——, have instructed me to inform you, that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge (or Grand Master) was pleased to grant them a letter of Dispensation, bearing date the—— day of——, in the year——, authorizing them to form and open a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, in the town of——; that since that period they have regularly assembled, and conducted the business of Masonry according to the best of their abilities; that their proceedings having received the approbation of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, they have obtained a Charter of constitution, and are desirous that their Lodge should be consecrated, and their officers installed, agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of the Craft; for which purpose they are now met, and await the pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.”

He then returns to his Lodge, who prepare for the reception of the Grand Lodge. When notice is given that they are prepared, the Grand Lodge walk in procession to their hall. When the Grand Master enters, the grand honors are given by the new Lodge; the officers of which resign their seats to the Grand Officers, and take their several stations on their left.

The necessary cautions are then given, and all, excepting Masters and Past Masters of Lodges, are requested to retire, until the Master of the new Lodge is placed in the Oriental Chair. He is then bound to the faithful performance of his trust, and duly invested.

Upon due notice, the Grand Marshal reconducts the Brethren into the hall, and all take their places, except the members of the new Lodge, who form a procession on one side of the hall, to salute their Master. As they advance, the Grand Master addresses them, "*Brethren, behold your Master!*" As they pass, they make the proper salutation; and when they have all passed, he joins them, and takes his appropriate station.

A grand procession is then formed, in the following order, viz., —

Tyler, with a drawn sword ;
Two Stewards, with White Rods ;
Entered Apprentices ;
Fellow-Crafts ;
Master Masons ;
Stewards ;
Junior Deacons ;
Senior Deacons ;
Secretaries ;
Treasurers ;
Past Wardens ;
Junior Wardens ;
Senior Wardens ;
[Mark Masters ;]
Past Masters ;
Royal Arch Masons ;
Knights Templars ;
Masters of Lodges.

THE NEW LODGE.

Tyler, with a Drawn Sword ;
Stewards, with White Rods ;
Entered Apprentices ;
Fellow-Crafts ;
Master Masons ;
Deacons ;
Secretary and Treasurer ;
Two Brethren, carrying the Lodge ;*
Junior and Senior Wardens ;

* Generally the flooring, or ark.

The Holy Writings, carried by the oldest Member, not in office ;
 The Master ;
 Music.

THE GRAND LODGE.

Grand Tyler, with a Drawn Sword ;
 Grand Stewards, with White Rods ;
 A Brother, carrying a Golden Vessel of Corn ;*
 Two Brethren, carrying Silver Vessels, one of Wine, the other of Oil ;
 Grand Secretaries ;
 Grand Treasurer ;
 A Burning Taper, borne by a Past Master ;
 A Past Master, bearing the Holy Writings ;
 Square and Compass, supported by two Stewards, with Rods ;
 Two Burning Tapers, borne by two Past Masters ;
 Clergy and Orator ;
 The Tuscan and Composite Orders ;
 The Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian Orders ;
 Past Grand Wardens ;
 Past Deputy Grand Masters ;
 Past Grand Masters ;
 The Globes ;
 Junior and Senior Grand Wardens ;
 Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master ;
 The Master of the Oldest Lodge, carrying the Book of Constitutions ;
 The M. W. GRAND MASTER ;
 The G. Deacons, on a line, seven feet apart, on the right and left of the
 Grand Master, with Black Rods ;
 Grand Sword Bearer, with a Drawn Sword ;
 Two Stewards, with White Rods.

The procession moves on to the church or house where the services are to be performed. When the front of the procession arrives at the door, they halt, open to the right and left, and face inward, while the Grand Master, and others, in succession, pass through and enter the house.

A platform is erected in front of the pulpit, and provided with seats for the accommodation of the Grand Officers.

The Bible, Square and Compass, and Book of Constitu-

* Wheat.

tions, are placed upon a table, in front of the Grand Master ; the *Lodge* is placed in the centre, upon the platform, covered with white satin or linen, and encompassed by the three tapers, and the vessels of corn, wine, and oil.

A piece of music is performed, and the public services commence with prayer. An oration, or sermon, upon the design and principles of the Institution, is then delivered by the Grand Chaplain, or some one appointed for that purpose, which is succeeded by a piece of music. The Grand Marshal then directs the officers and members of the new Lodge, to form in front of the Grand Master. The Deputy Grand Master addresses the Grand Master, as follows : —

“ MOST WORSHIPFUL —

“ A number of Brethren, duly instructed in the mysteries of Masonry, having assembled together at stated periods, for some time past, by virtue of a Dispensation granted them for that purpose, do now desire to be *constituted* into a *regular Lodge*, agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of the fraternity.”

Their Secretary then delivers the Dispensation and records to the Master elect, who presents them to the Grand Master.

The Grand Master examines the records, and if they are found correct, proclaims,

“ The records appear to be properly entered, and are approved. Upon due deliberation, the Grand Lodge have granted the Brethren of this new Lodge a Charter, confirming them in the rights and privileges of a *regularly constituted Lodge* ; which the Grand Secretary will now read.”

After the Charter is read, the Grand Master then says,

“ We shall now proceed, according to ancient usage, to constitute these Brethren into a regular Lodge.”

Whereupon the several officers of the new Lodge deliver up their jewels and badges to *their* Master, who presents them, with his own, to the Deputy Grand Master, and he to the Grand Master.

The Deputy Grand Master now presents the Master elect of the new Lodge, to the Grand Master, saying,

“MOST WORSHIPFUL—

“I present you Brother——, whom the members of the Lodge now to be constituted, have chosen for their Master.”

The Grand Master asks them if they remain satisfied with their choice. (*They bow, in token of assent.*)

The Master then presents, severally, his Wardens, and other officers, naming them and their respective offices. The Grand Master asks the Brethren if they remain satisfied with each and all of them. (*They bow as before.*)

The officers and members of the new Lodge then form in the broad aisle, in front of the Grand Master; and the business of consecration commences with solemn music.

CEREMONY OF CONSECRATION.

The Grand Master, attended by the Grand Officers, and the Grand Chaplain, form themselves, in order, round the Lodge, which is then uncovered, while a piece of solemn music is performed. The first clause of the Consecration Prayer is then rehearsed, as follows, the Brethren kneeling, viz., —

“Great Architect of the Universe! Maker and Ruler of all worlds! Deign, from thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly!

“We humbly invoke thee to give us, at this and at all times, *Wisdom* in all our doings, *Strength* of mind in all our difficulties, and the *Beauty* of harmony in all our communications!

“Permit us, O thou Author of *Light and Life!* great Source of Love and Happiness! to erect this Lodge, and now solemnly to *consecrate* it to the honor of thy glory!

“*Glory be to God on high.*”

[Response by the Brethren.]

“*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be! Amen.*”

During the response, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Wardens, take the vessels of corn, wine, and oil, and sprinkle the elements of Consecration upon the Lodge.

[*The Grand Chaplain then continues:*]

“Grant, O Lord our God, that those who are now about to be invested with the government of this Lodge, may be endued with wisdom to instruct their Brethren in all their duties. May *Brotherly-Love, Relief, and Truth*, always prevail amongst the members of this Lodge; and may this bond of union continue to strengthen the Lodges throughout the world!

“Bless all our Brethren, wherever dispersed; and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed.

“We affectionately commend to thee all the members of thy whole family. May they increase in the knowledge of thee, and in the love of each other.

“Finally; May we finish all our work here below with thine approbation, and then have our transition from this earthly abode to thy heavenly temple above, there to enjoy light, glory, and bliss, ineffable and eternal!

“*Glory be to God on High!*”

[Response by the Brethren.]

“*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be!*

“*Amen! so mote it be! Amen!*”

Then succeeds solemn music, while the Lodge is covered. The Grand Chaplain then DEDICATES the Lodge, in the following terms:

“To the memory of HOLY SAINT JOHN, we dedicate this Lodge. May every brother revere his character, and imitate his virtues.

“*Glory be to God on high!*”

[Response.]

“*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end!*

“*Amen! so mote it be! Amen!*”

A piece of music is then performed, whilst the Brethren of the new Lodge advance in procession to salute the Grand Lodge, with their hands crossed upon their breast, and bowing as they pass. They then take their places, and stand as they were.

The Grand Master then rises, and constitutes the new Lodge in the form following:—

“In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, I now constitute and form you, my good Brethren, into a Lodge of

Free and Accepted Masons. From henceforth I empower you to act as a regular Lodge, constituted in conformity to the rites of our Order, and the charges of our ancient and honorable Fraternity; and may the Supreme Architect of the Universe prosper, direct and counsel you, in all your doings."

[Response by all the Brethren.]

"*So mote it be!*"

The following, or some other hymn, may then be sung:—

[By Br. St. John Phillips.]

Thou! who art God alone,
Accept before thy Throne
Our fervent prayer!
To fill with light and grace,
This House, thy dwelling-place,
And bless thy chosen race,
O, God! draw near!

As through the universe,
All Nature's works diverse
Thy praise accord;
Let Faith upon us shine,
And Charity combine,
With Hope, to make us thine,
Jehovah, Lord!

Spirit of Truth and Love!
Descending from above,
Our hearts inflame:
Till Masonry's control
Shall build in one the whole,
A temple of the soul,
To thy great name!

SECOND SECTION.

CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION.

The Grand Master* asks his Deputy, "Whether he has examined the Master nominated in the warrant, and finds him well skilled in the noble science and the royal art."

* In this and other similar instances, where the Grand Master is specified in acting, may be understood any Master who performs the ceremony.

The Deputy answering in the affirmative,* by the Grand Master's order, takes the candidate from among his fellows, and presents him at the pedestal, saying, "Most Worshipful Grand Master, I present my worthy Brother A. B., to be installed Master of this new Lodge. I find him to be of good morals, and of great skill, true and trusty; and as he is a lover of the whole Fraternity, wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth, I doubt not he will discharge his duty with fidelity."

The Grand Master then addresses him:—

"BROTHER—

"Previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient charges and regulations which point out the duty of a Master of a Lodge."

The Grand Master then reads, or orders to be read, a summary of the Ancient Charges to the Master elect, as follows, viz.,—

"I. You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.

"II. You agree to be a peaceable citizen, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.

"III. You promise not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the supreme Legislature.

"IV. You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrate, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men.

"V. You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of the Order of Masonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations; and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your Brethren, when convened, in every case consistent with the constitutions of the Order.

"VI. You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess.

"VII. You agree to be cautious in carriage and behavior, courteous to your Brethren, and faithful to your Lodge.

"VIII. You promise to respect genuine Brethren, and to dis-

* A private examination is understood to precede the installation of every officer.

countenance impostors, and all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry.

“IX. You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

“X. You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers when duly installed; and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge, or General Assembly of Masons, that is not subversive of the principles and groundwork of Masonry.

“XI. You admit that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.

“XII. You promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge, on receiving proper notice; and to pay attention to all the duties of Masonry, on convenient occasions.

“XIII. You admit that no new Lodge shall be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge; and that no countenance be given to any irregular Lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the Order.

“XIV. You admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason in, or admitted a member of, any regular Lodge, without previous notice, and due inquiry into his character.

“XV. You agree that no visitors shall be received into your Lodge without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of their having been initiated in a regular Lodge.”

These are the regulations of Free and Accepted Masons.

The Grand Master then addresses the Master Elect in the following manner: “Do you submit to these charges, and promise to support these regulations, as Masters have done in all ages before you?” The new Master having signified his cordial submission as before, the Grand Master thus addresses him:—

“Brother A. B., in consequence of your cheerful conformity to the charges and regulations of the Order, you are now to be Installed Master of this new Lodge, in full confidence of your care, skill and capacity, to govern the same.”

The new Master is then regularly invested with the insignia of his office, and the furniture and implements of his Lodge.

The various implements of the profession are emblematic

ical of our conduct in life, and upon this occasion are carefully enumerated.

“The *Holy Writings*, that great light in Masonry, will guide you to all truth; it will direct your paths to the temple of happiness, and point out to you the whole duty of man.

“The *Square* teaches us to regulate our actions by rule and line, and to harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue.

“The *Compass* teaches us to limit our desires in every station, that, rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected, and die regretted.

“The *Rule* directs that we should punctually observe our duty; press forward in the path of virtue, and, neither inclining to the right nor to the left, in all our actions have *eternity* in view.

“The *Line* teaches us the criterion of moral rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path which leads to *immortality*.

“The *Book of Constitutions* you are to search at all times. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins.

“You now receive in charge the *Charter*, by the authority of which this Lodge is held. You are carefully to preserve and duly transmit it to your successor in office.

“*Lastly*, you receive in charge the *By-Laws* of your Lodge, which you are to see carefully and punctually executed.”

The Jewels of the officers of the new Lodge are then returned to the Master, who delivers them, respectively, to the several officers of the Grand Lodge, according to their rank.

The subordinate officers of the new Lodge are then invested with their jewels, by the Grand Officers of corresponding rank; and are by them, severally, in turn, conducted to the Grand Master, who delivers to each of them a short charge, as follows:—

THE SENIOR WARDEN.

“Brother C. D., you are appointed* Senior Warden of this new Lodge, and are now invested with the insignia of your office.

* When the installation is not of the officers of a new Lodge, the words “have been elected” should be substituted for the words “are appointed,” in all cases where the officer is chosen by ballot.

"The *Level* demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same hope; and though distinctions among men are necessary to preserve subordination, yet no eminence of station should make us forget that we are Brethren; for he who is placed on the lowest spoke of fortune's wheel may be entitled to our regard; because a time will come, and the wisest knows not how soon, when all distinction, but that of goodness, shall cease; and death, the grand leveller of human greatness, reduce us to the same state.

"Your regular attendance on our stated meetings is essentially necessary. In the absence of the Master, you are to govern this Lodge; in his presence, you are to assist him in the government of it. I firmly rely on your knowledge of Masonry, and attachment to the Lodge, for the faithful discharge of the duties of this important trust. — *Look well to the West!*"

THE JUNIOR WARDEN.

"Brother E. F., you are appointed Junior Warden of this new Lodge; and are now invested with the badge of your office.

"The *Plumb* admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations, to hold the scale of justice in equal poise, to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty.

"To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment; it is therefore indispensably necessary, that you should not only be temperate and discreet, in the indulgence of your own inclinations, but carefully observe that none of the Craft be suffered to convert the means of refreshment into intemperance and excess.

"Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested; and I have no doubt that you will faithfully execute the duty which you owe to your present appointment. — *Look well to the South!*"

THE TREASURER.

"Brother G. H., you are appointed Treasurer of this new Lodge. It is your duty to receive all moneys from the hands of the Secretary, keep just and regular accounts of the same, and pay them out at the Worshipful Master's will and pleasure, with the consent of the Lodge. I trust your regard for the Fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office."

THE SECRETARY.

"Brother I. K., you are appointed Secretary of this new Lodge. It is your duty to observe the Worshipful Master's will and pleasure, to record the proceedings of the Lodge, to receive all moneys, and pay them into the hands of the Treasurer.

"Your good inclination to Masonry and this Lodge, I hope, will induce you to discharge your office with fidelity; and by so doing, you will merit the esteem and applause of your Brethren."

THE SENIOR AND JUNIOR DEACONS.

“Brothers L. M. and N. O., you are appointed Deacons of this new Lodge. It is your province to attend on the Master and Wardens, and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the Lodge; such as in the reception of candidates into the different degrees of Masonry; the introduction and accommodation of visitors, and in the immediate practice of our rites. These Rods, as badges of your office, I intrust to your care, not doubting your vigilance and attention.”

THE STEWARDS.

“Brothers P. Q. and R. S., you are appointed Stewards of this new Lodge. The duties of your office are, to assist in the collection of dues and subscriptions, to keep an account of the Lodge expenses, to see that the tables are properly furnished at refreshment, and that every Brother is suitably provided for: and generally to assist the Deacons and other officers in performing their respective duties. Your regular and early attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal and attachment to the Lodge.”

THE TYLER.

“Brother T. U., you are appointed Tyler of this Lodge, and I invest you with the implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Tyler, to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are duly qualified, so it should admonish us to set a guard over our thoughts, a watch at our lips, post a sentinel over our actions; thereby preventing the approach of every unworthy thought or deed, and preserving consciences void of offence towards God and towards man.”

CHARGE UPON THE INSTALLATION OF THE OFFICERS OF A LODGE.

“WORSHIPFUL MASTER—

“The Grand Lodge having committed to your care the superintendence and government of the Brethren who are to compose this new Lodge, you cannot be insensible of the obligations which devolve on you as their head; nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties annexed to your appointment.

“The honor, reputation and usefulness of your Lodge, will materially depend on the skill and assiduity with which you manage its concerns; whilst the happiness of its members will be generally promoted, in proportion to the zeal and ability with which you propagate the genuine principles of our Institution.

“For a pattern of imitation, consider the great luminary of nature, which, rising in the *East*, regularly diffuses light and lustre to all within its circle. In like manner, it is your province

to spread and communicate light and instruction to the Brethren of your Lodge. Forcibly impress upon them the dignity and high importance of Masonry; and seriously admonish them never to disgrace it. Charge them to practise *out* of the Lodge those duties which they have been taught *in* it; and by amiable, discreet and virtuous conduct, to convince mankind of the goodness of the Institution; so that when a person is said to be a member of it, the world may know that he is one to whom the burthened heart may pour out its sorrows; to whom distress may prefer its suit; whose hand is guided by justice, and his heart is expanded by benevolence. In short, by a diligent observance of the By-Laws of your Lodge, the Constitutions of Masonry, and, above all, the Holy Scriptures, which are given as a rule and guide to your faith, you will be enabled to acquit yourself with honor and reputation, and lay up a *crown of rejoicing*, which shall continue when time shall be no more.

“ BROTHER SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS —

“ You are too well acquainted with the principles of Masonry to warrant any distrust that you will be found wanting in the discharge of your respective duties. Suffice it to say, that what you have seen praiseworthy in others, you should carefully imitate; and what in them may have appeared defective, you should in yourselves amend. You should be examples of good order and regularity; for it is only by a due regard to the laws, in your own conduct, that you can expect obedience to them from others. You are assiduously to assist the Master in the discharge of his trust; diffusing light and imparting knowledge to all whom he shall place under your care. In the absence of the Master, you will succeed to higher duties; your acquirements must therefore be such as that the Craft may never suffer for want of proper instruction. From the spirit which you have hitherto evinced, I entertain no doubt that your future conduct will be such as to merit the applause of your Brethren, and the testimony of a good conscience.

“ BRETHREN OF ——— LODGE —

“ Such is the nature of our Constitution, that as some must, of necessity, rule and teach, so others must, of course, learn to submit and obey. Humility in both is an essential duty. The officers who are appointed to govern your Lodge are sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety, and the laws of the Institution, to avoid exceeding the powers with which they are intrusted; and you are of too generous dispositions to envy their preferment. I therefore trust that you will have but one aim — to please each other, and unite in the grand design of being happy, and communicating happiness.

“ Finally, my Brethren, as this association has been formed and perfected in so much unanimity and concord, in which we greatly rejoice, so may it long continue. May you long enjoy

every satisfaction and delight which disinterested friendship can afford. May kindness and Brotherly affection distinguish your conduct as men and as Masons. Within your peaceful walls, may your children's children celebrate, with joy and gratitude, the annual recurrence of this auspicious solemnity. And may the *tenets of our profession* be transmitted through your Lodge, pure and unimpaired, from generation to generation."

The Grand Marshal then proclaims the new Lodge, in the following manner, viz.,—

"In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of ———, I proclaim this new Lodge, by the name of ——— Lodge, duly constituted."

The Grand Chaplain then makes the concluding prayer which ends the public ceremonies.

The Grand Procession is then formed, in the same order as before, and returns to the hall.

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens being seated, all but Master Masons are requested to retire; and the procession continues round the hall, which, upon passing the several Grand Officers, pays them due homage, by the usual congratulation and honors, in the different degrees. During the procession, (which passes three times round the Lodge,) the following Ode is sung, which concludes the ceremony of installation.

INSTALLATION ODE.

[Written for the Trestle-Board, by R. W. Br. Thomas Power, Esq., of Boston.]

TUNE—"*Indian Philosopher.*"*

When heaven's Great Architect Divine
 Raised world on world in kind design,
 Then form on earth was laid;
 Fraternal thoughts conferred on man,
 By love inspired the social plan,
 And social hearts obeyed.

While wandering on our clouded way,
 Compassion shed its kindly ray,
 A guide to lead the blind;

* Arranged as a sacred melody, by the name of "*Redeeming Love,*" and "*Ganges.*"

Conducted by a holy light,
 With generous love and mystic rite,
 The purest joys we find.

With skill to work, and wise to guide,
 No pain shall come, no thought divide,
 Where hearts with heart agree ;
 Then let us to our altar bring
 The dearest offering, while we sing,
 United, true and free.

The Lodge is then closed with the usual solemnities in the different degrees, by the Grand Master and his officers.

This is the usual ceremony observed by regular Masons at the constitution of a new Lodge, which the Grand Master may abridge or extend at pleasure ; but the material points are upon no account to be omitted. The same ceremony and charges attend every succeeding installation of new officers.

THIRD SECTION.

CEREMONY OBSERVED AT LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONES OF PUBLIC STRUCTURES.

This ceremony is conducted by the Grand Master and his officers, assisted by the members of the Grand Lodge, and such other officers and members of private Lodges as can conveniently attend. The Chief Magistrate, and other civil officers of the place where the building is to be erected, generally attend on the occasion.

At the time appointed, the Grand Lodge is convened in some suitable place, approved by the Grand Master. A band of martial music is provided, and the Brethren appear in the insignia of the Order, and with white gloves and aprons. The Lodge is opened by the Grand Master, and the rules for regulating the procession to and from the place where the ceremony is to be performed are read by the Grand Secretary. The necessary cautions are then given

from the Chair, and the Lodge is adjourned; after which, the procession sets out, in the following order:

PROCESSION AT LAYING FOUNDATION STONES.

Entered Apprentices ;
 Fellow-Crafts ;
 Two Tylers, with Drawn Swords ;
 Tyler of the Oldest Lodge, with a Drawn Sword ;
 Two Stewards, of the Oldest Lodge ;
 Master Masons ;
 Stewards ;
 Junior Deacons ;
 Senior Deacons ;
 Secretaries ;
 Treasurers ;
 Past Wardens ;
 Junior Wardens ;
 Senior Wardens ;
 Mark Masters ;
 Past Masters ;
 Royal Arch Masons ;
 Knights Templars ;
 Masters of Lodges ;
 Music ;
 Grand Tyler, with a Drawn Sword ;
 Grand Stewards, with White Rods ;
 A Brother, with a Golden Vessel, containing Corn ;
 Two Brethren, with Silver Vessels, one containing Wine, and the other
 Oil ;
 Principal Architect. with Square, Level and Plumb ;
 Grand Secretary and Treasurer ;
 Bible, Square and Compass, carried by a Master of a Lodge, supported by
 two Stewards ;
 Grand Chaplain ;
 The Five Orders ;
 Past Grand Wardens ;
 Past Deputy Grand Masters ;
 Past Grand Masters ;
 Chief Magistrate of the place ;
 Two large Lights, borne by two Masters of Lodges ;
 Grand Wardens ;
 One large Light, borne by a Master of a Lodge ;
 Deputy Grand Master ;

Marshal.

Master of the Oldest Lodge, bearing the Book of Constitutions, on a Velvet Cushion ;
 Grand Deacons, with Black Rods, on a line, seven feet apart ;
 GRAND MASTER ;
 Grand Sword Bearer, with a Drawn Sword ;
 Two Stewards, with White Rods.

A triumphal arch is usually erected at the place where the ceremony is to be performed. The procession passes through the arch, and the Brethren repairing to their stands, the Grand Master and his officers take their places on a temporary platform, covered with a carpet. The following Hymn may then be sung :

Great Architect of earth and heaven,
 By time nor space confined,
 Enlarge our love to comprehend,
 Our BRETHREN, all mankind.

Where'er we are, whate'er we do,
 Thy presence let us own ;
 Thine EYE, all-seeing, marks our deeds,
 To Thee all thoughts are known.

While nature's works and science's laws
 We labor to reveal,
 O ! be our duty done to Thee,
 With fervency and zeal.

With FAITH our guide, and humble HOPE,
 Warm CHARITY and LOVE,
 May all at last be raised to share
 Thy perfect LIGHT above.

The Grand Master commands silence, and the necessary preparations are made for laying the Stone, on which is engraved the year of Masonry, the name and titles of the Grand Master, &c. &c.

The Stone is raised up, by the means of an engine erected for that purpose, and the Grand Chaplain, or orator, repeats a short prayer. The Grand Treasurer, by the Grand Master's command, places under the Stone various sorts of coin and medals of the present age. Solemn music is intro-

duced, and the Stone let down into its place. The principal architect then presents the working tools to the Grand Master, who applies the *Plumb, Square and Level*, to the Stone, in their proper positions, and pronounces it to be "WELL FORMED, TRUE AND TRUSTY."

The golden and silver vessels are next brought to the table, and delivered, the former to the Deputy Grand Master, and the latter to the Grand Wardens, who successively present them to the Grand Master; and he, according to ancient ceremony, pours the corn, the wine, and the oil, which they contain, on the Stone, saying,

"May the all bounteous Author of Nature bless the inhabitants of this place with all the necessaries, conveniences and comforts of life; assist in the erection and completion of the building; protect the workmen against every accident, and long preserve this structure from decay; and grant to us all, in needed supply, the CORN of *nourishment*, the WINE of *refreshment*, and the OIL of *joy*."

"*Amen! so mote it be! Amen!*"

He then strikes the Stone thrice with the mallet, and the *public* honors of Masonry are given.

The Grand Master then delivers over to the architect the various implements of architecture, intrusting him with the superintendence and direction of the work; after which, he reëscends the platform, and an Oration, suitable to the occasion, is delivered. A voluntary collection is made for the workmen, and the sum collected is placed upon the Stone by the Grand Treasurer. The ceremony concludes with the annexed Ode. After which, the procession returns to the place whence it set out, and the Lodge is closed.

CONCLUDING ODE.

[Written for the Trestle-Board, by R. W. Br. Thomas Power, Esq., of Boston.]

MUSIC — "*Turin*."

Placed in form the corner stone, —
 True and trusty, Brothers own, —
 Come and bring, in thought sincere,
 Hands to help, and hearts to cheer.

CHORUS.

Come and bring, in thought sincere,
Hands to help, and hearts to cheer.

Marked with love the Master's will —
Kindly proved the work of skill —
Beauteous forms in grace shall rise
'Neath the arch of favoring skies.

CHORUS.

Beauteous forms in grace shall rise
'Neath the arch of favoring skies.

Join we now our offering true,
While our homage we renew ;
Bear to Him whose praise we sing
Thanks that from each bosom spring.

CHORUS.

Bear to Him whose praise we sing
Thanks that from each bosom spring.

When on earth our work is o'er,
Be a dearer life in store,
Each in form, in heart upright,
Taught by Truth's unerring light.

CHORUS.

Each in form, in heart upright,
Taught by Truth's unerring light.

 FOURTH SECTION.

CEREMONY OBSERVED AT THE DEDICATION OF MASONIC HALLS.

On the day appointed for the celebration of the ceremony of Dedication, the Grand Master and his officers, accompanied by the members of the Grand Lodge, meet in a convenient room near to the place where the ceremony is to be performed, and the Grand Lodge is opened in ample form, in the first three Degrees of Masonry.

The Master of the Lodge to which the hall to be Dedicated belongs, being present, rises and addresses the Grand Master as follows : —

" MOST WORSHIPFUL —

" The Brethren of ——— Lodge, being animated with a desire of promoting the honor and interest of the Craft, have, at great pains and expense, erected a Masonic Hall, for their convenience and accommodation. They are now desirous that the same should be examined by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge; and if it should meet their approbation, that it should be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, agreeably to ancient form."

The Grand Master then directs the Grand Secretary to read the Order of Procession, which is delivered over to the Grand Marshal; and a General Charge, respecting propriety of behavior, is given by the Deputy Grand Master; or the necessary directions are given to the Brethren from the Chair.

A grand procession is then formed, in the order laid down in the first section. The whole moves forward to the hall which is to be Dedicated; and upon the arrival of the front of the procession at the door, they halt, open to the right and left, and face inward, whilst the Grand Master, and others in succession, pass through and enter. The music continues while the procession marches three times round the hall.

The Lodge is placed in the centre. The Grand Master having taken the chair, under a canopy, the Grand Officers take the places of the corresponding officers of the Lodge, and the Masters and Wardens of other Lodges repair to the places previously prepared for their reception. The three lights, (in a triangular form,) and the gold and silver pitchers, with the corn, wine and oil, are placed on the Lodge, at the head of which stands the pedestal, or altar, with the Bible open, and the Square and Compass laid thereon. The Constitution is placed beside it, on a crimson velvet cushion.

The following introductory may then be sung:—

I N T R O D U C T O R Y .

[Written for the Trestle-Board, by R. W. Br. Thomas Power, Esq., of Boston.]

MUSIC—“*Effingham.*”

How dear the place where Brothers true
Their holy pledge of Faith renew!

DUETT.

Let notes of love responsive rise,

CHORUS.

From East to West—to furthest skies.

While here sweet Hope its presence bears,
No fear indulged, no anxious cares,

DUETT.

Let notes of love responsive rise,

CHORUS.

From East to West—to furthest skies.

May gentle Charity here find
United friends and Brothers kind.

DUETT.

Let notes of love responsive rise,

CHORUS.

From East to West—to furthest skies.

To Him, our Master, throned in Light,
Let every voice in praise unite.

DUETT.

Let notes of love responsive rise,

CHORUS.

From East to West—to furthest skies.

After singing the ode, and an eulogy on Masonry having been given, the architect addresses the Grand Master as follows:—

“ MOST WORSHIPFUL —

“ Having been intrusted with the superintendence and management of the workmen employed in the construction of this edifice: and having, according to the best of my ability, accomplished the task assigned me; I now return my thanks for the honor of this appointment, and beg leave to surrender up the implements which were committed to my care when the foundation of this fabric was laid; humbly hoping that the exertions which have been made on this occasion will be crowned with your approbation, and that of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.”

To which the Grand Master makes the following reply:—

“**BROTHER ARCHITECT**—

“The skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust reposed in you, at the commencement of this undertaking, have secured the entire approbation of the Grand Lodge; and they sincerely pray, that this edifice may continue a lasting monument of the taste, spirit and liberality, of its founders.”

The following Ode, by the R. W. Br. Power, may then be sung:—

TUNE—“*Indian Philosopher.*”

When darkness veiled the hopes of man,
Then *Light* with radiant beams began,
To cheer his clouded way;
In graceful *Form*, to soothe his woes,
Then *Beauty* to his vision rose,
In bright and gentle ray.

Immortal *Order* stood confessed,
From furthest *East* to distant *West*,
In columns just and true;
The faithful *Plumb* and *Level* there,
Uniting with the mystic *Square*,
The temple brought to view.

Descending then from Heaven Most *High*,
Came *Charity*, with tearful eye,
To dwell with feeble man;
Hope whispered peace in brighter skies,
On which a trusting *Faith* relies,
And earth's best joys began.

Abroad was seen the boon of Heaven,
Fraternal Love was kindly given,
And touched each kindred heart;
The sons of Light with transport then,
In kindness to their fellow-men,
Unveiled the *Mystic Art*.

Let grateful pæans loudly rise,
O'er earth's domains, to azure skies,
As time shall onward move;
A Brother's joy and woe shall be
Undying bonds to mark *the free*,
To wake a Brother's love.

The Deputy Grand Master then rises and says :

“**MOST WORSHIPFUL** —

“The Hall in which we are now assembled, and the plan upon which it has been constructed, having met with your approbation, it is the desire of the Fraternity that it should be now Dedicated, according to ancient form and usage.”

Whereupon the Grand Master requests all to retire but such as are Master Masons. A procession is then formed in the following order, viz., —

Grand Sword Bearer ;
A Past Master, with a Light ;
A Past Master, with Bible, Square and Compass, on a Velvet Cushion ;
Two Past Masters, each with a Light ;
Grand Secretary and Treasurer, with Emblems ;
Grand Junior Warden, with Pitcher of Corn ;
Grand Senior Warden, with Pitcher of Wine ;
Deputy Grand Master, with Pitcher of Oil ;
Grand Master ;
Two Stewards, with Rods.

All the other Brethren keep their places, and assist in performing the following Ode, which continues during the procession, excepting only at the intervals of Dedication.

[Written for the Trestle-Board, by R. W. Br. Thomas Power, Esq., of Boston.]

MUSIC — “*Sterling.*”

All honors to our Master pay,
Who bade our holy temple rise ;
While here we journey on our way,
Our thanks shall reach to furthest skies.
(Dedication to FREEMASONRY.)

We hail our holy patron's name,
Whose bright example guides us still ;
His highest honors we proclaim,
While grateful thanks our temple fill.
(Dedication to VIRTUE.)

While thus we seek, in pure desire,
Immortal bliss in realms above,
Our hearts shall kindle at the fire
Whose light is Universal Love.
(Dedication to UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE.)

The Lodge is uncovered, and the first procession being made round it, the Grand Master having reached the East, the Grand Junior Warden presents the pitcher of corn to the Grand Master, who, striking thrice with his mallet, pours it out upon the Lodge, at the same time pronouncing, "In the name of the Great Jehovah, to whom be all honor and glory, I do solemnly dedicate this Hall to FREEMASONRY." *The grand honors are given.*

The second procession is then made round the Lodge, and the Grand Senior Warden presents the pitcher of wine to the Grand Master, who sprinkles it upon the Lodge, at the same time saying, "In the name of holy Saint John, I do solemnly dedicate this Hall to VIRTUE." *The grand honors are twice repeated.*

The third procession is then made round the Lodge, and the Deputy Grand Master presents the pitcher of oil to the Grand Master, who, sprinkling it upon the Lodge, says, "In the name of the whole Fraternity, I do solemnly dedicate this Hall to UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE." *The grand honors are thrice repeated.*

A solemn invocation is made to heaven, by the Grand Chaplain, and an anthem sung; after which the Lodge is covered, and the Grand Master retires to his chair. An oration is then delivered by some Brother appointed for the purpose, and the ceremonies conclude with music. The Grand Lodge is again formed in procession, as at first, and returns to the room, where it was opened, and is closed in ample form.

FIFTH SECTION.

THE CEREMONY OBSERVED AT FUNERALS, ACCORDING TO THE ANCIENT CUSTOM;

WITH TWO SERVICES, EITHER OF WHICH MAY BE USED ON THE OCCASION.

No Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order, unless he has been advanced to the Third Degree

of Masonry. Fellow-Crafts and Apprentices are not entitled to funeral obsequies, nor to attend the Masonic processions on such occasions.

All the Brethren who walk in procession should observe as much as possible a uniformity in their dress. Black clothes, with white gloves and aprons, are most suitable.

FORM OF SERVICE,

Drawn up by Rev. Br. ALBERT CASE, of South Carolina, and adopted by the National Masonic Convention, at Baltimore, May, 1843.

The Brethren having assembled, the presiding officer opens the Lodge in the Third Degree in Masonry.

After the object of the meeting has been stated, the Chaplain, or Master, will begin the service as follows : —

SERVICE IN THE LODGE-ROOM.

I. If a man die, shall he live again?

Response—The dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit to God who gave it.

II. When he dieth, shall he carry anything away with him?

Response—He brought nothing into the world, and it is certain he can carry nothing out.

III. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Response. God is our God forever. He will be our guide and support through the dark valley of the shadow of death.

Our Brother has been called from labor in the terrestrial Lodge, and gone, we trust, to partake of the Divine refreshments on high.

Let us meditate on the virtues of his character: the benevolent spirit he manifested—the offerings he made upon the altar of charity, whereby the needy were supported, the distressed comforted, the widow's woes assuaged, and the lone orphan's tears dried up.

Let us see, in the holy precepts of religion and in the teachings of our Institution, those principles which influenced him to adore his Maker, and to love his fellow-man, and which taught him how to live and how to die.

And since he is gone, in obedience to Heaven's mandate, may the recollection of his honor and virtue be cherished in our hearts, and have a salutary influence in our lives.

And now, beloved Brother, farewell, farewell, till we meet thee with a lasting embrace in that Grand Lodge, where the Grand Master Supreme forever presides, forever reigns!

THE HONORS ARE THEN GIVEN, AND THE FOLLOWING PRAYER PRONOUNCED.

Almighty God — infinite in wisdom, mercy, and goodness — extend to us the riches of thy everlasting favor, make us grateful for present benefits, and crown us with immortal life and honor. And to thy name shall be glory forever. *Amen.*

The procession is then formed, and proceeds to the place of interment. While assembling around the grave, sacred music may be performed.

ORDER OF PROCESSION AT A FUNERAL.

Tyler, with a Drawn Sword ;

Stewards, with White Rods ;

Musicians, (if they be Masons, otherwise they follow the Tyler ;)

Master Masons ;

Senior and Junior Deacons ;

Secretary and Treasurer ;

Junior and Senior Wardens ;

Past Masters ;

The Holy Writings, on a Cushion covered with black cloth, carried by the oldest Member of the Lodge ;

The Master ;

Clergy ;

The
with the insignia
and two
Pall Bearers.



Body,
placed thereon,
swords crossed ;
Pall Bearers.

The officers take their position at the head of the grave, and the following service is performed by the Chaplain or Master : —

FUNERAL SERVICE AT THE GRAVE.

MY BRETHREN —

We are now assembled around the final resting-place of these mortal remains, and are about closing the last solemn duties of

respect we owe to our departed friend and Brother. A few reflections, therefore, applicable to the solemnities of this occasion, and salutary and impressive to the living, may be, with great propriety, offered on this sacred spot—a spot where departed friendship yet lingers, and steals in melancholy yet pleasing reminiscence on the heart.

We are born to die. We follow our friends to the brink of the grave, and, standing on the shore of a vast ocean, we gaze with exquisite anxiety till the last dreadful struggle is over, and see them sink in the fathomless abyss. We feel our own feet slide from the precarious bank on which we stand, and but a few suns more, and we shall be whelmed amid death's awful waves.

The younger are crowding the next older off the stage of action, as though each were anxious to exhibit his part in the strange and ever-changeful drama of human life. Not a solitary individual reënters the world's theatre. All take their exit, and are known beneath the sun no more forever.

We are now in the solemn grave-yard, and here learn the only language of the tomb—the epitaph declaring *they once lived*.

Lettered stones and monuments are more instructive than the once living thousands whose memories they preserve from oblivion.

All, except these, is speechless as the chambers of eternal silence. No lingering spirits hover around their mouldering relics, whispering any intelligence of their present existence.

The eternal country, for which they embarked, returns us no intelligence of their safe arrival. Speechless is the gentle breeze that fans their verdant covering.

The statesman, hero, philosopher, theologian, whose eloquence or arms have shaken empires—who have united the language of earth and heaven, or plucked proud laurels from fields of war—are resting in silence. Their hearts, that once beat high with hopes of life and glory, are unaffected with the interests of earth, and susceptible of nought but the feelings that appertain to another world.

Not only these are gone, but even the youth, whose cheeks are mantled with sunny smiles, and whose eye sparkles in all the brilliancy of health, must soon become an inanimate lump of clay. Those lips, that now echo the sentiments of inexperience, must be silent, and the heart that now palpitates and rejoices at the sound of pleasure must be stilled in the cold and cheerless mansions of the dead. Another generation will arise to occupy our places and stations in life.

The sun will rise and set, the earth revolve—strangers will tread upon our sepulchres, without knowing that we ever existed. A few surviving relatives may remember us and mourn, but these few will soon follow to the land of silence. No one here will concern himself with our past joys or sorrows, while we shall be conversant with the amazing realities of another world.

Under these feelings and impressions, we are now about to commit the body of our departed friend to the silent grave. And, under a full and solemn conviction of the nothingness of all earthly and perishable objects, we here renewedly, as Masons, pledge to each other our fraternal love; and may we so improve this dispensation of Divine Providence, and so live, that when these feeble frames shall slumber beneath the cold clods of the valley, the needy and distressed, the widow and the orphan, may point with regret to our sleeping ashes, and each exclaim, There lie the men whose compassion soothed my woes; whose maxims tranquillized my perturbed spirits, and whose bounty relieved my pressing necessity.

INVOCATIONS.

I. May we be true and faithful — live and die in love; for the memory of the just is blessed.

Response — So mote it be.

II. The Lord bless us, and keep us — the Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us — the Lord lift upon us the light of his countenance, and give us peace.

Response — So mote it be.

All — Glory be to God in the highest, on earth, peace, good will toward men.

PRAYER.

Almighty and most merciful Father! we adore thee as the God of time and of eternity. Of both worlds, thou art the incomprehensible and amazing Lord; ruling the destinies of all: from the highest angel in heaven, through every grade of creatures, even down to the sparrow's fall — from the grandeur of rolling worlds, down to the numbering of the hairs of our heads.

Under a government so vast and minute, we everywhere see thy ever-working hand. We see it in giving us being, and in calling us hence to be here no more.

As it has pleased thee to take from the light of our abode one dear to our hearts, we beseech thee to bless and sanctify to us this dispensation of thy Providence. Inspire our hearts with wisdom from on high, that we may glorify thee in all our ways. May we realize that thine All-seeing Eye is upon us, and be influenced by the spirit of truth and love to perfect obedience — that we may enjoy the Divine approbation here below. And when our toils on earth shall have ceased, may we be raised to the enjoyment of fadeless light and immortal life, in that kingdom where faith and hope shall end, and love and joy prevail through eternal ages.

And thine, O righteous Father, shall be the glory forever.
Amen.

BRETHREN —

We have taken a solemn and impressive survey of human life, in all its blended lights and shades, and learned that all on earth

is change. We have seen that, as the lightning writes its fiery path on the dark cloud and expires, so the race of men, walking amidst the surrounding shades of mortality, glitters a moment through the darksome gloom, then vanishes from our sight forever.

They rest in the stilly shades. There the worm shall cover us, and darkness and silence reign around our melancholy abode:

But, is this the end of man, and the expiring hope of faithful Masons! No; blessed be God! We pause not at our first or second step, but, true to our principles, we look forward for greater light. As the embers of mortal life are feebly glimmering in the socket of existence, our religion removes the dark shroud; draws aside the sable curtains of the tomb, and bids hope and joy to rouse up, sustain, and cheer the departing spirit. She points beyond the silent tomb, to the breaking light of a resurrection morn, and bids us turn an eye of faith and confidence on the opening scenes of eternity.

She teaches us to advance boldly onward, and ask more light, till, at the Grand Master's Word, we shall be *raised* to that blissful LODGE which no time can remove. There, light unmingled with darkness shall reign, unbroken and perpetual. There, under the sunbeam smiles of immutable LOVE, and beneath the benignant bend of the ALL-SEEING EYE, *we*, as faithful Masons, cherish the fond and immortal hope, that we shall meet again; meet, to part no more.

Unto the grave we now resign the body of our departed Brother,

(Pass round the grave and drop the evergreen, during which time the following Dirge may be sung.)

[Written for the Trestle-Board, by R. W. Br. Thomas Power, Esq., of Boston.]

Music — "Canterbury."

What sounds of grief, in sadness, tell

A Brother's earthly doom —

No more in life's fair scenes to dwell —

A tenant of the tomb,

No more the friendly hand now pressed,

No gently whispered word;

He finds a long, unbroken rest,

Where rules his Heavenly Lord.

All earthly joys and sorrows o'er,

Each changing hope or fear,

He sees the light of that fair shore

Without a sigh or tear.

Then bring to him, whose holy care

That better temple forms,

Our wish that all may gather there,
Beyond life's coming storms.

Friend of our hearts, there rest in peace. Raised by the Grand Master's Word, mayest thou share the blessing of immortal life and unfading glory.

The procession then returns to the Lodge in reversed order; when the necessary duties are performed, and the Lodge is closed.

FUNERAL SERVICE.

[By Br. William Preston.]

The Brethren being assembled at the Lodge-room, (or some other convenient place,) the presiding Master opens the Lodge, in the Third Degree, with the usual forms; and, having stated the purpose of the meeting, the service begins.

Master. "What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?"

Response. "Man walketh in a vain shadow; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them."

Master. "When he dieth, he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him."

Response. "Naked he came into the world, and naked he must return."

Master. "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!"

The grand honors are then given, and certain forms used which cannot be here explained.

The Master, then, taking the SACRED ROLL in his hand, says,

"Let us die the death of the righteous, and let our last end be like his!"

The Brethren answer,

"God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death."

The Master then records the name and age of the deceased upon the roll, and says,

“Almighty Father! Into thy hands we commend the soul of our loving Brother.”

The Brethren answer three times (giving the grand honors each time): —

“The will of God is accomplished! So be it.”

The Master then deposits the roll in the archives, and repeats the following prayer: —

“Most glorious God! Author of all good, and giver of all mercy! Pour down thy blessings upon us, and strengthen our solemn engagements with the ties of sincere affection! May the present instance of mortality remind us of our approaching fate, and draw our attention towards thee, the only refuge in time of need; that, when the awful moment shall arrive that we are about to quit this transitory scene, the enlivening prospect of thy mercy may dispel the gloom of death; and, after our departure hence in peace and in thy favor, we may be received into thine everlasting kingdom, to enjoy, in union with the souls of our departed friends, the just reward of a pious and virtuous life. *Amen.*”

A procession is then formed, which moves to the house of the deceased, and from thence to the place of interment. The different Lodges rank according to seniority, excepting that the Lodge of which the deceased was a member walks nearest the corpse. Each Lodge forms one division, and the following order is observed: —

ORDER OF PROCESSION AT A FUNERAL.

Tyler, with a Drawn Sword;

Stewards, with White Rods;

Musicians, (if they be Masons, otherwise they follow the Tyler);

Master Masons;

Junior and Senior Deacons;

Secretary and Treasurer;

Junior and Senior Wardens;

Past Masters;

The Holy Writings, on a Cushion covered with Black Cloth, carried by the Oldest Member of the Lodge;

The Master;

Clergy;

| | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------|
| The |  | Body, |
| with the insignia | | placed thereon, |
| and two | | swords crossed ; |
| Pall Bearers. | | Pall Bearers. |

The Brethren are not to desert their ranks, or change places, but keep in their different departments. When the procession arrives at the church-yard, the members of the Lodge form a circle round the grave, and the clergyman and officers of the acting Lodge taking their station at the head of the grave, and the mourners at the foot, the service is resumed, and the following exhortation given : —

“Here we view a striking instance of the uncertainty of life and the vanity of all human pursuits. The last offices paid to the dead are only useful as lectures to the living ; from them we are to derive instruction, and consider every solemnity of this kind as a summons to prepare for our approaching dissolution.

“Notwithstanding the various mementoes of mortality with which we daily meet, — notwithstanding death has established his empire over all the works of nature, — yet, through some unaccountable infatuation, we forget that we are born to die. We go on from one design to another, add hope to hope, and lay out plans for the employment of many years, till we are suddenly alarmed with the approach of death, when we least expect him, and at an hour which we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence.

“What are all the externals of majesty, the pride of wealth, or charms of beauty, when nature has paid her just debts ! Fix your eyes on the last scene, and view life, stript of her ornaments, and exposed in her natural meanness ; you will then be convinced of the futility of those empty delusions. In the grave, all fallacies are detected, all ranks are levelled, and all distinctions done away.

“While we drop the sympathetic tear over the grave of our deceased friend, let charity incline us to throw a veil over his foibles, whatever they may have been, and not withhold from his memory the praise that his virtues may have claimed. Suffer the apologies of human nature to plead in his behalf. Perfection on earth has never been attained ; the wisest, as well as the best of men, have erred.

“Let the present example excite our most serious thoughts,

and strengthen our resolutions of amendment. As life is uncertain, and all earthly pursuits are vain, let us no longer postpone the important concern of preparing for eternity, but embrace the happy moment, while time and opportunity offer, to provide against the great change, when all the pleasures of this world shall cease to delight, and the reflections of a virtuous life yield the only comfort and consolation. Thus our expectations will not be frustrated, nor we hurried unprepared into the presence of an all-wise and powerful Judge, to whom the secrets of all hearts are known.

“Let us, while in this state of existence, support with propriety the character of our profession, advert to the nature of our solemn ties, and pursue with assiduity the sacred tenets of our Order. Then, with becoming reverence, let us supplicate the Divine Grace, to insure the favor of that eternal Being, whose goodness and power know no bound; that, when the awful moment arrives, be it soon or late, we may be enabled to prosecute our journey, without dread or apprehension, to that far distant country, whence no traveller returns.”

The following invocations are then made by the Master:—

Master. “May we be true and faithful; and may we live and die in love!”

Answer. “So mote it be.”

Master. “May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our profession!”

Answer. “So mote it be.”

Master. “May the Lord bless us, and prosper us; and may all our good intentions be crowned with success!”

Answer. “So mote it be.”

Master. “Glory be to God on high! on earth peace! good will towards men!”

Answer. “So mote it be, now, from henceforth, and forevermore.”

The Brethren then move in procession round the place of interment, and severally drop a sprig of evergreen* into the grave, accompanied with the usual honors.

The Master then concludes the ceremony at the grave in the following words:—

“From time immemorial, it has been a custom among the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons at the request of a

* This is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul, and reminds us that we have an immortal part within us, which shall survive the grave.

Brother, to accompany his corpse to the place of interment, and there to deposit his remains, with the usual formalities.

“In conformity to this usage, and at the special request of our deceased Brother, whose memory we revere, and whose loss we now deplore, we have assembled, in the character of Masons, to resign his body to the earth whence it came, and to offer up to his memory, before the world, the last tribute of our affection, thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem, and our steady attachment to the principles of the Order.

“The Great Creator having been pleased, out of his mercy, to remove our Brother from the cares and troubles of a transitory existence, to a state of eternal duration, and thereby to weaken the chain by which we are united, man to man, may we, who survive him, anticipate our approaching fate, and be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship; that, during the short space allotted to our present existence, we may wisely and usefully employ our time, and, in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts, mutually promote the welfare and happiness of each other.

“Unto the grave we resign the body of our deceased friend, there to remain until the general resurrection, in favorable expectation that his immortal soul may then partake of joys which have been prepared for the righteous from the beginning of the world. And may Almighty God, of his infinite goodness, at the grand tribunal of unbiased justice, extend his mercy towards him and all of us, and crown our hope with everlasting bliss, in the expanded realms of a boundless eternity! This we beg, for the honor of His name, to whom be glory, now and forever. *Amen.*”

Thus the service ends, and the procession returns in form to the place whence it set out, where the necessary duties are complied with, and the business of Masonry is renewed. The insignia and ornaments of the deceased, if an officer of a Lodge, are returned to the Master, with the usual ceremonies; after which the charges for regulating the conduct of the Brethren are rehearsed, and the Lodge is closed in the Third Degree.

NOTES.

If any past or present Grand Masters, or Deputy G. Masters, or Grand Wardens, should join the procession of a private Lodge, a proper attention is to be paid to them. They take place after the Master of the Lodge. Two Deacons, with black rods, are appointed by the Master to attend a Grand Warden; and when the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, is present, the Book of Constitutions is borne before him, a Sword Bearer

follows him, and the Deacons, with black rods, are placed on his right and left, at an angular distance of seven feet.

Marshals are to walk, or ride, on the left of the procession.

On entering public buildings, the Bible, Square and Compass, Book of Constitutions, &c., are placed before the Grand Master. The Grand Marshals and Grand Deacons should keep near him.

CHAPTER X.

ADDRESSES AND PRAYERS FOR OCCASIONAL USE.

ADDRESSES.

ADDRESS TO A GRAND MASTER AT HIS INSTALLATION.

I am desired, Most Worshipful, to install you into your high office, as Grand Master of Masons.

Give me leave to invest you with this BADGE of your office. This will silently admonish you always to do justice to the cause of Masonry; to consult, as the exalted rank you now hold demands of you, its real interests. It will instruct you to infuse into the many Lodges, of which you are now the head, the true spirit of our Order. It will direct you to make wise regulations for the good government of the Fraternity; to give due commendation to the worthy members of it; and to rebuke those who act contrary to its laws.

I next deliver to you the EMBLEM OF THAT POWER with which you are now invested. Always make use of it for the good of our benevolent Institution.

To you are committed, also, those SACRED WRITINGS in which are to be found the sublime parts of our ancient mystery. In them are, likewise, most strongly inculcated the social and moral duties, without which no man can be a Mason. You will direct your Lodges to read, study, and obey them.

Receive *these* TOOLS of OPERATIVE MASONRY, which are to each of us the most expressive symbols. These will assist you, Most Worshipful, to reduce all matter into proper form; to bring to due subjection irregular passions, and to circumscribe them by harmony, order, and duty.

And lastly, I present to you the *BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS*, in which are contained the *rules* and *orders* made for the good government of the Society ; and the *Charges*, which show its nature, its wisdom, and its utility. With this book, Most Worshipful, you will direct your Lodges to make themselves well acquainted — a work, in all its parts, worthy the attention of men the most enlightened and judicious.

You are now, Most Worshipful, at the head of an Order which is calculated to unite men by true friendship, to extend benevolence, and to promote virtue. And, give me leave to say, that the honor with which you are invested is not unworthy of a man of the highest rank, or most distinguished abilities. Permit me, also, to remind you, that your faithful attention to the duties of your office, and acceptable discharge of them, will render you of great benefit to one of the most liberal Institutions upon earth.

May you do honor to your exalted station, and long enjoy the highest respect and best wishes of all the Fraternity.

ADDRESS AT INITIATION OF A SOLDIER.

Our institution breathes a spirit of general philanthropy. Its benefits, considered in a social view, are extensive. It unites all mankind. It, in every nation, opens an asylum to virtue in distress, and grants hospitality to the necessitous and unfortunate. The sublime principles of universal goodness and love to all mankind, which are essential to it, cannot be lost in national distinctions, prejudices, and animosities. The rage of contest it has abated, and substituted in its stead the milder emotions of humanity. It has even taught the pride of victory to give way to the dictates of an honorable connection.

Should your country demand your services in foreign wars, and should captivity be your portion, may you find affectionate Brethren where others would only find enemies.

In whatever nation you travel, when you meet a Mason, you will find a Brother and a friend, who will do all in his power to serve you ; and who will relieve you, should you be poor or in distress, to the utmost of his ability, and with ready cheerfulness.

PRAYERS.

PRAYER AT INITIATION.

Thou Supreme! Author of peace and lover of concord—bless us in the exercise of those kind and social affections thou hast given us. May we cherish and display them as our honor and our joy. May this our friend, who is now to become our Brother, devote his life to thy service, and consider aright the true principles of his engagements. May he be endowed with Wisdom, to direct him in all his ways; Strength, to support him in all his difficulties; and Beauty, to adorn his moral conduct. And may we jointly and individually walk within compass, and square our actions by the dictates of conscience and virtue, and the example of the wise and good. Amen.

ANOTHER.

Grand Architect! Behold us aspiring towards thee. Thy works fill us with rapture. Heaven's gates stand open to welcome thy sons to glory!

Behold our friend, and soon to be our Brother, entering upon the threshold, which is before this apartment in thy works. May love burst the silence around him, and salute him welcome at the first step. May joy triumph in his heart, and friendship guide him, as he ascends. May his countenance be cheered by the light, and confidence increase, as he passes on. May he behold the emblems of his labor, and his heart reply in ready obedience. May the cheerfulness inspired by the dawning light attend him through the day: And when a long day is complete, may he find his lot with the faithful, in the immortal glory of the Temple, which is pure with the light of God, and eternal in the Heavens!

ANOTHER.

O thou, whose Temple we are! On the mountain of thy truth, let our sublime edifice display its glory. Let the eye of the Master meet the Son of Light, as he enters. Let the greater lights, by the help of the less, illuminate the whole scene of his duty, and of his pleasure. Behold us with thy brightness, at

this hour, leading a young son into thy Temple. Like the Temple, let him be beautiful without, and all glorious within. Let his soul be capacious as thy truth, and his affections pure as the serene heavens, when the silent Moon gives her light. Let him obey as the Sun, who labors until perfect day, with increasing strength; and let all the purposes of his heart be as the Stars which tell of worlds unknown, and are notices of boundless benevolence. Let him move, like the heavenly orbs, in harmony; and should he stretch across the Universe, may he disturb no soul in his course. Within this Temple may he be sacred as the altar, sweet as the incense, and pure as the most holy place. Among thy ministering servants, may he be ready as an angel of God, and faithful as a beloved Son. And when his service is finished, may his memory be celebrated by love on the durable monuments of eternity; and his reward, in the silent, solemn joy of heaven, be sure from the hand of God, the Grand Master of us all.

PRAYER AT OPENING GRAND LODGE.

[From the Archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.]

O most glorious and eternal God, the infinitely wise Architect of the Universe! we, thy servants, assembled in solemn Grand Lodge, would extol thy power and wisdom.

Thou saidst, Let there be light, and there was light. The heavens opened and declared thy glory: and the firmament spangled with thy handiwork. The sun, who rules the day, gave light to the moon, who rules the night, surrounded with the stars. So that there is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and one star differs from another star in glory; and all, by most wondrous signs and tokens, without voice, sound, or language, solemnly proclaim thy Divine mysteries.

We adore thee for our creation; for the breath of life; for the light of reason and conscience, and for all the noble and useful faculties of our souls, which give us so exalted a rank in the order of being. Enable us to live answerably to our exalted privileges and happy destination.

We beseech thee to give us, thy servants, at this, and at all times, wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in our diffi-

culties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications with one another.

Grant, that thy servant, who has been solemnly invested with authority and rule over these Lodges, may be endued with knowledge and wisdom; and may we, and all our Brethren under his jurisdiction, understand, learn, and keep, all the statutes and commandments of the LORD, pure and undefiled. May brotherly love and charity always abound among us. And when we have finished our work here below, let our transition be from this earthly tabernacle to the heavenly temple above; there, among thy jewels, may we appear in thy glory for ever and ever.

Bless and prosper, we pray thee, every branch and member of this Fraternity, throughout the habitable earth. May thy kingdom of peace, love, and harmony come. May thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven, and the whole world be filled with thy glory. Amen.

PRAYER AT CONSTITUTING A LODGE.

[By Rev. Br. Dr. John Watkins.]

Great, Adorable and Supreme Being! We praise thee for all thy mercies, and especially for giving us desires to enjoy, and powers of enjoying, the delights of society. The affections which thou hast implanted in us, and which we cannot destroy without violence to our nature, are among the chief blessings which thy benign wisdom hath bestowed upon us: help us duly to improve all our powers to the promotion of thy glory in the world, and the good of our fellow-creatures.

May we be active under thy Divine light, and dwell in thy truth.

Extend thy favor to us who are now entering into a Fraternal compact under peculiar obligations. Enable us to be faithful to thee, faithful in our callings in life, faithful Masons in all the duties of the Craft, and faithful to each other, as members of this society. Take us under the shadow of thy protection; and to thy service and glory may we consecrate our hearts. May we always put *faith* in thee, have *hope* in salvation, and be in *charity* with all mankind! Amen.

The following Prayers have been prepared expressly for the present edition of the Trestle-Board :

PRAYER AT OPENING A LODGE.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, the High and Mighty Ruler of the Universe, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth, direct us, we beseech thee, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continued help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy Holy Name ; — and as thou hast taught us, in thy Holy Word, that all our doings, without Charity, are nothing worth, send thy Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of Charity, the very bond of peace, and of all virtues, without which, whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee.

These things, and whatever else thou seest we need, we humbly ask, for thy Son's sake. Amen.

PRAYER AT INITIATION.

Almighty and Everlasting God, in whom alone is our trust, and who, in thy Holy Word, hast brought life and immortality to light, defend this, thy servant, with thy heavenly grace, that he may continue thine forever. Strengthen him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding ; endue him with a fear of thy Holy Name ; increase in him, more and more, the spirit of Charity, and the love of the Truth.

Let thy Fatherly hand ever be over him ; let thy Spirit ever be with him ; and so lead him, in the knowledge and the obedience of thy Holy Word, that, having finished his course below, he may at last pass peacefully and joyfully to mansions of rest, in thy Temple above, that house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. Amen.

PRAYER AT CLOSING.

O God, our Creator, Preserver, and Benefactor, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, we heartily thank thee for the fraternal communion which we have this evening enjoyed.

Pardon all that thy Holy Eye hath seen amiss in us.

Bless our humble labors to the promotion of truth and love, unity and peace. Smile upon our Institution, and make it the instrument of great good.

Dismiss us with thy blessing. Go with us when we separate. Guide us evermore by thy good Providence ; and finally reunite us, at thy right hand, in that world of light and life, where thou forever reignest. Amen.

CHAPTER XI.

FORMS TO BE USED FOR VARIOUS MASONIC PURPOSES.

FORM OF PETITION FOR DISPENSATION FOR A NEW LODGE.

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of ———.*

We, the undersigned, being Master Masons of good standing, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry ; and for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, to be named ———. We, therefore, with the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master, and the Lodge nearest our residence, respectfully pray for a Dispensation, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge, at ———, on the ——— of every month, and there to discharge the duties of Ancient York Masonry, in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge. And we have nominated and do recommend Brother A. B., to be the first Master, Brother C. D., to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother E. F., to be the first Junior Warden, of the said Lodge. The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master, and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

FORM OF A DISPENSATION FOR A NEW
LODGE.

To all whom it may concern :

Greeting.

WHEREAS, a Petition has been presented to me, by sundry Brethren, to wit: Brothers A., B., and C., residing in the town of ———, and State of ———, praying to be congregated into a regular Lodge, and promising to render obedience to the ancient usages and landmarks of the Fraternity, and the laws of the Grand Lodge: And whereas, said Petitioners have been recommended to me as MASTER MASONS, in good standing, by the Master, Wardens, and other members of ——— Lodge, under our jurisdiction :

Therefore, I, ———, Grand Master of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of ———, reposing full confidence in the recommendation aforesaid, and in the Masonic integrity and ability of the petitioners, do, by virtue of the authority in me vested, hereby grant this DISPENSATION, empowering and authorizing our trusty and well-beloved Brethren aforesaid to form and open a LODGE, after the manner of *Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*, and therein to admit and make FREEMASONS, according to the ancient custom, and not otherwise.

This Dispensation is to continue in full force for the term of ———, [or until the next annual communication of our Grand Lodge aforesaid,] unless sooner revoked by me. And I do hereby appoint Br. A. B., to be the first Master, Br. C. D., to be the first Senior Warden, and Br. E. F., to be the first Junior Warden, of the said new LODGE. And it shall be their duty, and they are hereby required, to return this DISPENSATION, with a correct transcript of all PROCEEDINGS had under the authority of the same, together with an attested copy of their By-Laws, to our Grand Lodge aforesaid, at the expiration of the time herein specified, — for examination, and for such further action in the premises as shall then be deemed wise and proper.

Given under our hand, and the seal of our Grand Lodge aforesaid, at ———, this — day of —, A. L. 58—, A. D. 18—.

—————, *Grand Master.*

Attest,

—————, *Grand Secretary.*

FORM OF A CHARTER, OR WARRANT, FOR A
NEW LODGE.

To all the Fraternity to whom these Presents shall come :

The GRAND LODGE of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of
Free and Accepted MASONS for the — of —, sends Greet-
ing :

* SEAL.*

_____, G. M.
_____, D. G. M.

WHEREAS, a petition has been presented to us by [*here insert the names of the petitioners*] all Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, praying that they, with such others as shall hereafter join them, may be erected and constituted into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons — which Petition appearing to us as tending to the advancement of Masonry and the good cause of the Craft ;

Know ye, therefore, That we, the Grand Lodge aforesaid, reposing special trust and confidence in the prudence and fidelity of our beloved Brethren above named, have constituted and appointed, and by these Presents do constitute and appoint them, the said A., B., I., F. &c., a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the Title and Designation of _____ Lodge, No. _____, hereby giving and granting unto them and their successors, full power and authority to convene as Masons, within the Town of _____, in the County of _____, and State of _____, aforesaid, — to receive and enter Apprentices, pass Fellow-Crafts, and raise Master Masons, upon the payment of such moderate compensations for the same as may be determined by the said Lodge ; also to make choice of a Master, Wardens, and other Office Bearers, annually, or oftener, as they shall see cause ; to receive and collect funds for the relief of poor and distressed Brethren, their Widows or Children, and in general to transact all matters relating to Masonry which may to them appear to be for the good of the Craft, according to the ancient usages and customs of Masons.

And we do hereby require the said constituted Brethren to attend the Grand Lodge at its regular Communications, and other Meetings, by their Master and Wardens, or by Proxies regularly appointed ; also to keep a fair and regular Record of all their proceedings, and to lay them before the Grand Lodge when required.

And we do enjoin upon our Brethren of the said Lodge, that they be punctual in the payment of such sums as may be assessed for the support of the Grand Lodge — that they behave themselves respectfully and obediently to their superiors in office, and in all other respects conduct themselves as good Masons.

And we do hereby declare the precedence of the said Lodge, in the Grand Lodge and elsewhere, to commence from ———.

In Testimony whereof, We, the Grand Master and Grand Wardens, by virtue of the power and authority to us committed, have hereunto set our hands, and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge to be affixed, at ———, this ——— day of ———, Anno Domini ———, and of Masonry ———.

I. T., *Senior Grand Warden.*

I. L., *Junior Grand Warden.*

By Order of the Grand Lodge,

Attest,

D. O., *Grand Secretary.*

**FORM OF COMMISSION FOR DISTRICT DEPUTY
GRAND MASTERS.**

By virtue of the authority in me vested, I do, by these Presents, appoint the Right Worshipful ———, of ———, to be the District Deputy Grand Master for the ——— Masonic District in ———, *G. M.* this Commonwealth, which District includes the several Lodges here mentioned, viz. : —

* SEAL.*

And he is hereby authorized, during the present year, ending the ——— day of ——— next, (unless this Commission should be sooner revoked by me,) to exercise all the duties, powers and privileges thereof, agreeably to the Laws of the Grand Lodge aforesaid, and the ancient usages of Freemasons.

And it is hereby enjoined on him to watch over the interests of the Lodges aforesaid with all due vigilance, as the true and faithful representative of the **GRAND MASTER.**

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my name, and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge aforesaid to be affixed, this ——— day of ———, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and ——— and of Masonry five thousand eight hundred and ———.

Attest,

—————, *Grand Secretary.*

FORM OF COMMISSION FOR RE-APPOINTMENT.

From the East of the Grand Lodge of ———.

This — day of —, A. L. five thousand eight hundred and —.
To all the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons whom it may concern :

 * SEAL *

 I do re-appoint for the present year of our
 Masonic Jurisdiction, (ending the — day of
 — next,) our Right Worshipful Brother —
 ———, G. M. ———, District Deputy Grand Master, for the
 ——— Masonic District in this State, which Dis-
 trict contains the following Lodges, viz. : —

And hereby empower him to exercise all the duties, powers and
 privileges, of said office of District Deputy Grand Master, agree-
 able to the Regulations of the GRAND LODGE, and for the benefit
 of the LODGES before mentioned, as particularly expressed in the
 Commission given to him at his first appointment.

Attest, ——— ———, *Grand Secretary.*

FORM OF A POWER FOR CONSTITUTING A LODGE.

From the East of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of ———.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN :

But more especially to Brothers A. B., Worshipful Master
 elect ; C. D., Senior Warden elect ; and E. F., Junior Warden
 elect, and the rest of the Brethren, who have been empowered
 by warrant of Constitution, regularly issued under the authority
 of our Grand Lodge aforesaid, to assemble as a regular Lodge,
 in the town of ——— :

KNOW YE, That, reposing special trust and confidence in the
 talents and Masonic intelligence of our Worshipful Brother,
 ———, we have thought proper, ourselves being unable to
 attend, to constitute and appoint our said Worshipful Brother
 ———, to constitute " IN FORM " the Brethren aforesaid, into
 a regular Lodge, to be known and distinguished by the name
 of ——— Lodge, No. —, and to install their officers elect, agree-
 ably to ancient form and customs of the Craft ; and for so doing
 this shall be his warrant.

 * SEAL. *
 * SEAL. *

Given under our hand, and the seal of the Grand
 Lodge of —, of Ancient Free and Accepted
 Masons, at —, this — day of —, A. D. —,
 A. L. —. — — —, *G. Master.*
 — — —, *G. Secretary.*

FORM OF PROXY FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN GRAND
 LODGE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of —.

BE IT KNOWN,

 * SEAL. *
 * SEAL. *

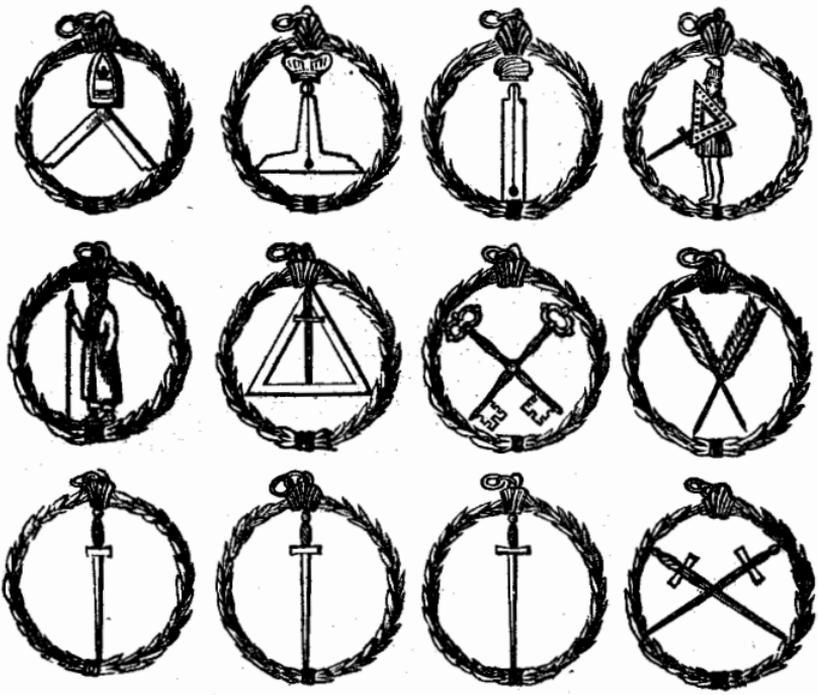
That Brother — — —, of —, having
 been chosen by the members of — Lodge, in
 — — —, to represent said Lodge in Grand Lodge
 the ensuing year: I do, by these presents, in their
Master of behalf, constitute and appoint him their repre-
 — — — *Lodge.* sentative; for them to appear, and upon all sub-
 jects relating to the Craft in general, and to said
 Lodge in particular, to act and decide as fully as though we
 were personally present.

Confirming the acts of our beloved Brother, in his capacity
 aforesaid, We pray that he may enjoy all the privileges and
 protection to which we are entitled.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name,
 and caused the seal of our Lodge to be affixed, this —
 day of —, A. L. 58—.

Attest,

— — —, *Secretary.*



F. E. WORCESTER.

