

STATEMENT TO BE SUPPLIED TO EVERY PERSON APPLYING FOR
ADMISSION TO THE CRAFT

Having expressed a desire to become a Freemason, we presume you are willing to consider thoroughly the step you propose to take. The exact nature of our Institution being unknown to you, we deem it advisable that you should be informed on certain points, the knowledge of which may affect your decision to apply for membership.

Freemasonry interferes neither with Religion nor Politics, but has for its foundation the great basic principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. No Atheist can be made a Freemason. Freemasonry strives to teach a man the duty he owes to God, his neighbour and himself. It inculcates the practice of virtue and makes an extensive use of symbolism in its teachings.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that Freemasonry is not to be entered in the hope of personal gain or advancement. Admission to the Order must not be sought for mercenary or other unworthy motives. Anyone so actuated will be bitterly disappointed. The aim of the true Freemason is to cultivate a Brotherly feeling among men and to help whomsoever he can.

Freemasonry is not a 'Benefit Society'. This fact cannot be too strongly emphasised. We do not subscribe so much a year to entitle us to draw sick pay or other benefits or to make provision for those who survive us. There are other excellent Societies founded for this purpose. No man should enter the ranks of Freemasonry in the hope or expectation that he will derive any financial benefit from it. Masonic Charity is directed towards those who, from unseen circumstances and through no fault of their own, have met with misfortune. For such cases help is always forthcoming and no deserving appeal is ever made in vain.

Loyalty to one's country is an essential qualification in Freemasonry and only those are acceptable who cheerfully render obedience to every lawful authority. Disloyalty in any form is abhorrent to a Freemason and is regarded as a serious Masonic offence.

Freemasonry has, in all ages, insisted that men should come to its doors entirely of their own free will and not as the result of any solicitations, or from feelings of curiosity, but simply from a favourable opinion of the institution and a desire to be ranked among its members.

We have no authority at the present time to give you further information regarding the Brotherhood you propose to join, but we have imparted sufficient to enable you to conclude that Freemasonry is not contrary to the principles which mark a man of upright heart and mind and has in it nothing inconsistent with one's civil, moral or religious duties.

We think it advisable to inform you that your admission to our Craft will entail certain financial obligations which you should be able to discharge without detriment to yourself or those dependent on you. In addition to the fees payable on your entrance, there will be an annual subscription for the support of your Lodge and, from time to time, you will be called upon to contribute for the maintenance of the Charities connected with the Craft.
