

Address on the Presentation in Open Lodge of the I.P.M.'s Jewel

Delivered before the Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319, after W. Bro.
Roland Douglas Cox installed his successor)

W. Bro. -

It gives me great pleasure to present to you, on behalf of the lodge, a token of our personal regard for you and appreciation of the good work you have accomplished while occupying the chair.

Everything which has a beginning comes to an end, and it must gratify you to reflect that, as you have carried out your duties to the best of your ability they are "well finished." (Pins badge to I.P.M.'s collar).

We hope that you will wear this jewel always at our meetings, that it may remind you of the affection we feel for you, and impel the younger members of the lodge, when they see it, to win a similar reward.

You are aware that this badge embodies a special design. It contains a diagram of the forty-seventh proposition of the First Book of Euclid, that book which deals with triangles, as the second does with squares and the third with circles.

According to Euclidian masons, those three books symbolise our three craft degrees. With them the triangle typifies the E.A., the square the F.C., and the circle the Master.

The Master of an Operative lodge, to show that he excelled in the art and science of his craft, wore the 47th problem enclosed in a circle.

that science which investigates the relations, property and measurements of solids, surfaces, lines and angles.

No wonder, then, that the 3, 4, 5 sided triangle was venerated by the ancients.

So highly was it prized that they regarded it as the symbol of Osiris, Isis and Horus, or, in a general sense, of father, mother and child.

In the school of Euclidian masonry, it was held that Geometry was Masonry, and Euclid, its teacher, was a Mason.

When, in the ordinary way, we moralise on this diagram, we say that even as it depends on various lines, angles and triangles which form the whole, so Freemasonry depends on its several members and the faithful carrying out of these principles on which our order is founded.

But the heart of this jewel is the triangle, around which the diagram is constructed.

If we bear in mind that its sides are in the ratios of 3, 4, 5; that the square of 3 is 9, of 4 sixteen and 5 twenty-five, and that 9 added to 16 equals 25; it is evident that the largest square equals the two smaller ones.

Hence, the big square denotes the Master, his power and authority being greater than that of the S. or the J.W.

The square next in size represents the S.W., and the smallest the J.W.

eminence by merit, of the relative importance of the three principals according to the proportions of the squares, and, at the same time, a reminder of the extent to which each officer should strive to excel the lay brother in Masonic knowledge.

But no matter how great the skill of those who represent the squares, this jewel shows that every quadrangle depends on, and proceeds from, the right-angled triangle symbolising the upright E.A., thereby emphasising that the prime source of all Masonic development is the youngest brother, the embryonal F.C., who, if he determines to work, may become the future Master of the lodge.

It is because you, Bro. -----, graduating in this way, have proved yourself a super-craftsman in speculative Masonry and faithful to your trust, that we ask you to honour us, and honour yourself, by accepting this jewel. (Shake hands.)

RH. Predator.