

THE "ANTIQUITY MS." A.D. 1686.

Fear God And Keep His Commandments	In the name of the Great and Holy God the wisdom of the Son and the goodnesse of the holy Ghost Three Persons & one God be with us now & ever. Amen.	For This is the Whole Duty of Man
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Bretheren and Fellowes here begineth the Noble and Worthy **Science** of Free **Masons** or **Geomitrie** and in what maner itt was first Founded and begun, And afterwards how itt was confirmed by diverse **Kings** and **Princes** and by many other **Worshipful** men and allso to those that be here we mind to shew you the Charge that belongs to every Free **Mason** to keepe For in good faith if you take good heed it is well worthy to be kept for A Noble Craft and curious **Science**. **Sirs** there be seaven Librell **Sciences** of the which this Noble **Science** of **Masons** is one And the seaven be these. the First is **Gramer** and teacheth a man to spell and write truely. The Second is **Rhetoricke** and that teacheth a man to speake Faire and Subtill the Third is **Logicke** and that teacheth a man to descerne the truth from the False The Fouerth is **Arithmeticke** and that teacheth a man to reckon and Account. The fifth is **Geomitrie** that teacheth a man Mett and measure of Earth and of all things of the which this **Science** is called by Mastr **Eurclides** **Geomittrie** and by **Alitruouis** is called **Architecture** the sixth is called **Musique** seaeuam is called **Astromie** and teacheth a man to know the course of the Sun and the Moon and the Starrs These be the seaven Librell **Sciences** of the which all be Founded by one that is **Geomitrie** and thus a man may prove that all the **Seaven Sciences** be Founded by **Geomitrie** for it teacheth a man Mett and measure Ponderaton and waight on all the things on Earth for there is no workman that worketh any Craft but he worketh by some mett or measure and every man that buyeth or selleth they buy or sell by some waight or measure and all this is **Geomitrie** and the Merchants and all other Craftsmen of the seaven **Sciences** and the Plowman and the Tillers of the Earth and the Sowers of all maner of Graines seeds vines and plants and setters of all maner of Fruits for **Grammer** or **ARITHMETICKE** nor **Astronomie** nor none of all the seaven **Sciences** can no man fine mett or measure in without **Geomitrie** wherefore methinks the said **Science** of **Geomitrie** is most worthy and all the other be Founded by itt. But how this worthy Science and Craft was First Founded and begun I shall tell you—Before **Noah's** Flood there was a man which was called **Lameth** as it is written in the **Bible** in the 4th Chapter of **Genesis** and this **Lameth** had two wives the one called **Adah** the other **Zillah** by his first Wife **Adah** he begat **Jabell** and his brother **Juball** & of **Zillah** she bare **Tuball-Caine** and his Sister who was called **Naamah**. And these Foure children found the begining of all these Crafts and **Sciences** in the world For the Eldest son **Jabell** found the craft of **Geometrie** and he fed flocks of Sheep and Lambs

in the Field and first wrought houses of stone and he and his brother **Juball** Found the Craft of **MUSIQUE** song of mouth **HARPP ORGAN** and all other Instruments the Third brother **Tuball-Caine** found the smith craft or Gold silver Iron Copper and Steell and the daughter found the craft of weaveing. And these Children knew well that **God** would take vengeance for sinn either by Fire or Water wherefore they wrote these **Sciences** they had Founded in two Pillers of stone that they might be found afterwards the one stone was called **Carystius** for that would not burn in the Fire And the other was called **Latherne** and that would not be drowned with Water. Our **Entent** is to tell you how and in what maner these stones were found that these **Sciences** was written on. the **Herminerius** that was Cubb his son the which Cubb was Sem-nett son the which was Noah's son this same **Herminerius** was afterwards called **Armes** the Father of the Wisemen he found one of the two Pillers of stone and found the **Sciences** written therein and he taught itt to others, and at the makeing of the Tower of **Babilon** was **Masons** first there made much of and when the **King** of **BABILON** called **Membroth** who was a **Mason** himselfe and loved well the rest as is said with the Master of Stories And when the City of Neneve or the City of the East port should have been made **Membroth** the **King** of **Babilon** sent thither Sixty **Masons** of his Reigon to the **King** of **NINIVE** his Cuzzon and when he sent them forth he gave them a Charge in this manner

First that they should be true to their **King** Lord or Master they served And that they should ordaine the most wise and cunning man to be Master of the **King** or Lords worke that was amongst them and neither for Love riches or favoiur to sett another that had litle cunning to be Master of that worke whereby the Lord should be ill served and the **Science** ill Dishamed.

Secondly, that they should call the Governour of the said worke Master all the time they wrought with him and other many more charges were too long to cyte and for the keeping all those charges he made them sweare a great Oath which men used at that time and ordained for them reasonable pay that they might live with honesty and allso he gave them in charge They should Assemble together every yeare once to see how they might worke best to serve the **King** or Lord for their profit and their own worshipp.

Thirdly that they should correct within themselves those that had trespassed against the **Science** and thus was this Noble Craft first grounded there. And the worthy **Ms. Euclides** gave it the name of **Geomitrie** and how it was called throughout all the world **Masonrie**. **Long** after when the Children of Isreall were come into the Land of Berhest which is now called the Country of Jerusalem where **KING David** begun the **Temple** which is now called **TEMPLM DEI** and is now named with us the **Temple** of **Jerusalem** and the same **King David** loved **Masons** then right well and gave them good pay And he gave the Charges and manners that he learned in **Egypt** which were given by the worthy **DOCTER Euclides** and other more Charges that you shall hear afterwards and after the decease of **King David** then Raigned **Solomon David's** son and he performed out the **Temple** that his Father had begunn and he sent after **Masons** into diverse Lands and into diverse Countries and he gathered them together so that he had 24000 workers of stone and were all named **Masons** and he choosed out of them 3000 and were ordained to be **Masters**, Rulers and Governours of his worke and there was a **King** of an other Reigon which men called **Jram** and he loved well **KING Solomon** and gave him Timber to his worke and he had a son called..... that was Master of **Geomitrie** and was cheife Master of all his **Masons** that belonged to the **TEMPLE** both for Graveing Carveing and all other **Masonrie**.

This is witnessed in the Bible (in Libro Regium tertio & quarto) and this same Solomon confirmed both the Charges and the maners which his Father had given and thus was the worthy Science of Masonrie confirmed in that Countrey of Jerusalem and many other Kingdoms and Reigions—Men walked into diverse countries some because of Learning to learn more cunning and some to teach them that had but little cunning. And so it befell that there was a man called Namus Greecinus who had been at the makeing of Solomon's Temple and he came to France and there he taught the men of that Land the Science of Masonrie and there was one of the Royall Line of France called Carolus Marsell a man that loved well the said Craft and tooke upon him the Rules and maners and after that By the Grace of God was elected to be King of France and when he was in his Esstate he helped to make those Masons that were non and gave them charges and maners as he had learned of other Masons and set them on worke and gave them good pay and confirmed them a Charter from year to yeare to hould their Assemblie where they would and cherished them right well And thus came this noble Craft into France.

England in that season stood void as Foraigne charge of Masons untill St. Albons time for in his day the King of England and that was as a that did wall the Town about which is now called St. Albons and St. Albons was a worthy KNIGHT and STEWARD to the King of his houshold and head Gouvernour of his Realme and also of the makeing of the walls of the said Town and he loved well Masons and cherished them much and made their pay right good for he gave them iij^s. vid. a weeke and iij^d. a day for the bearers of Burthens—before that time in all the Land a Mason tooke but one penny on the day and his meat till Albon mended itt. And he gott them a Charter from the King and his Counsell for to hold a General Counsell and gave itt to name Assemblie thereat he was himselfe and did help to make Masons and gave them Charges as you shall heare afterwards. Soon after the death of St. Albons there came diverse Warrs into England out of diverse Nations so that the good Rule of Masons was quite Disheired and put down untill the time of King Aldiston in his time there was a worthy King in England that brought this Land into good rest and he builded many great works and Buildings therefore he loved well Masons for he had a son called Edwine the which loved Masons much more than his Father did and he was so much practiz'd in Grometrie that he delighted much to come and talke with Masons and to learn of them the Craft and after for the love he had to Masons and to the Craft he was made Mason at WINSOUER and he got of the King his Father a Charter and Commision once every yeare to assemble within the Realm where they would within England and to correct within themselves Faults and Trespasses that were done as touching the Craft and he held them an Assemblie at Porke and there he made Masons and gave them Charges and taught them the maners and commands the same to be kept ever afterwards And tooke them a Charter and Commision to keepe their Assemblie and ordained that it should be renewed from KING to King and when the Assemblie were gathered together he made a Crp that all OLD Masons or young that had any writings or understandings of the Charges and maners that were made before their Lands wheresoever the were made Masons that they shd shew them forth They were found some in French some in Greeke and some in Hebrew some in English and some in other Languages and when they were read and overseen well the Intent of them all was understood to be all one.

And then he caused a Booke to be made thereof how this worthy Craft of Masonrie was first Found and he himselfe commanded and also then caused that

itt should be read at any time when it should happen any **Mason** or **Masons** to be made to give him or them their Charges and from that time untill this day manners of **Masons** hath been kept in this maner and forme as well as men might govern itt. And furthermore at diverse **Assemblies** have been put and ordained diverse Cratches by the best advice of **Magts** and **Fellows**.

Tun unus ex senioribus tenta Librum et illi ponent manum suam super Librum.

Every man that is a **Mason** take good heed to these Charges (wee pray) that if any man find himselfe guilty of any of these Charges that he may amend himselfe or principally for dread of **God** you that be charged to take good heed that yee keepe all these Charges well for it is a great perill for a man to foreswear himselfe upon a Booke.

The First Charge is that yee shall be true men to **God** and the holy Church and to use no error or Herisie by your understanding and by wise men's teaching allso

Secondly that yee shall be true Leige men to the **King** of **England** without Treason or any Falshood and that ye know no Treason or Trechery but yee shall give knowledge thereof to the **King** or to his Counsell allso yee shall be true one to another (that is to say) every **Mason** of the Craft that is **Mason** allowed yee shall doe to him as yee would be done unto your selfe.

Thirdly and yee shall keepe truely all the Counsell that ought to be kept in the way of **Masonhood** and all the Counsell of the **Lodge** or of the Chamber allso that yee be no Theife nor Theives to your knowledge free that yee shall be true to the **King** Lord or Master that yee serve and truely to see and worke for his advantage.

Fourthly yee shall call all **Masons** your Fellowes or your Bretheren and no other names.

Fifthly yee shall not take your Fellowes Wife in villany nor deflower his daughter or servant nor put him to disworshipp.

Sixthly yee shall truely pay for your meat or drinke wheresoever yee goe to Table or board allso yee shall doe no villany there whereby the Craft or **Science** may be Slandered.

These be the Charges Generall to every true **Mason** both Masters & Fellowes.

Now will I Rehearse other Charges single for Masons allowed or accepted.

First that no **Mason** take on him no Lords worke nor other mans unless he know himselfe well able to perform the worke so that the Craft have no Slander.

Secondly allso that no Master take worke but that he take reasonable pay for itt So that the Lord may be truely served and the Master to live honestly and to pay his Fellowes truely and that no Master or Fellow supplant others of their worke (that is to say) that if he hath taken **A** worke or else stand Master of any worke that he shall not put him out unless he be unable of cunning to make an end of his worke And no Master nor Fellow shall take no Apprintice for less then seaven yeares and that the Apprintice be free-born and of Limbs whole as a man ought to be and no Bastard and that no Master or Fellow take no allowance to be made **Mason** without the Assent of his Fellowes at the least six or seaven.

Thirdly that he that be made be able in all degrees that is free-born of a good kindred true and no Bondsman and that he have his right Limbes as a man ought to have.

Fourthly that a Master take no Apprintice without he have occupation to occupie two or three fellows at the least.

Fifthly that no Master nor Fellow put away any Lords worke to task that ought to be Journey worke.

Sixthly that every Master give pay to his Fellows and servants as they may deserve soe that he be not defamed with false workeing And that none slander another behind his backe to make him loose his good name.

Seaventhly that no Fellow in the house or abroad answeare another ungodly or reproveably without a cause.

Eighthly that every MASTER **Mason** doe reverence his Elder and that a **Mason** be no common plaier at the Cards Dice or hazzard nor at other unlawfull plaies through the which the **Science** and Craft may be dishonored or slandered.

Ninthly that no Fellow goe into the Town by night exopt he have a Fellow with him who may beare him record that he was in an honest place.

Tenthly that every Master and Fellow shall come to the **Assemblie** if itt be within Fifty Miles of him if he have any warning and if he have trespassed against the Craft to abide the award of Masters and Fellows.

Eleventhly that every Master **Mason** and Fellow that hath trespassed against the Craft shall stand to the correction of other Masters and Fellows to make him accord and if they cannot accord to go to the Common Law.

Twelvethly that a Master or Fellow make not a mould stone Square nor Rule to no Lowen nor set no Lowen worke within their **Lodge** nor without to mould stone.

Thirteenthly that every **Mason** receive and cherish strange Fellowes when they come over the Countrie and set them on worke if they will worke as the manner is (that is to say) if the **Mason** have any mould Stone in his place he shall give him a mould stone and sett him on worke and if he have none the **Mason** shall refresh him with money unto the next **Lodge**.

Fourteenthly that every **Mason** shall truely serve his Master for his pay.

Fifteenthly that every Master shall truely make an end of his worke Taske or Journey whether soe it be.

These be all the Charges and Covenants that ought to be Read at the making of a Free **Mason** or Free **Masons** THE ALMIGHTY God OF Jacob who ever have you and me in his keepinge bless us now and ever Amen

William Bray Free-man of London and Free-mason.

Written by **Robert Padgett** Clearke to the WORSHIPFULL Society of the FREE **Masons** of the CITY of LONDON in the second yeare of the RAIGNE of our most GRACIOUS SOVERAIGN LORD King **James** the SECOND of ENGLAND &c. Annoq Domini 1686.

Certified to be a true transcript of the Original Scroll by

E. JACKSON BARRON, F.S.A., P.M. & Sec. "Lodge of Antiquity."

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