

*H. de Geoy
Feb. 1947*

A DEMONSTRATION
of the
CEREMONIAL
of the
NETHERLANDIC CONSTITUTION

Presented at

THE SILVER JUBILEE LODGE

No. 531

on

TUESDAY, 18th MARCH, 1947



Produced and directed by

WOR. BRO. LESLIE BIDDLE

P.P.A.G.D.C. (Warwickshire). P. Dist.G.Purst. (S. Africa, C.D.)

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OFFICERS

for the

DEMONSTRATION



Presiding Master	W. Bro. Fred Lawton
Senior Warden	Bro. M. D. Walker
Junior Warden... ..	W. Bro. R. St. George
Orator	W. Bro. F. Gordon Ward
Secretary	W. Bro. Leslie Biddle
Treasurer	
Conductor	Bro. George R. Cross
Preparator	Bro. R. Yeates
Master of Ceremonies ...	Bro. Leslie Roberts
Director of Music	Bro. Clifford Wilson
Inner Guard	Bro. C. R. Dowsett
Cypher	Bro. F. A. Croft
Candidate	Bro. A. McIvor (JAN SMUTS.)

A DEMONSTRATION OF THE CEREMONIAL OF THE NETHERLANDIC CONSTITUTION

The Brethren enter the empty Lodge Room in procession in the following order:—

	The Presiding Master,	
(Deputy Master)		(Honorary Master)
Senior Warden	Orator,	Junior Warden
Secretary		Treasurer
Conductor		Preparator
Master of Ceremonies		Director of Music
Inner Guard.		

They pass up the N. to the E. The W.M. takes his seat and the procession breaks up, and the other Officers go direct to their seats.

The Deputy Master sits on the Master's right.
The Honorary Master sits on the Master's left.
The Senior Warden at the end of the South Column.
The Junior Warden at the end of the North Column.

OPENING IN THE FIRST DEGREE

(W.M. gives one k., repeated by S.W. and J.W.)

W.M.—In order, Brn. (Brn. stand, no sign.)

W.M.—Bro. S.W., are you a Freemason?

S.W.—All my Brn. acknowledge me as such. W.M.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., what is the first duty of the Wardens in the Lodge?

J.W.—To see whether it is properly tiled. W.M.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., ascertain whether such is the case.

[J.W. leaves his chair, gives the E. k., on the inner side of the door, repeated by Tyler on the outside. He returns to his place.]

J.W.—The Lodge is properly tiled.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., where is your place in the Lodge?

S.W.—In the W., W.M. in the column which extends towards the S.

W.M.—Why there?

S.W.—To call the Brn. from labour to rest, and to see that each return to his work at the proper time, so that the building may proceed.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., where is your place in the Lodge?

J.W.—In the N., W.M. in the column which extends towards the N.

W.M.—Why there?

J.W.—To close the Lodge, pay the workmen their wages and dismiss them from their labours.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., where is the place of the W.M.?

S.W.—In the E., W.M.

W.M.—Why there?

S.W.—As the sun rises in the E. to open the day, so the W.M. is stationed in the E. to open the Lodge and to regulate the labours.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., what is the second duty of the Wardens in the Lodge?

S.W.—To assist you, W.M., in opening the Lodge.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., what time is it?

S.W.—It is full noon, W.M., by Masonic time.

W.M.—As it is then full noon, and therefore time to commence our labours, and the Lodge is properly tiled, I open this Apprentice Lodge in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe and according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry with three loud k.s which shall emanate from the E. and resound in the W.

[W.M. gives E.A. k.s, repeated by S.W. and J.W.]

W.M.—The Lodge is opened, let each be mindful of his duty, and blessed will be this hour. Towards me, Brn. [W.M. gives E.A. Sn., which Brn. repeat, followed by applause, three loud claps, repeated by the Brn. in unison with him. All resume their seats. W.M., S.W. and J.W. light the candles on their pedestals, Orator lights spirit lamp on Altar and, kneeling at Altar, opens Bible. W.M., S.W. and J.W. light tapers at their own candles and, advancing to the T.B. simultaneously light the three principle candles.]

at door

light candle cit →
light tapers - leave →
Red & light C @ T.B
- return by shortest route to P. d.

LODGE BUSINESS

W.M.—Bro. Secretary, will you read the minutes of our last Regular Lodge?

Secretary.—Brn., as this is a Demonstration only, I cannot of course read the Minutes of a former Meeting. Instead, perhaps you will allow me to draw your attention to some of the more important of the distinctive features of the Netherlandic Working.

We will suppose that you have come as visitors to a Netherlandic Lodge. On reaching the Temple, you find a rather more extensive suite than is usual in England. There are two "Chambers of Preparation" and a "Chamber of Meditation" for the Candidate. There are two separate ante-rooms—one for the Brethren of the Lodge and the other for the Visitors. There are two separate Lodge Rooms—one laid out in the manner shown here and the other, known as "The Master's Room" or "The Middle Chamber," used for the appropriate portion of the Third Degree and having in its centre a rectangular hole, 7 feet long by 3 feet wide by 3 feet deep.

You are received in the Visitors' Ante-Room, and are duly tested by the Examiner in all the Degrees in which the Lodge intends to work. After producing your Diploma, you sign the Visitor's Book and your signature is then carefully compared with that on your diploma, which is then returned to you. During these preliminaries, the Brethren of the Lodge have clothed themselves in their own ante-room and have entered the Lodge Room in procession. Contrary to our own practice, the room is empty and the procession is led by the Worshipful Master, followed by his Wardens, the Officers according to rank, and the Brethren according to seniority, juniors last. The Lodge is then opened in the Degree in which the Lodge intends to work. Thus, if there is only a Raising, the Lodge opens immediately in the Third Degree, and in that degree transacts the whole of its business, without at any time opening in the First and Second Degrees. To-night we have to deal with the Three Degrees, so for the sake of convenience we have opened in the First Degree.

On entering the Lodge Room we find that the door is in the middle of the West wall, and not in the North-west as in the English Constitution. Inside the Lodge room, at the Western end of the floor, stand two pillars. As we enter, the pillar J is on our left hand and B on our right. The reason for this is that the H.W. in the First Degree is J. The two Wardens sit in the West, the J.W. by the pillar J and S.W. by the pillar B. This is the ordinary practice in Lodges on the Continent of Europe, and may even have been in use in England early in the 18th Century. In days when it was the duty of the Wardens to control the Brethren in their columns any other position in the Lodge would have been impossible. In a Netherlandic Lodge no Brother is permitted to speak without the permission of the Warden of his column.

In the centre of the floor lies the Tracing Board, which is usually painted on oil cloth and is the same for all three Degrees. At the N.E., S.E. and S.W. corners stand three candlesticks (which should be of the Tuscan, Doric and Ionic Orders). They stand in the shape of a "Gallows Square" in the centre of the Compasses represented by the Master and his two Wardens.

In addition to these three candles, there are six others, three on the Master's pedestal, two on the Senior Warden's and one on the Junior Warden's. There is also a spirit lamp, which burns upon the Altar. The Altar itself is evidently a part of the old furniture of the more ancient Masonic systems, for the American Lodges, as well as the Continental Lodges and those under the Irish and Scottish Constitutions, all make use of an Altar, upon which lies the Volume of the Sacred Law.

You will observe the peculiarity of the regalia worn by the brethren. Each Lodge has the right to select the colour of its regalia, and there is also a wide variety in the shapes of the aprons. Each of the Officers of the Lodge wears a collar of a similar colour to the lining of his apron. In many Netherlandic Lodges the distinguishing colour of the lodge is also used for the Altar, the Kneeling Stool and the chairs, benches and tables.

We have now completed our reading of the Minutes, and as we have finished our purely domestic business the Visitors can be admitted.

W.M.—Bro. I.G., admit the visiting brethren.

I.G.—[Goes to door, takes list of visitors from Tyler and announces visitors]:—

- (a) Visitors from other Constitutions,
- (b) Those from Netherlandic Lodges,
- (c) Deputations of Lodges.

A Master in the Chair is introduced by five Officers with drawn swords and sits to the south of the W.M. A Deputation from the Grand East is introduced by seven Officers with drawn swords: W.M. offers mallet.

Sec.—It is now my privilege to give you a description of the First Degree.

The Candidate is received, on his arrival at the Temple, by the Preparator, who welcomes him in the name of the Lodge and conducts him to a small ante-chamber. On its walls hang cards bearing inscriptions, such as:—

"If mere curiosity leads you to us, retire."

"If you do not trust us, do not proceed."

"If your heart and intentions are pure, be welcome."

On a small table lie some documents. The first is a declaration by which the Candidate binds himself not to reveal any of his experiences to anyone in case he should withdraw at the reception. When he has signed this, the Preparator gives him the second document, which is an examination paper containing these three questions, which he has to answer in writing:—

1. What name do you give to the Being who has created man?
2. What are your views of human destiny?
3. What do you expect from the Order to which you wish to belong, for your *MIND*, for your *HEART*, and for your temporal well-being, and what may the Order expect from you?

The Preparator then divests the candidate of his outer clothes and it is usual, in many Lodges, to strip him completely and to clothe him in a "Candidate's Suit," which resembles a pair of pajamas. The candidate is then taken into the second ante-room, called "the Chamber of Silence," where there is an Owl, the symbol of Watchfulness, and a figure of Silence, represented by a skeleton with a dagger in its hand, as a symbol of Secrecy.

"The Owl is emblematical of the watchfulness that all Mason's keep on newly-initiated brethren. The figure of Silence is symbolical of the great secrecy which every Freemason observes as regards what he sees and hears within the Temple."

The Preparator hands the candidate a piece of bread dipped in salt, saying "Eat of this with us," and invites him to drink from a tumbler of water, saying "Let us drink out of the same glass, and learn from this simple repast not to be wasteful of the good things of life provided for us by the Great Architect of the Universe, for by being wasteful we may be prevented from assisting a brother in need."

The Candidate is then prepared in the ritual manner as in the English Constitution, and is blindfolded. Two of the brethren take his hands and assist him to ascend a short flight of steps or "ladder." As he stands precariously perched upon the top step, and supported by the two brethren, the Preparator says:—

"The position in which you now find yourself is one of extreme danger, and were you not supported by two of the brethren you would be in danger of losing your life. The Great Architect of the Universe has made man a dependant being, and we look upon dependence as a great bond of friendship. It will be your duty, whenever you find a Brother in difficulty or danger, to help and succour him to the best of your power and ability, remembering the position you are now placed in. Reflect and meditate upon your present position and remember these words." The Candidate descends from the ladder into the third ante-room, called the "Chamber of Meditation." His blindfold is removed and he is left, in silence and alone, to contemplate a large illuminated transparency bearing the words "Know thyself." There he remains until the Lodge is ready to receive him.

In due course, the Preparator returns, blindfolds the Candidate again and leads him to the door of the Lodge, upon which the Tyler gives three loud knocks. [Tyler gives three equal knocks.]

J.W. leaves his seat and, opening a small trap in the Lodge door, enquires "Who knocks so loudly?" (J.W. does so.)

The Preparator's reply having been reported to the Master, the Candidate is admitted and placed between the Wardens. [J.W. returns to his seat. Conductor meets Prep. and Cand.] The Orator kneels at the Altar and offer up the Prayer of the First Degree. [Orator does so while brn. stand.] It is then usual for the Master to ask the Candidate several questions on moral subjects, and to deliver a short address on "Self-knowledge."

The S.W. descends from his chair and places the open compasses against the Candidate's breast. [S.W. places compasses against Cand.'s breast], saying "I place these opened compasses on your heart, not to wound your body, but to touch your conscience. Do not forget these words."

The Candidate now makes three symbolical "journeys" or perambulations round the Lodge, escorted by the Conductor. [Preparator goes ahead and places obstructions, closely followed by the Conductor and the Candidate. On the first journey obstructions are placed in the

is reported by J.W. remain until can admitted.

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path. In some Lodges there is a rocking platform over which the Candidate is led. The Master explains that this journey symbolises the dangers and difficulties of life. [Conductor and Candidate continue. Preparator sits.] On the Second Journey, some of the brethren clash swords and make other loud and disturbing noises. The Master explains that this Journey represents the struggle of Life and reminds the Cand. that he must not be discouraged by anything; no wild alarm must disturb his peace of mind. [Brn. clash swords. Prep. rises with cup, which he gives to Conductor.] After the Second Journey he is given to drink of the Bitter Cup. [Conductor hands cup to Cand.], which is a symbol of Human Life. "Man sometimes experiences misfortune and his bitter afflictions seem to him unsurmountable, yet by Self-Knowledge and his trust in God and the assistance thereby obtained he is enabled to overcome the bitterness of life and empty the cup" [Prep. hands basin to Conductor and takes cup from Cand.]

The Candidate's hands are dipped into a basin of cold water as a symbol of the purity of Conscience which he should always maintain. [Prep. dries Cand.'s hands and takes basin and towel back.]

On the Third Journey, the deepest silence prevails. The Cand. is preceded by a Light, the heat of which he should not and then feel. This is the symbol of Light which the Mason discovers in his own soul. [Conductor and Cand. preceded by Prep. with taper.] The Cand. is conducted to the Altar [Conductor and Cand. proceed to E., Cand. k.s., where, k . . g, he takes his O, which is read to him by the Master. This resembles the English O, except that it contains no penalty. Having saluted the V. of S.L. once with his lips Cand. does so, he is again taken to the W., and stands between the Wardens [Conductor takes Cand. there.] The Brn. stand and, by linking hands [Brn. stand and extend hands] form the "Brother Chain." [W.M. stands in front of Altar; all Brn. join hands in Chain; Prep. stands behind Cand. to remove blindfold.]

W.M.—What more does the Cand. desire?

First Prep.—To see the L . . . t, W.M.

W.M.—You desire L.? May I ever be your endeavour to search for L! What L. is to the eyes, truth is to the mind! Let L. now be imparted to him who seeks the Truth. [The b . . . d is removed by Prep.]

W.M.—Our hands, joined together unite you to us and to the altar of truth. Our hearts beat for you, and the pressure of our hands assures you that we will not desert you while truth, justice, secrecy and brotherly love remain sacred to you. Resume your seats, brn. [Brn. resume their seats.] Bro. Wardens, conduct the newly-initiated brother hither. [Wardens draw swords and advance. Cand. is made to cross the Traction Board with the three Apprentice steps, equal length, 9 deg. square—10.10. Cand. k.s at Altar.]

Sec.—The Cand. kneels at the A., and states that he is willing to repeat his promise. This is accepted as being sufficient, and the Master and his two Wardens interlace their swords over the Cand.'s head. [The W.M. with his mallet gives the J.W.'s sword a blow, saying "Wisdom"; the S.W.'s sword a blow, saying "Strength"; and his own sword a blow, saying "Beauty." W.M. then gives E.A. . . . s (. . .) on J.W.'s sword, saying "To the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe; on S.W.'s sword saying "In the name of the Grand East of the Netherlands," and on his own sword saying "By the power vested in me by this Lodge, I accept you as an Apprentice Freemason. Rise, Bro. Apprentice! Cand. is raised by grip on his right hand. Wardens resume their seats. Prep. remains with Cand. W.M. invests Can. with apron and turns the flap inside.]

Sec.—The W.M. invests the Apprentice with his apron and explains that he must wear it with the flap inwards, "which means that your labour must return to yourself; or, in other words, that Self-Knowledge must be the aim of the Apprentice Mason." [W.M. presents gloves.] He is presented with a pair of white gloves to wear, and also with a pair of lady's gloves, which he is bidden to hand to her whom he considers most worthy to receive them from the hands of a Freemason.

The Sn., T. and W. of the Degree are now explained to the Cand. [W.M. gives Sn., copied by Cand.] In demonstrating the Sn., which exactly resembles our own, it is explained that it refers to the ancient oath of a Candidate that he would rather, etc., than betray the sacred trust reposed in him. This is the only reference to the penalty in the whole Degree. The Holy Word is It is the name of one of the columns in the Porth of King Solomon's Temple at which the apprentices received their wages. It signifies H.E. (namely, God) establishes: He is Wisdom. It is exchanged by letters only. The Pass Word is . . . the name of the first Artificer in Metals. This is the word which is used in claiming admission into an Apprentice Lodge. When you are asked to give the P.W. you answer, "I may only syllable

Clash sword
+ make
a noise
as Cand. passes.

leave each take
sword →

it with you: give me the first, and I will give you the second." [W.M. returns to Throne. Conductor takes the Cand. to the S.W., who shakes his hand, and to the J.W., who shakes his hand, and then to a seat at the head of the North Column.]

Sec.—The Cand. is now conducted to the Wardens for the usual examination, and then taken to his official place in the Lodge, at the head of the North Column. At the request of the W.M., the Wardens in turn proclaim to the Brn. in their respective columns that henceforth Bro. A. B. shall be acknowledged as an Apprentice Freemason. The whole Lodge then gives the Cand. the official applause.

W.M.—In order, Brn. (All stand, except Cand.) Towards me, Brn. (Taking time from W.M., all give applause of three times three. Be seated, Brn. (All sit.)

Sec.—The Orator now delivers a long explanation of the Reception and Symbol, which takes the place of the English Charge to the Initiate. Finally, the new Apprentice, together with any other Apprentices who may be present, are taken through the Catechism, which has no fewer than 51 questions and answers. They have plenty of time to learn them by heart, as each must remain an Apprentice for at least a year before he can be passed. This concludes our work in the First Degree, and we may now close the Lodge in that Degree.

Vases of flowers laid out before Grand in 2nd D?

CLOSING IN THE FIRST DEGREE

W.M.—(Remains seated, gives one k., repeated by S.W. and J.W.) Bro. S.W., why are the Wardens placed in the W.?

S.W.—(Seated) As the sun sets in the W. to close the day, so also are the Wardens there placed to close the Lodge and to pay the workmen their wages.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., what time is it?

J.W.—(Seated) It is full midnight, W.M.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., the labours are finished, perform your duty.

J.W.—Gives one k., repeated by S.W. and W.M.) In order, Brn. (All stand to order as E.A.s.) As it is full midnight, and the labours are ended, by command of the W.M. I close this Apprentice Lodge in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe and according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry, with three loud k.s. which will proceed from the W. and will be re-echoed in the E. (J.W. gives k.s., repeated by S.W. and W.M., followed by the applause, three loud claps by all brn. in unison with him. All sit.)

out Sn. on wood place. no sign

Sec.—W.M., our next business is to demonstrate the ceremony of Passing to the Second Degree. (Cand. retires from the Lodge.)

OPENING IN THE SECOND DEGREE

(W.M. gives one k., repeated by S.W. and J.W.)

W.M.—In order, Brn. (Brn. stand, no sign.)

W.M.—Bro. S.W., are you a Fellow Craft?

S.W.—The letter G is shown to me.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., what is the first duty of the Wardens in the L?

J.W.—To see whether it is properly tiled, W.M.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., ascertain whether such is the case. (J.W. leaves his chair, gives the F.C. k.s. on the inner side of the door, repeated by Brn. on the outside. He returns to his place.)

W.M.—The Lodge is properly tiled.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., what is the second duty of the Wardens in the Lodge?

S.W.—To assist you, W.M., in opening the Lodge.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., what time is it?

S.W.—It is full noon, W.M., by Masonic time.

W.M.—As it is then full noon, and therefore time to commence our labours, and the Lodge is properly tiled, I open this F.C. Lodge in the name of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe and according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry with five loud k.s. which shall emanate from the E. and re-echo in the W. (W.M. gives k.s., repeated by S.W. and J.W.)

W.M.—The Lodge is opened, let each be mindful of his duty, and blessed will be this hour. Towards me, brn. (W.M. gives the Sn. of a F.C., followed by the applause with the brn. in unison. All resume their seats.)

(M.C. may now place a vase of flowers on the pedestals of the W.M., S.W. and J.W., and on the tables of the Treasurer and Sec., and at the foot of each of the three candlesticks at the T.B. An illuminated transparency is in the E., showing a Flaming Star, with the letter G in the centre.) (Preparator salutes and retires.)

Sec.—The Cand. is prepared and is conducted to a Chamber of Meditation, on the walls of which hang improving mottoes. On the

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table lies a Form of Declaration, by which the Cand. binds himself not to reveal any of the secrets in case he should retire from the reception. After he has signed this, he is asked to answer in writing the following questions:—

1. What is your opinion of the First Degree?
2. What motives induced you to aspire to the Second Degree?

The Declaration and the written answers are passed into the Lodge and are read to the brn. If these are considered satisfactory, the Master gives one k. (W.M. gives k. Tyler opens door and admits Prep. and Cand., who stand between Wardens. Conductor takes over Cand. and Prep. sits down. Conductor makes Cand. give sn. of E.A. and stand with feet in a S.)

Sec.—The Cand. is introduced and placed between the Wardens. The Master then examines him upon matters in reference to the Apprentice Ritual by asking him selected questions from the Ceremony to which reference has already been made. (Cand. drops sn.) The Master imposes upon him five "journeys" or perambulations round the Lodge Room. To save time we will omit them, but you will please imagine that the Cand. has performed them. In the First Journey he carries in his left hand the Mallet and Chisel; in the Second Journey he carries the Compasses and Ruler; in the Third Journey he carries the Lever on his left shoulder; on the Fourth Journey he carries the S. in his left hand; and on the Fifth Journey he carries no tools at all. At the end of each journey its symbolic significance is explained to him by the Master.

His attention is then directed to the Flaming Star, symbolising the fire which guided the Children of Israel through the wilderness, and the letter G, "which signifies to us Geometer, alluding to God, who is adored in this degree as the Great Geometrician or Preserver of the Universe. The Conductor advances with the Cand. to the foot of the T.B., and instructs him to advance across the T.B. with the three steps of an Apprentice, followed by those of a F.C.

(Conductor takes Cand. to foot of T.B. and walks alongside while Cand. takes three steps) Clock, commencing left, followed by three steps 11-5, commencing right. Cand. k's a A. on r.k., with l.k. and leg in form of a s. Wardens advance with drawn swords, S.W. stands on Cand.'s left, J.W. on Cand.'s right, Conductor behind Cand. W.M. says: In order, brn. (All stand with sn. of F.C. and W.M. leaves throne with drawn sword and mallet and stands before Altar.)

Sec.—The Master reads the O., which contains no penalty. The Cand. does not repeat it, but at the end says "This I promise." (W.M. joins his sword to the swords of the Wardens over the Cand.'s head. W.M. gives five F.C. k's with his mallet on J.W.'s sword, saying)

W.M.—To the glory of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe. (Gives same k's on S.W.'s sword saying)

W.M.—In the name of the Grand East of the Netherlands. (Gives same k's on his own sword, saying)

W.M.—And by virtue of the power vested in me by this Lodge, I accept you as a Fellow Craft Freemason. (Changes sword into left hand and takes Cand.'s right hand with his right. Both Wardens lower swords and help to raise Cand. by his elbows.) Rise, Bro. Fellow Craft. (Wardens return to their seats. All brn. resume their seats. Conductor stands beside Cand. Master remains before Altar.)

Sec.—The Master explains the Sn., G. and W. of a F.C. (W.M. demonstrates the P.S. of a F.C., copied by Cand. W.M. then gives him the G.)

Sec.—The Sn. is P.S. only. It is explained that this refers to the ancient Oath of the Cand. that he would rather, etc., than betray the trust reposed in him. The Holy Word is B. . . . The mode of communicating this is explained. The P.W. is S. It signifies, etc., May your work be as fertile as the ears of corn in a well-cultivated field, and take care that these fruits ever remain of the noblest quality."

The Master invests the Cand. as a F.C. by pulling up the flap of his apron (W.M. does so) in token of the sublime character of his work. (W.M. returns to Throne. Conductor takes Cand. to S.W., who shakes his hand, and to J.W., who shakes his hand; and then to a seat at the head of the South Column.)

Sec.—The Cand. is conducted to the Wardens and presented to them for the usual examination and then taken to his official place in the Lodge at the head of the South Column. At the request of the Master the Wardens in turn proclaim to the brn. in their respective columns that henceforth Bro. A. B. shall be acknowledged as a F.C. Freemason, and call upon them to aid and assist him as such. There follows a long and interesting Explanation of the Reception and an Interpretation of some of the symbols. This concludes the ceremony of Passing, and we may now close the Lodge in the Second Degree.

Grand
Leave Red w/ sword →

ret. to Red.

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CLOSING IN THE SECOND DEGREE

W.M.—(Gives one k., repeated by S.W. and J.W.) Bro. S.W., why are the Wardens placed in the W.?

S.W.—(Seated) As the sun sets in the W. to close the day, so also are the Wardens there placed to close the Lodge and to pay the workmen their wages.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., what time is it?

J.W. (seated).—It is full midnight, W.M.

W.M.—Bro. J.W., the labours are finished, perform your duty.

J.W.—(Gives one k., repeated by S.W. and W.M.) In order, brn. (All stand to order as F.C.s.) As it is full midnight and the labours are ended, by command of the W.M. I close this F.C. Lodge in the name of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe and according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry with five loud k.s. which will proceed from the W. and will be re-echoed in the E. (J.W. gives k.s. repeated by S.W. and W.M. J.W. says: Towards me, brn., followed by the applause, five loud claps by all brn. in unison with M.C. and sit. M.C. removes vases of flowers.)

Sec.—W.M., our next business is to demonstrate the Ceremony of Raising to the Third Degree. Candidate retires from the Lodge.)

OPENING IN THE THIRD DEGREE

(W.M. gives one k., repeated by S.W. and J.W.)

W.M.—In order, brn. (All rise, no snore) Bro. J.W., I request you to perform the first duty of a Freemason. J.W. leaves his chair, gives M.M. k.s. on the inner side of the door, repeated by T.W. on the outside. He returns to his place.

J.W.—W.M., the Master's Lodge is tyled.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., what time is it?

S.W.—The time of a perfect Freemason, full noon, W.M.

W.M.—As it is then full noon, and therefore time to commence our labours, and the Lodge is properly tyled, I open this Master Masons' Lodge in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, and according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry with three times three loud k.s. which will emanate from the E. and resound in the W. (W.M. gives k.s. repeated by S.W. and J.W.)

W.M.—This Master's Lodge is opened; blessed be this hour. Towards me, brn. (W.M. gives the P.S. of a M.M., repeated by all brn. No applause. All resume their seats.)

EXPLANATION OF THIRD DEGREE

(M.C. arranges (1) Coffin on trestles, (2) Black Crepe on pedestals)

Sec.—One of the Preparators retires to prepare the Candidate. (Preparator salutes and retires.)

When he is prepared, he is conducted to a Chamber of Meditation draped in black; on a small table stands a Skull and an Hour Glass. The Cand. signs a written declaration that he will not reveal any of the secrets in case he should fail to go through the whole ceremony. He is then asked to answer in writing the question, "Do you believe in a life hereafter." These two documents are taken into the Temple. (Prep. hands papers through door to M.C. M.C. advances from the door and hands two papers to the W.M.)

Brethren, our Bro. A. B. has made the usual declaration. He has given the following reply to the question, "Do you believe in a life hereafter." "Yes, I believe that only in a life hereafter can man's imperfections be made perfect."

"Are you satisfied with the answer given?"

OMNES.—Satisfied.

W.M.—Do you approve of the Cand. being raised to the 3rd Deg.?

OMNES.—Agreed.

(M.C. retires from Lodge and brings Cand. and Prep. to door of Lodge on which he knocks with F.C. knocks.) N.B. 3/2

W.M.—Bro. S.W., ascertain who knocks.

S.W.—Bro. J.W., ascertain who knocks.

(J.W. proceeds to door, opens slightly.)

J.W.—Who knocks?

M.C.—A Bro. who has served his term as a F.C. and now requests to be raised to the Master's Degree. (J.W. closes door, returns to his place.)

J.W.—Bro. S.W., a Bro. who has served his term as a F.C. and now (as above)

S.W.—Reverend sir, a Bro. who has served his term as a F.C., and now requests to be raised to the Masters' Degree.

W.M.—Let his name and age be asked.

S.W.—Bro. J.W. (J.W. rises) Let his name and age be asked.

(J.W. proceeds to door, opens it slightly.)

as F.C.S

STAND ?

Start when addressing or being addressed by S.W.

LIGHTS DIMMED

Walk from Ped. & ext. candle @ T.B. & remain there. (back to T.S.)

As Can. passes say: - "Pass S-----"

Brn. resume seats J.W. & S.W. unfold shroud & stand each side of Can.

LIGHTS UP (Resume Seat.)

3 journeys with App. Sn.

2 address to W.M. W/SW

J.W.—What is his name and his age?
M.C.—His name is S—, his age five years. (Repeated: J.W. to S.W. to W.M.)

W.M.—This answer is sufficient. Brn., place yourselves round the Tracing Board, observing the most reverend silence. (Brn. do so. W.M., S.W. and J.W. extinguish their own candles. All main lights are extinguished.)

W.M.—Let the F.C. enter. (Prep. conducts Cand. into the Temple with his back towards the Throne and places him between the Wardens' pedestals.)

M.C. (to Cand.)—I have placed you with your back to the E. You are not allowed to look round, nor utter a single word during your reception.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., why is the Can. placed with his back towards me?

S.W.—He must not see more than is necessary, W.M.

W.M.—Is he worthy to be made Master Freemason in accordance with his desire?

S.W.—Yes, W.M., but I must advise you not to raise him to that degree without trials.

W.M.—I will follow your advice. Bro. M.C. let the Cand. perform his nine journeys which, however, I limit to three. Do not forget that they are those of the Master; treat him, therefore, with respect. (W.M. switches on spotlight on coffin.) (W.M., S.W. and J.W. leave their seats, proceed to T.B., and extinguish large candles.)

(Prep. takes hold of both hands of Cand. and conducts him (anti-clockwise) sideways round the T.E. with Cand.'s back towards it. Each time he pauses at coffin for oration and in W. when coffin is altered. As he passes each warden, the warden says softly "Pass, S-----")

FIRST ORATION.

Orator.—Our life is a journey to the grave. Such a dwelling will also be your dwelling. Your body is dust, and to dust it will return. (Top half of coffin lid folded back.)

SECOND ORATION.

Orator.—You will die, Bro. A. B. To the transgressor of the moral and therefore Divine law, Death is a dismal messenger; but to the virtuous he is a friend coming to invite him to dwell in better regions. (Whole lid of coffin completely removed.)

THIRD ORATION.

Orator.—Death to the Freemason is an action, not rest. Do not fear to undertake that work; the Fellow Craft is accustomed to labour. (Prep. and Cand. continue to W. W.M. proceeds to steps of Throne and turns.)

Sec.—(Explanation) At this stage if there were a Middle Chamber all the brn. would retire there in procession. As we have none, the second part of the ceremony takes place here.

(Prep. continues round with Cand. to E. before W.M. All brn. quietly resume seats out of sight of Cand. S.W. stands on Cand.'s right and J.W. on Cand.'s left and unfold shroud.)

W.M.—Prepare yourself now for your reception, and you, Bro. Wardens, place the Cand. as is known to you.

The Wardens make Can. cross his r.f. over the l. and take hold of his arms. W.M. places his r.f. before l.f. of Cand. S.W. places his l.f. behind Cand.'s l.f.

W.M. gives gentle blow with mallet on—Throat saying W. left breast, saying S. Forehead, saying B. At 3rd blow Wardens lay Cand. down on sheet, cover him with left side of sheet, extend Cand.'s right arm across the body, cover him with right side of sheet, and lift his right knee in form of a S. Lodge is then illuminated, and W.M., Wardens and Brn. all resume their seats. Solemn music "Days and Moments").

W.M.—Bro. J.W., you will take with you two brn. out of your column and try to raise the bro. who represents our beloved Master with the grip of an Apprentice. (Music. J.W. and two brn. make three journeys with Apprentice sn. J.W. tries grip.)

J.W.—It is a failure, reverend sir; my strength is not sufficient.

W.M.—Bro. S.W., will you take one bro. from your column (making five) and try it with the grip of a F.C.

(Music. S.W. and J.W. and three brn. make five journeys with F.C. sn. S.W. tries grip.)

S.W.—It is a failure, rev. sir; my strength is also not sufficient.

W.M.—As both of you, Bro. Wardens, have not succeeded, we can only take recourse to a third expedient and attempt to raise him by means of the five P. of F. In order, brn. (All stand to order.)

W.M. takes three brn., preferably P.M.s. and with S.W., J.W. and three brn. makes three journeys with the M.M. sn.

No Sn.

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W.M.—Assist me, brn. (With assistance he raises him on 5 P. of F., whispering once in each ear. W.M. releases Cand. ~~and returns to Throne~~)

W.M.—Be seated, brn. (All seated, including Wardens, who collect their swords.)

W.M.—Bro. Prep., conduct the Cand. to the Altar. (Prep. steps forward with Cand. to Altar.)

W.M.—Are you prepared to take a solemn obligation?

Cand. (prompted by Prep.)—I am.

Wardens advance to E. with drawn swords.)

W.M.—K. then on both your k.s. place both h. on the V.S.L., and repeat after me the following obligation, inserting your name. In order, brn. (All rise and stand to order. Wardens cross swords over head of Cand. M.C. joins sword from rear.)

Sec.—The Master now reads to the Cand. his O., which resembles that of the English Constitution except that it contains no penalty.

W.M.—To make this O. binding, I must ask you to salute the V.S.L. 3 times with your lips. (Done.) By the new Master's word and by the 5 P. of F., I declare you a Master Freemason. (With the mallet he touches the throat of the Cand., saying)

W.M.—To the glory of the G.A.O.T.U. (With his mallet he touches Cand.'s left breast.)

W.M.—In the name of the Grand East of the Netherlands. (With his mallet he touches Cand.'s forehead.) And by the power vested in me, rise, Bro. Master. (W.M. raises Cand. by his right hand and shakes his hand.)

W.M.—Be seated, brn. (All sit. Wardens return to their places. Prep. remains standing with Cand. until ... are seated and then conducts Cand. to W. at foot of T.B. W.M., S.W. and J.W. light their candles and main candles.)

Sec.—If the recent portion of the ceremony had been carried out in the Middle Chamber, the Cand. would now be conducted back to the Chamber of Preparation, while the Master, Wardens and brn. return in processional order to the Lodge Room. When they are seated, the Cand. is admitted. Where the ceremony has been carried out in the Lodge Room the Prep. conducts the Cand. to the W. at the foot of T.B.

The W.M., Orator or some other bro. appointed for the purpose then delivers the whole of the Traditional History, which closely resembles the English version. An interesting variation is that the explanation of the Master's Word is given as "The F.H.Q.T.B." instead of "T.D.O.T.B. or T.B.I.S."

At the conclusion of the Traditional History, the Prep. conducts the Cand. across the T.B. with the steps of a M.M. (Prep. demonstrates to Cand. who afterwards imitates. Four s. in a zigzag direction, beginning over l., above ... and repeat. Prep. then places Cand. between the Altar and the T.B., facing S. The Orator or some other bro. appointed for the purpose then communicates the secrets of the deg.

Orator.—Bro., the Masters with us have also their Sns. G. and W. As the sign of the F.C., so also the Master's sn. has reference to an ancient oath (Gives penal sn.) This ancient sn. served to remind a Cand. that he should inviolably keep secret whatever had been or might still be communicated to him as a M.M. And in case he perjured himself he consented that ... and that his memory should be accursed of all Freemasons. The second sn. is that which the Masters gave when they discovered the b— of H— (gives sn. or H., and is copied by Cand.) The third sn. is the Sn. of Dis., which is the given by the Master Freemason who is in danger or distress (gives Sn. of G. and D., saying "O.C.T.M.A.Y.C.O.T.W"). This is in reference to the fact that we are all bros. to our Master H., who was a widow's son. The brn. of the English Lodge give the Sn. of Dis. by passing the — across the — thus. (Gives the Sn. of G. and D.) The Scottish and Irish brn. give the Sn. of D. by throwing up ... thus (Scottish sn. of G. and D.), saying "O.L.M.G., O.L.M.G., O.L.M.G., I.T.N.H.F.T.W.S."

The grip is given at the same time as the Holy Word and is included in F. P. of F. and must be repeated in that way before the Holy Word is given.

There is a Pass Word in this degree which would be given to you in a Dutch Lodge in Holland. But it is a word which in other Constitutions is only given to a bro. when he is installed in the Chair. In order to avoid causing a breach of Masonic obligations to some of our visitors we must omit the communication of the word to you.

To be clothed as a Master, this Apron edged with the colour of the Lodge in which you have been made Master must be worn with the flap downwards, a symbol signifying that in all your actions your thoughts should always be directed to ... and the ...

Que. "I am" ↓

Take sword & adv. to left side of Cand

Ret. to Red →

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W.M.—Bro. Prep., conduct the newly-raised Master to the Bro. Wardens that he may make himself known to them as such. (Prep. takes Cand. to S.W., who shakes his hand, and then to J.W., who does the same.) (Prep. conducts Cand. to a seat.)

All. Stand (Cer. Com.)

W.M.—In order, brn. (All stand except Cand.)
W.M.—Bro. Wardens, I request you to announce to the brn. that henceforth Bro. A. B. shall be acknowledged as Master Freemason, requesting them and, if need be, commanding them to aid and assist him as such.

S.W.—Brn. in the South Column, take notice that henceforth Bro. A. B. shall be acknowledged as Master Freemason, requesting you and, if need be, commanding you to aid and assist him as such.

J.W.—Brn. in the North Column, take notice that henceforth Bro. A. B. shall be acknowledged as Master Freemason, requesting you and, if need be, commanding you to aid and assist him as such.

W.M.—Be seated, brn. (All sit.)
Sec.—The W.M., the Orator and some other bro. appointed for the purpose now gives a long explanation of the ceremony and symbols of the Third Degree, which for lack of time we must omit. (That concludes the Ceremony of Raising.)

The W.M. now "rises."
W.M.—(Knock) Bro. Wardens, is there anyone desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Freemasonry in general or for the benefit of this Masters' Lodge in particular?

S.W.—Brn. in the S. Column, is there anyone desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Freemasonry in general or for the benefit of this Masters' Lodge in particular?

S.W.—No response from the South Column, reverend sir.

J.W.—Brn. in the N. Column, is there anyone desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Freemasonry in general or for the benefit of this Masters' Lodge in particular?

J.W.—No response from the N. Column, reverend sir.

W.M.—(One k.) Bro. J. W., what time is it?

J.W.—The perfect time of Freemasons, full midnight, rev. sir.

W.M.—The labours are ended. Discuss the brn.

J.W.—(One k., repeated by S.W. and W.M.) In order, brn. (Brn. stand to order and sit.)

A. In O. M.

J.W.—As it is full midnight and as the labours are ended, I dismiss you and close by order of the W.M. this Masters' Lodge in the name of T.G. O.T.U. and according to the ancient usages of Freemasons with three loud k. which will proceed from the W. and will resound in the E. (Gives k., repeated by S.W. and W.M. J.W., copied by all brn., give M.M. pen. s. Orator closes V.S.L. and extinguishes spirit lamp W.M., S.W. and J.W. advance and extinguish main candles.)

*no applause
leave seat
& put out candle.*

S.W.—The brn. now retire in procession, which closes our Demonstration of the Netherlandic Working.

*Give 7
followed
by
A. In.*

(Organ plays March for Procession out.)

*Procession out:—
Step out of bed—two inwards & when
the two are abreast of Peds. fall in
behind him.*

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Procession in aisle.

Opening

W.M. P.M. + J.W. 1.K.

1. All standing - W.M. asks for his first duty -
~~to see~~ To see whether it is properly tiled. W.M.
W.M. says see to it. - J.W. leaves pedestal goes to door
& gives ... - When answered returns to pedestal
& reports:-

2. The floor is properly tiled.

3. In the W., W.M. in the column which extends
towards N.

4. To close the floor pay the workmen their
wages & dismiss them from their labours.

For lit
W.M. S.W. J.W.
remains standing

(a) After W.M. has given S.W. the set & light
candle @ Ped.

(b) Then light taper & set of S.W. proceed to T.B. &
light candles. The set returns to Ped. by shortest route.

End of 1st Journey

Sec. reads minutes etc. Sup. of Admthg. Vocation
& 1st D^o ...

1st D^o Ceremony (3 equal ks. on door.)

Actions

(a) W.M. leaves pedestal & goes to lobby door -
"Who knocks so
lowly?"

(b) W.M. (after trap - no words - shut trap &
remains until ... Can admitted them set. to Ped.

(c) Conductor breaks 3. preamble w/ Can - 2nd journey
for (ans W.M. & W.S.) make disturbing noise.

(d) When h...f...d. returned W.M. says
"Bro W.S. conduct our newly initiated bro
hither" - leave Ped. - take sword

& adv. w/ Can over T.B. (3 90° steps & over two to A.)

(e) When Can kneels @ A. W.S. elevate swords over
his head - W.M. strike those swords

(f) W.M. raises Can. - set. to Ped. & replace sword.

(g) W.M. says Towards me - five ... x 3.
(no further action.)

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1st D^o - closing

W.M. (sent)

1. W.M. to J.W. - what time is it?
It is full midnight, W.M.
W.M. - perform your duty
2. (1 K.) in order, Hon. (rise) W/E.H. Sw.)
3. As it is full midnight & the labours are ended, by command of the W.M. I close ^{cut} this sp. lodge in the name of the S.A.O.T.U. & according to the ancient usage of my with 3 loud ks. which shall proceed from the W.M. & will be re-echoed in the E. (hon. ...)
4. ^{of} towards me Hon. (applause ...)

2nd D^o - Opening

1. W.M. to J.W. - what is your duty?
To see whether the lodge is properly tiled, W.M.
W.M. - answer ...
heave Red. go to door + give ...
Ret. to Red. :-
2. The lodge is properly tiled
(no further action)

2nd D^o - ceremony

1. Conductor instructs Can. how to adv. over T.B. - when he is about to arrive at A.
 - (a) heave Red. - take sword + stand on right of Can.
 - (b) when W.M. raise Can. - lower sword + assist can to rise. - ret. to Red.
 - (c) when can. presented at J.W. Red. - shake hands
(no further action)

2nd D^o - Closing.

W.M. = I.E.

1. W.M. to the J.W. - "What time is it?"
It is full up/night to be.
W.M. to J.W. - "perform your duty".
2. (1 to.) In order Bro. (stand up/In of F.C. - B. only)
As it is full up/night & the labours are
ended, by command of the W.M. &
close ^{entirely} this F.C. Lodge in the name of
the G. B. O. T. U. - and according to
the ancient usages of Freemasonry with
loud Hs. which will proceed from the
W. & will be re-echoed in the E.
(Give - - - -)

3. Go me Bro. applaud - all
now drape ped. with white (under ped)

Opening 3rd D^o

1. W.M. - "To order Bro. all rise No Bro.
W.M. to J.W. - "perform first duty" - rise, go to
door & rise - - -
2. W.M. the Master's lodge is tiled.
(no further action)

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Preparation relative to prepare Can. Eventually
W.C. delivers to W.M. declaration signed by Can.
which is read by W.M. who then asks if Can. is
satisfied.

1. Satisfied.

W.M. then asks if it is approved to raise Can. to 2nd D^o.

2. Agreed.

W.M. instructs S.W. + S.W. instructs J.W. to approach
who knocks - J.W. goes to door & opens it
slightly + asks:-

3. Who knocks.

W.C. states. - J.W. approaches
W.C. + reports to S.W.

4. Bro. S.W., a bro. who has served his term
as a F.C. + now requests to be raised to the
Masters D^o. (S.W. reports to W.M. +
receives more instruction which he passes to J.W.)

5. (Here when S.W. reports) then proceed to door - open
slightly + what is his name + age?

- return to place + report to S.W.:-

6. His name is S....., his age 5 years.

(a) After P.M. pulpit to W.M. + W.M. instructs Bro.
to stand round T.B. - J.W. S.W. W.C. seat
own candles + all main lights ext. - Can
then admitted + placed between W's. peds

(b) After W.M. switches light on Coffin - J.W. S.W. W.C.
have peds + proceed to T.B. + ext. large candles

(c) J.W. S.W. + W.M. remain at own corners of T.B.

N.B. - as Can passes say "Pass Sinner" 3 or 4 times.

(d) After 3 orations Prep leads Can. to E before W.M.
+ W's take up places each side of him - J.W. on left.

W.C. unfolds shroud.

(e) W.M. instructs W's. to place Can. as known to them -

W's. make him cross Rt. over L. + take hold
of arms. (W.M. places foot back of Can's L. f.)

- J.W. does nothing.)

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(f) After 3rd blow W's lay Can on skull - cover him with left side of skull - right arm pointing to - cover arm with r. side of skull - left R. knee to form square.

(g) Lodge illuminated - W.M. W's & Hon all resume seats.

(h) W.M. instructs J.W. to take 2 ^{from the volume} ~~brn~~ & 1 ~~brn~~ Can. ~~(H)~~ with apprehension Au. - ~~then~~ J.W. true grip.

7. (a) J.W. steps by his tr. (at T.B.) & reports: ~~It is~~ ^{It is} a failure, Rev. Sir, - my strength is not sufficient

(f) J.W. takes 1 B. & does ^{signify} reports same. ^{J.W. & his 2 Brn} ^{Walk w/ J.W. back}

(c) W.M. raises Can to T.B.

(d) W.M. returns to bed & instructs all except Can & keep to resume seats including W's to collect swords.

(e) Keep conduct Can to altar -

(f) When Can. declares prepared to take solemn ob. W's ads to E. by drawn swords - which are crossed over Can's head during ob. (^{Prep. when} ^{to be cut.})

(g) After ob. W's = "Ka sealed" - (ma. W's)

(h) ^{light} ^{candles} ~~then~~ ^{then} W.M. instructs Can to W. at foot of T.B. - W.M. & W's to light them candles & then candles at T.B.

(i) ^{follow} ^{sup.} ^{of} ^{his} ^{words} then W.M. instructs keep conduct Can. to W's is that he can take himself known to them. - W's shake him warmly by hand

(j) W.M. then instructs W's to make announcement to Hon

(a) ^W ^{inter} ^{8.} ^{brn.} in the N. col^{ns} take notice that henceforth Bro. A.B. shall be ack. as a Master F.M. - requesting you & if need be commending you to aid & assist him as such, (all sit when told by W.M.)

Resigns before closing in 3rd D^o

1. How in the U. Col^y is there anyone desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Frim^y in general or for the benefit of this Master's Lodge in particular?
W. then reports to W.M.:-

2. his response from the U. Col. Rev. Sec.
then follows:-

Closing 3rd D^o

W.M. (1 K) Bro. W. what time is it?

W. The perfect time of Frim^y - full midnight, Rev. Sec.

W.M. The Labourers are ended, ^{the House} ~~the House~~ ^{is ordered to} ~~is ordered to~~ ^{be} ~~be~~ ^{dismissed} ~~dismissed~~ ^{at} ~~at~~ ^{11.00} ~~11.00~~ ^{PM} ~~PM~~

W. As it is full midnight & as the Labourers are ended, ^{at the} ~~at the~~ ^{order of the} ~~order of the~~ ^{U. Col.} ~~U. Col.~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{Master's Lodge} ~~Master's Lodge ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{the} ~~the ^{name of} ~~name of~~ ^{T.G.O.T.U.} ~~T.G.O.T.U.~~ & according to the ancient usages of Freemasons - with three loud k's - which will proceed from the W. & will resound in the E. ^{at} ~~at~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{same} ~~same~~ ^{time} ~~time~~ ^{as} ~~as~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{W. gives} ~~W. gives~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{signal} ~~signal~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{close} ~~close~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{meeting} ~~meeting~~ ^{at} ~~at~~ ^{11.00} ~~11.00~~ ^{PM} ~~PM~~~~~~

W.M. Bro. W. give the Bon.

- (1) W. gives V. S. M. M. - copied by all.
- (2) After Oration has closed V. S. - W.M. S.W. & G.W. advance & ext. main camp at T. B.
- (3) Procession out (W's stand & wait to W.M. mark the other fall in behind W.M.)

N.O. applied

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EXPLANATION OF THIRD DEGREE

(M.C. arranges

- (1) Coffin on Trestles
- (2) Black Crepe on Pedestals)

SFC:

"One of the Preparators retires to prepare the Candidate. (Preparator salutes and retires).

When he is prepared he is conducted to a Chamber of Meditation draped in black on a small table stands a Skull and an Hour Glass. The Candidate signs a written declaration that he will not reveal any of the secrets in case he should fail to go through the whole Ceremony. He is then asked to answer in writing the question "Do you believe in a life hereafter". These two documents are taken into the Temple. (Preparator hands papers through door to M.C. M.C. advances from the door and hands two papers to the W.M.)

Brethren, our Bro. A. B. has made the usual declaration. He has given the following reply to the question "Do you believe in a life hereafter" "Yes, I believe that only in a life hereafter can Man's imperfections be made perfect".

"Are you satisfied with the answer given?"

OMNES "Satisfied"

W.M. "Do you approve of the Candidate being raised to the 3rd Degree?"

OMNES "Agreed"

(M.C. retires from Lodge and brings Cand. and Prep. to door of Lodge on which he knocks with F. C. knocks)

J. W. Bro. S. W. ascertain who knocks.

S. W. Bro. J. W. ascertain who knocks.

—(J. W. proceeds to door, opens slightly)

—J. W. Who knocks?

M.C. A Bro. who has served his term as a F.C. and now requests to be raised to the Master's Degree.

—(J. W. closes door, returns to his place)

—J. W. Bro. S. W., a Bro. who has served his term as a F.C. and now requests to be raised to the Master's Degree. (Sits).

S.W. Reverend Sir, a Bro. who has served his term as a F.C. and now requests to be raised to the Masters' Degree.

W.M. Let his name and age be asked.

S.W. Bro. J. W. (J. W. rises) Let his name and age be asked.

(J.W. proceeds to door, opens it slightly)

J.W. — What is his name and his age?

M.C. — His name is S----- his age five years. (Repeated J. W. to S.W. to W.M.)

W.M. This answer is sufficient. Brethren place yourselves round the Tracing Board observing the most reverent silence.

(Bre. do so., W.M., S.W., and J.W. extinguish their own candles. All main lights are extinguished).

W.M. Let the F.C. enter.

(Preparator conducts the Cand. into the Temple with his back towards the Throne and places him between the W. and E. Pillars).

M.C. (To Candidate). I have placed you with your back to the E. You are not allowed to look round, nor utter a single word during your reception.

W.M. Bro. S.W. Why is the Cand. placed with his back towards me?

S.W. He must not see more than is necessary, W.M.

W.M. Is he worthy to be made Master Freemason in accordance with his desire?

S.W. Yes, W.M. but I must advise you not to raise him to that degree without trials.

W.M. I will follow your advice. Bro. M. C. let the Cand. perform his 9 journeys which, however, I limit to three. Do not forget that they are those of the Master; treat him, therefore, with respect.

(W.M. switches on spot light on coffin)

(W.M. S.W., and J.W. leave their seats, proceed to T.B. and extinguish large candles)

(Preparator takes hold of both hands of Cand. and conducts him (anti-clockwise) sideways round the T.B. with Candidates back towards it. Each

time he pauses at Coffin for Oration and in West while Coffin is altered).

(As he passes each Warden the Warden says softly "Pass S-----".)

FIRST ORATION.

ORATOR Our life is a journey to the grave. Such a dwelling will also be your dwelling. Your body is dust, and to dust it will return.

(Top half of Coffin lid folded back)

SECOND ORATION.

ORATOR You also will die, Bro. A. B. To the transgressor of the Moral and therefore Divine Law, Death is a dismal messenger; but to the virtuous he is a friend coming to invite him to dwell in better regions.

(Whole lid of Coffin completely removed)

THIRD ORATION.

ORATOR Death to the Freemason is a fiction, not a rest. Do not fear to undertake that work, the Fellow Craft is accustomed to labour.

(Preparator and Candidate continue to West. W. M. proceeds to steps of Throne and turns.

SEC. (Explanation) "At this stage if there were a MIDDLE CHAMBER all the Breth. would retire there in procession. As we have none the second part of the Ceremony takes place here"

(PREPARATOR continues round with Cand. to E. before W.M. All Breth.

quietly resume seats out of sight of Cand. S.W. stands on Cand's right and J.W. on Cand's left and unfold shroud.)

W.M. Prepare yourself now for your reception and you Bro. Wardens, place the Cand. as is known to you.

(The Wardens make Cand. cross his R.F. over the Left and take hold of his arms. W.M. places his R.F. before L.F. of Cand. S. W. places his L.F. behind Cand's L.F.

W.M. gives gentle blow with Mallet on --

THROAT saying W
LEFT BREAST saying S
FOREHEAD saying B

at 3rd blow Wardens lay Cand. down on sheet, cover him with Left side of sheet, extend Cand's Right arm across body, cover him with Right side of sheet and lift his Right knee in form of a Square. Lodge is then illuminated and W. M. Wardens and Brethren all resume their seats. Solemn music ("Days and Moments").)

W.M. "Bro. J. W. will you take with you 2 Brethren out of your column and try to raise the Bro. who represents our beloved Master with the grip of an Apprentice".

(Music. J. W. and 2 Brn. make 3 journeys with Apprentice sign. J. W. tries grip).

J.W. - It is a failure Reverend Sir, my strength is not sufficient.

W.M. Bro. S. W. will you take one Bro. from your Column (making 5) and try it with the grip of a Fellow Craft.

(Music. S.W. and J.W. and three Brn. make five journeys with F.C. Sn. S.W. tries grip)

S.W. It is a failure Reverend Sir, my strength is also not sufficient.

W.M. As both of you, Bro. Wardens, have not succeeded, we can only take recourse to a third expedient and attempt to raise him by means of the five points of Fellowship.

In order Brn. (All stand to order)

(W.M. takes three Brn, preferably P.M.'s and with S.W., J.W., and 3 Brn. makes three journeys with M.M. Sn.

W.M. Assist me, Brethren.

(With assistance he raises him on 5 p. of F. whispering once in each ear. W. M. releases Cand. and returns to Throne.)

W.M. Be seated Brethren. (All seated including Wardens who collect their swords).

W.M. Bro. Preparator, conduct the Cand. to the Altar. (Preparator steps forward with Cand. to Altar.)

W.M. Are you prepared to take a solemn obligation?

CAND. (Prompted by Prep.) I am.

(Wardens advance to East with drawn swords).

W.M. Kneel then on both your knees, place both hands on the V. S. L. and repeat after me the following obligation inserting your name.

In order Bro. (All rise and stand to order. Wardens cross swords over head of Cand. M.C. joins sword from rear)

SEC. The Master now reads to the Cand. his obligation which resembles that of the English Constitution except that it contains no penalty.

W.M. To make this Ob. binding I must ask you to salute the V.S.L. 3 times with your lips. (Done). By the new Master's word and by the 5 Points of Fellowship I declare you a Master Free Mason (With his mallet he touches the throat of the Cand. saying)

W.M. To the glory of the G. A. O. T. U. (With his mallet he touches Cand's left breast)

W.M. In the name of the Grand East of the Netherlands. (With his mallet he touches Cand's forehead) And by the power vested in me, rise Bro. Master. (W.M. raises Cand. by his Right hand and shakes his hand).

W.M. Be seated Bro. (All sit: Wardens return to their places. Preparator remains standing with Cand. until Bro. are seated and then conducts Cand. to West at foot of T.B. W. M., S.W., and J. Light the candles and main candles.)

SEC. If the recent portion of the Ceremony had been carried out in the Middle Chamber the Candidate would now be conducted back to the Chamber of Preparation, while the Master, Wardens and Brethren return in processional order to the Lodge Room. When they are seated the Candidate is admitted. Where the Ceremony has been carried out in the Lodge Room the Preparator conducts the Candidate to the West at the foot of the T.B.

The W.M. Orator or some other Bro. appointed for the purpose then delivers the whole of the Traditional History which closely resembles the English version. An interesting variation is that

the explanation of the Master's Word is given as "The F.H.Q.T.B." instead of "T.D.O.T.B. or T.B.I.S".

At the conclusion of the Traditional History the Preparator conducts the Cand. across the T.B. with the steps of a M.M.

(Prep. demonstrates to Cand. who afterwards imitates. Four steps in a zig zag direction beginning R. over L., L. over R. and repeat. Prep. then places Cand. between the Altar and the T.B. facing South.

The Orator or some other Bro. appointed for the purpose then communicates the secrets of the degree.

ORATOR: Bro. the Masters with us have also their signs, grip and words. As the sign of the F.C. so also the Master's sign has reference to an Ancient Oath. (Gives Penal sn). This ancient sign served to remind a Candidate that he should inviolably keep secret whatever had been or might still be communicated to him as a Master Mason. And in case he perjured himself he consented that

and that his memory should be accursed of all Freemasons.

The second sign is that which the Masters gave when they discovered the b----- of F----- (Gives sn. of H. and is copied by Cand).

The third sign is the sign of Distress which is thus given by the Master Freemason who is in danger or distress. (Gives Sn. of G. and D. saying "O.C.T.M.A.T.C.O.T.W.")

This is in reference to the fact that we are all Brothers to our Master H who was a Widow's Son.

The Brn. of the English Lodges give the Sn. of Distress by passing the ----- across the ----- thus. (Gives the Sn. of G & D).

The Scottish and Irish Bn. give the Sn. of Distress by throwing up thus (Scottish Sn. of G. & D.) saying "O.L.M.G., O.L.M.G., O.L.M.G., I.T.N.H.F.T.W.S."

The grip is given at the same time as the Holy Word and is included in the P.Ps. o. P and must be repeated in that way before the Holy Word is given.

There is a Pass Word in this Degree which would be given to you in a Dutch Lodge in Holland. But it is a word which in other Constitutions is only given to a Brother when he is installed in the Chair. In order to avoid causing a breach of Masonic obligations to some of our Visitors we must omit the communication of the word to you.

To be clothed as a Master, this Apron edged with the colour of the Lodge in which you have been raised Master must be worn with the flap downwards, a symbol signifying that in all your actions your thoughts should always be directed to and the

W. M. Bro. Preparator conduct the newly-raised Master to the Bro. Wardens that he may make himself known to them as such.

(Prep. takes Cand. to S.W. who shakes his hand and then to J.W. who does the same).

(Prep. conducts Cand. to a seat).

W.M. In order Bn. (All stand except Cand.)

W. M. Bro. Wardens I request you to announce to the Bn. that henceforth Bro. A. B. shall be acknowledged as Master Free Mason, requesting them and if need be commanding them to aid and assist him as such.

S.W. Bn. in the South Column, take notice that henceforth Bro. A.B. shall be acknowledged as Master Free Mason requesting you and if need be commanding you to aid and assist him as such.

J.W. Bn. in the North Column take notice that henceforth Bro. A.B. shall be acknowledged as Master Free Mason requesting you and if need be commanding you to aid and assist him as such.

W.M. Be seated Bn. (All sit)

SEC. The W. M., the Orator or some other Bro. appointed for the purpose now gives a long explanation of the Ceremony and Symbols of the Third Degree, which for lack of time we must omit.

(That concludes the Ceremony of Raising)

The W. M. now rises.

W.M. (Knock) Bro. Wardens is there any one desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Freemasonry in general or for the benefit of this Masters Lodge in particular?

S.W. Bro. in the S. Column, is there any one desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Freemasonry in general or for the benefit of this Masters Lodge in particular?

S.W. No response from the South Column Reverend Sir.

J.W. — Bro. in the N. Column, is there any one desirous to advance or propose anything useful to Freemasonry in general or for the benefit of this Masters Lodge in particular?

J.W. — No response from the N. Column Reverend Sir.

W.M. (1 Knock) Bro. W. what time is it?

J.W. — The perfect time of Freemasons, full midnight, Reverend Sir.

W.M. The labours are ended dismiss the Bro.

J.W. — (1 Knock) (Repeated S.W. and W.M.)

In order Bro. (Bro. stand to order as M.M's)

J.W. — As it is full midnight and as the labours are ended, I dismiss you and close by order of the W. M. this Masters Lodge in the name of T.G.A.O.T.U. and according to the ancient usages of Freemasons with three loud knocks which will proceed from the W. and will resound in the E. (Gives knocks, repeated S.W. and W.M., J.W. copied by all Bro. give M.M. Penal Sgn. Orator closes V.S.L. and extinguishes Spirit Lamp. W.M., S.W. and J.W. advance and extinguish main candles.)

SEC. The Brn. now retire in procession which closes our Demonstration
of Netherlandic Working.

(Organ plays march for Procession out).

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