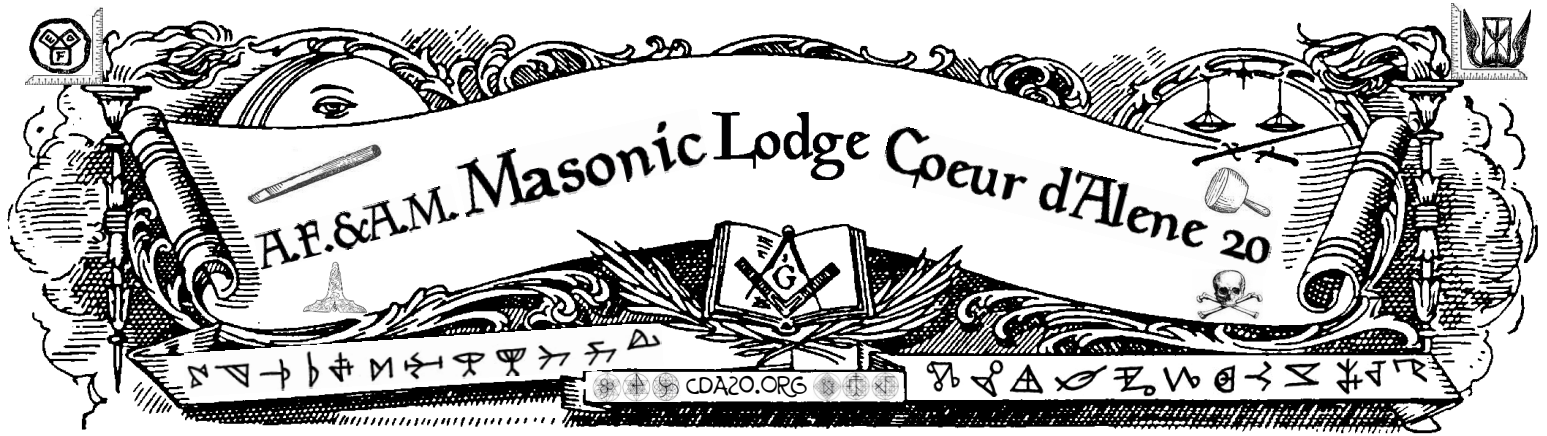


Merry Christmas To All 2017

Happy Sts. John Day
from the brothers of
CDA 20





The Seat of Knowledge Trestleboard - Issue VI - December 6017

The Seat of Knowledge Trestleboard is an education based newsletter extracting articles and knowledge of interest from the past. Freemasonry is a rich and diversified field with world renown scholars who have contributed their knowledge to enhance ours, therein lies the reason for this particular Trestleboard. We are however happy to receive any articles or news including pictures from brothers of CDA 20 as well as recommendations and or suggestions. Please email submissions to: DB Jordan: CDA20.org@gmail.com

"Employ your time in improving yourself by other men's writings so that you shall come easily by what others have labored hard for." -Socrates



Congratulations to the newly elected officers of CDA 20 WM -B.'. Becker SW -J.'. Hull and JW -T.'. Marlow

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Bro. DB Jordan
Publisher & Editor & Chief
Cover design: DB Jordan

In the Tolstoi story, "War and Peace." there was a young count who said with a sneer to the old Mason that he did not believe in God, the old Mason smiled, as a mother might smile at the silly saying of a child. Then, in a gentle voice, the old man said:

"Yes, you do not know Him, sir. You do not know Him and that is why you are unhappy. But he is here, He is within me, He is within you, even in these scoffing words you have just uttered. If He is not, we should not be speaking of Him, sir. Whom dost thou deny?" They were silent for a spell, as the train moved on.

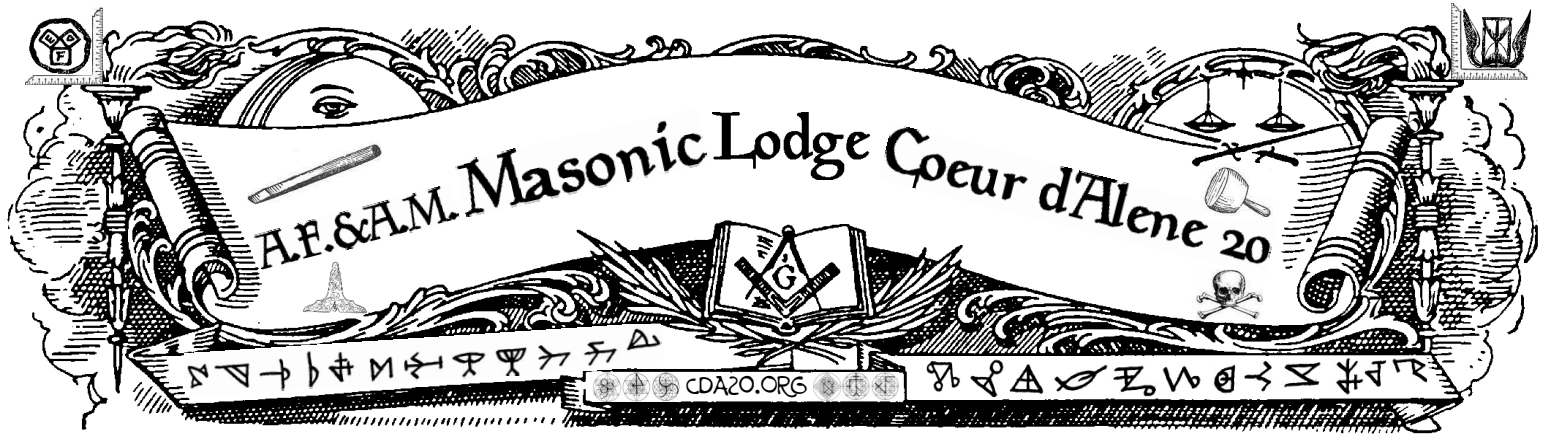
Something in the old man touched the count deeply, and stirred in him a longing to see what the old man saw, and to know what he knew. His eyes betrayed his longing to know God, and the old man read his face, and answered his unasked question:

"Yes, he exists, but to know him is hard. It is not attained by reason, but by life. The highest truth is like the purest dew. Could I hold in an impure vessel that pure dew, and judge of its purity? Only by inner purification can we know God."

HUMAN LIFE AS A JOURNEY.

Every Freemason, when he is initiated into the Craft, is taught to consider human life as a journey. He would faint with fatigue, lose himself in unknown roads, or fall over high precipices, if he was not supported, faithfully conducted, and fraternally warned. By these means he arrives in safety at the end of his journey, and is permitted to receive light himself, that he may be able to support, lead and warn others when travelling in the same road.—Gadicke.

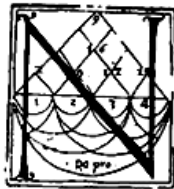




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THE "CHARTA TRANSMISSIONIS" OF LARMENIUS.

BY BRO. FRED. J. W. CROWE, F.R.Hist.Soc., etc.



NOT many documents have been more discussed and quoted than this famous Charter of the French Knights Templars, and the most vehement controversies have raged around it. It may be judged, therefore, with what intense interest I found myself the possessor of the original, which few of those who wrote about it appear to have actually seen, and which has been unheard of for so many years. It was described by the owner as "a diploma of a Knight Templar in cabalistic characters, and dated 1812." I had not the slightest idea what it really was, but saw in a moment it was something very unusual, and, therefore, I decided at once to acquire it. I could not, however, find any key to fit the cypher for some weeks, but at last a mislaid book of cyphers I had collected some years ago was unearthed, and as soon as I had translated the first four words I knew the astonishing nature of my 'find.' For the sake of those who may not know, I will briefly state the claim made for this Charter by the French Templars.

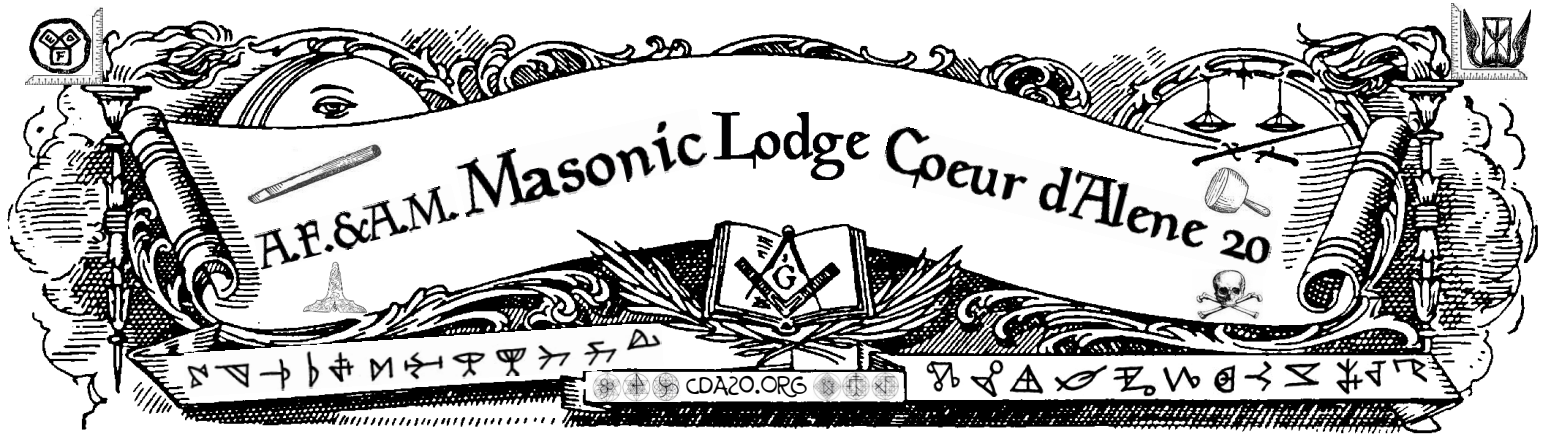
They say that Jacques de Molay, whilst in prison before his martyrdom in 1313, determined to carry on the Order secretly, in spite of its suppression by the Pope, and he, therefore, assigned his full power and authority to Johannes Marcus Larmenius as his successor. Larmenius growing old, drew up the *Charta Transmissionis* and transmitted his power to Theobaldus, and after this each succeeding Grand Master appended his acceptance on the original document, down to and including Bernard Raymond in 1804. In an "Inventory of the Charter, Statutes, Relics, and Insignia composing the Sacred Treasury of the Order of the Temple," extracted from the minute of the *procès-verbal*, under date 18th May, 1810, it is thus described :

"1st Piece of Treasure.

The Charter of Transmission (by J. M. Larmenius) written in two columns and a half on a very large sheet of parchment, ornamented after the style of the time, the designs of Gothic architecture. The letters illuminated in colours of gold and silver. In the first letter a Knight with the costume, armour, and cross of the Order. At the top in the centre is painted a cross in the conventional form. At the end the seal of the knights suspended by strings of parchment. The acceptances of the Grand Masters commence after the middle of the third column, and continue, the third finishing in two rows on either side of the margin."

This quite accurately describes it, as will be seen from the illustrations. The key of the cypher is as follows :—





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I have translated from the cypher as exactly as possible. In cases where there was an obvious slip, such as a dot omitted, or a wrong character used, I have inserted the correct one in brackets. When a letter or word was wanting to make sense I have done the same.

This is, as far as I can find, the first time an absolutely faithful version of the original document has been given, but Thory, and the Comte le Conteulx de Cantelen seem only to have seen a revised and modernised Latin translation. Burnes saw the original but did not transcribe it and accepted the translation. This appears to be what is criticised adversely by Findel (*History of Freemasonry* 1866, p. 717), and in Gould's *History*, vol. i., p. 498. No one of the above-named mention that the original charter is in cypher. They either never saw it, or took for granted the Latin they quote without taking the trouble to translate it for themselves, so as to be sure of its accuracy. Both in Findel and Gould it is said that the Latin is not that of the fourteenth century and has no abbreviations. Clavel however does say that it is a document in cypher though even he does not give the true Latin. I shall print the version in Thory as well as my own transcription, in parallel columns, to show the much more ancient character of the latter, whether the original is fabricated or authentic. The "auto-graphs" especially are considerably different, names being added in many cases, and the variations of *Anno Domini*, *Anno Christi*, and other words being entirely ignored. As will be seen, it is full of abbreviations, in contradiction of the statement in Gould's *History*. It was, however, quite natural for the writer to suppose that Thory had given a proper version in *Acta Latomorum*.

The Charter runs thus :—

MY OWN TRANSCRIPT.

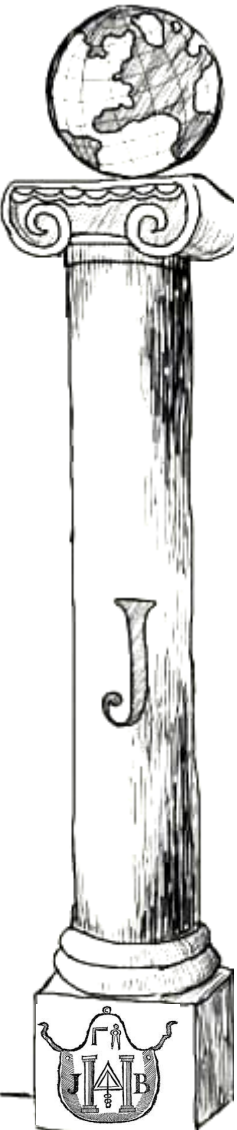
Ego frater Joha[ñ]es Marcus Larmenius Hierosolymitanus Dei Gratia et Secretissimo Q[ui]venerandi sanctissimi Martyris Supremi Templi Militie Mac[g]istri cui honos et e[gl]oria Decreto co[m]muni Fratrum Consilio ca[on]firmato e[ss]uperuniuersum Temb[p]li ordina[re]m sumo et supremo Magio[ster]io insignitus singularis has decretales literas uisuris salu[m] salu[m] salu[m].

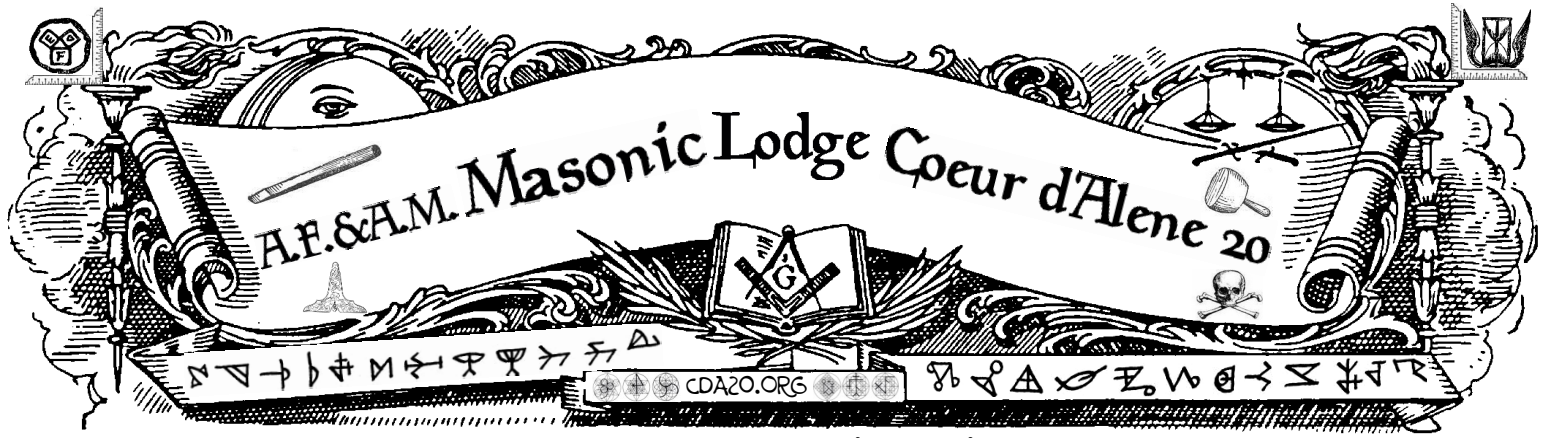
Notum sit omnibus tam presentibus quam futuris u[quod] deficientib[us] propter extremam etatem uiribus rerum angustia et gubernaculi grauitate perpansis [pre]pensis ad maiorem Dei gloriam Ordinis F[ra]trum et statutorum tutelam et salu[m] ego p[re]dictus humilis Magister Militie Templi inter ualidiores manus supremum statuerim deponere Magisterium.

THORY'S VERSION.

Ego Frater Johannes-Marcus Larmenius, Hierosolymitanus, Dei gratia et Secretissimo Venerandi sanctissimique Martyris, Supremi Templi militie Magistri (cui honos et gloria) decreto, communi Fratrum consilio confirmato, super uniuersum Templi Ordinem, Summo et Supremo Magisterio insignitus, singularis has decretales litteras visuris, salutem, salutem, salutem.

Notum sit omnibus tam presentibus quam futuris, quod, deficientibus, propter extremam etatem, uiribus, rerum angustia et gubernaculi grauitate perpensis, ad maiorem Dei gloriam, Ordinis, Fratrum et statutorum tutelam et salutem, ego, supra dictus, humilis Magister militie Templi, inter validiores manus Supremum statuerim deponere Magisterium.





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This ends the cypher and Latin portion. The remainder, on front and back of the parchment, being in French, I have not thought it necessary to copy out, but now give a translation of the whole document, both Latin and French.

I, Brother John Mark Larmenius, of Jerusalem, by the grace of God and by the most secret decree of the venerable and most holy Martyr, the Supreme Master of the Knighthood of the Temple, (to whom be honour and glory), confirmed by the Common Council of the Brethren, being decorated with the highest and supreme Mastership over the whole Order of the Temple, to all who shall see these Decretal letters, [wish] health, health, health.

Be it known to all both present and future, that, my strength failing on account of extreme age, having taken full account of the perplexity of affairs and the weight of government, to the greater glory of God, and the protection and safety of the Order, the Brethren and the Statutes, I the humble Master of the Knighthood of the Temple have determined to entrust the Supreme Mastership into stronger hands.

Therefore, with the help of God, and with the sole consent of the Supreme Assembly of Knights, I have conferred and by this decree I do confer for life on the eminent Commander and my Dearest Brother Theobald of Alexandria the Supreme Mastership of the order of the Temple, its authority and privileges, with power according to conditions of time and affairs, of conferring on another Brother, having the highest distinction in nobility of origin and attainments and in honourable character, the highest and Supreme Mastership of the Order of the Temple, and the highest authority. Which may tend to preserving the perpetuity of the Mastership, the uninterrupted series of successors, and the integrity of the Statutes. I order, however, that the Mastership may not be transferred without the consent of the General Assembly of the Temple, as often as that Supreme Assembly will to be gathered together, and, when this takes place, let a successor be chosen at the vote of the Knights.

But, in order that the functions of the Supreme Office may not be neglected, let there be now and continually four Vicars of the Supreme Master, holding supreme power eminence and authority over the whole Order, saving the right of the Supreme Master; which Vicars should be elected among the Seniors, according to the order of profession. Which Statute is according to the vow (commended to me and the Brethren) of the very holy our above said Venerable and most blessed Master, the Martyr, to whom be honour and glory. Amen.

I, lastly, by the decree of the Supreme Assembly, by Supreme authority committed to me, will, say and order that the Scot-Templars deserters of the Order, be blasted by an anathema, and that they and the Brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, spoilers of the demesnes of the Kighthood (on whom God have mercy) be outside the circle of the Temple, now and for the future.

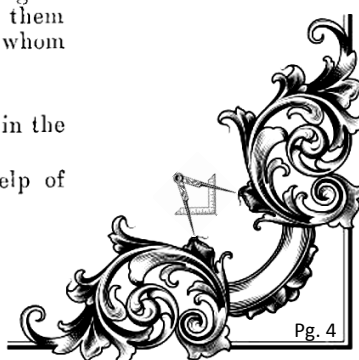
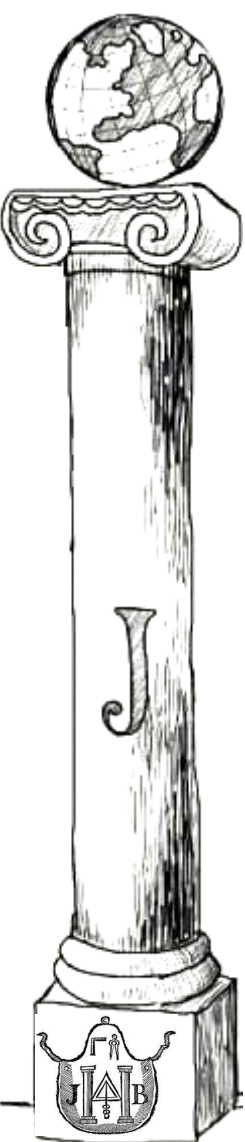
I have appointed, therefore, signs unknown, and to be unknown, to the false brethren, to be orally delivered to our fellow-Knights, and in what manner I have already thought good to deliver them in the Supreme Assembly.

But these signs must only be revealed after due profession and Knightly consecration according to the Statutes, rights and uses of the Order of fellow-Knights of the Temple sent by me to the above-said eminent Commander, as I had them delivered into my hands by the Venerable and most holy Master the Martyr (to whom honour and glory). Be it, as I have said, so be it. Amen.

I John Mark Larmenius gave this Feb. 13th, 1324.

I Theobald have received the Supreme Mastership, with the help of God, in the year of Christ 1324.

I Arnald de Braque have received the Supreme Mastership with the help of God A.D. 1340.





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I John de Clermont have received the Supreme Mastership with the help of God A.D. 1349. ✠

I Bertrand Guesclin &c. in the year of Christ 1357. ✠

I Brother John of L'Armagnac &c. in the year of Xt. 1381.

I humble Brother Bernard of L'Armagnac &c. in the yr. of Xt. 1392.

I John of L'Armagnac &c. in the yr. of Xt. 1418.

I John Croviacensis [of Croy] &c. in the yr. of Xt. 1451.

I Robert de Lenoncoud &c. A.D. 1478.

I Galeas Salazar a most humble Brother of the Temple &c. in the year of Christ 1496.

I Philip de Chabot A.C. 1516.

I Gaspard Cesinia (?) Salsis de Chobaune &c. A.D. 1544.

I Henry Montmorency (?) A.C. 1574.

I Charles Valasius [de Valois] Anno 1615.

I James Rufelius [de] Grancey Anno 1651.

I John de Durfort of Thônass Anno 1681.

I Philip of Orleans A.D. 1705.

I Louis Anguste Bourbon of Maine Anno 1724.

I Bourbon-Condé A.D. 1737. [There are several places called Condate.]

I Louis François Bourbon-Conty A.D. 1741.

I de Cossé-Brissac (Louis Hercules Timolco) A.D. 1776.

I Cla[u]de Matthew Radix-de-Chevillon, senior Vicar-Master of the Temple, being attacked by severe disease, in the presence of Brothers Prosper Michael Charpentier of Saintot, Bernard Raymond Fabré Vicar-Masters of the Temple and Jean-Baptiste Auguste de Courchant, Supreme Preceptor, have delivered [these] Decretal letters, deposited with me in unhappy times by Louis Timoleon of Cossé-Brissac Supreme Master of the Temple to Brother Jacque Philippe Ledru Senior Vicar-Master of the Temple of Messines [? Misseniacum] that these letters in a suitable time may thrive to the perpetual memory of our Order according to the Oriental rite. June 10th, 1804.

A Forgotten Emblem of the "Modern" Masons.—

In the satirical introduction to Dermott's *Ahiman Reason*, 1764, p. xxxii., is the following passage:—"There is now in my neighbourhood a large piece of iron scroll work, ornamented with foliage, etc., painted and gilt (the whole at an incredible expense), and placed before the Master's chair, with a gigantic sword fixed therein, during the communication of the members, a thing contrary to all the private and public rules of Masonry, all the implements of war and bloodshed being confined to the Lodge door, from the day that the flaming sword was placed in the east of the garden of Eden, to the day that the sagacious modern placed his grand sword of state in the midst of his lodge."

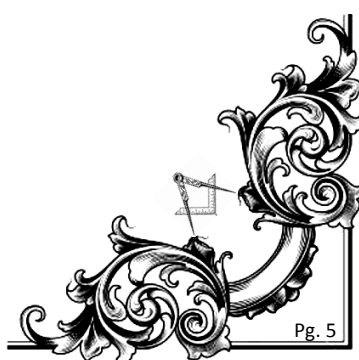
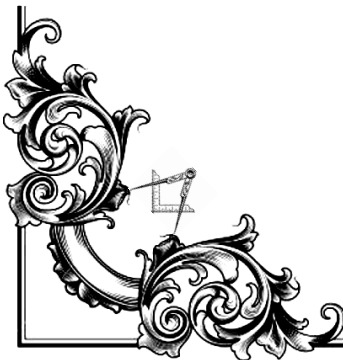
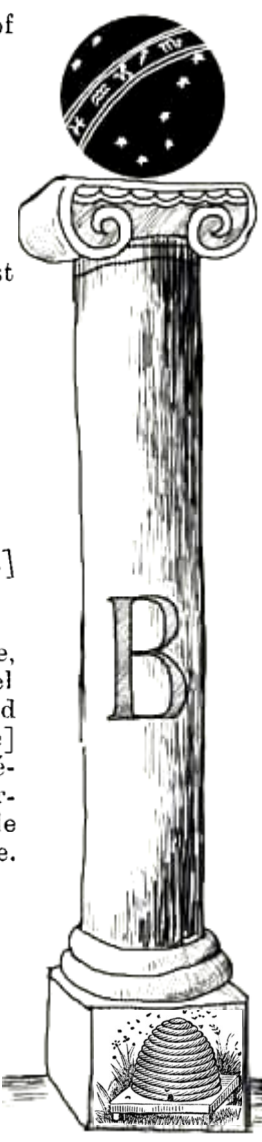
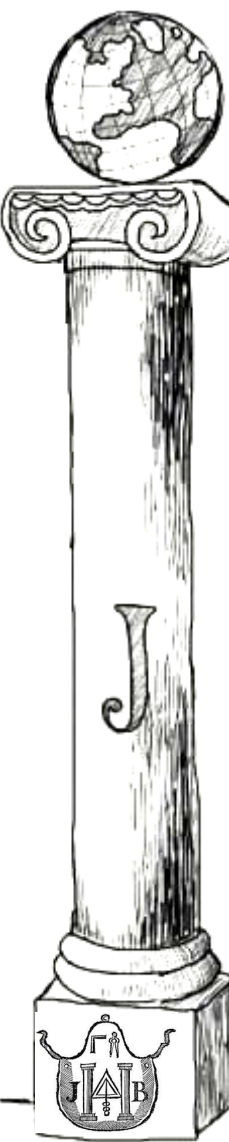
The next edition, 1778, at p. xl., commences "There is now in Wapping a large piece" etc.

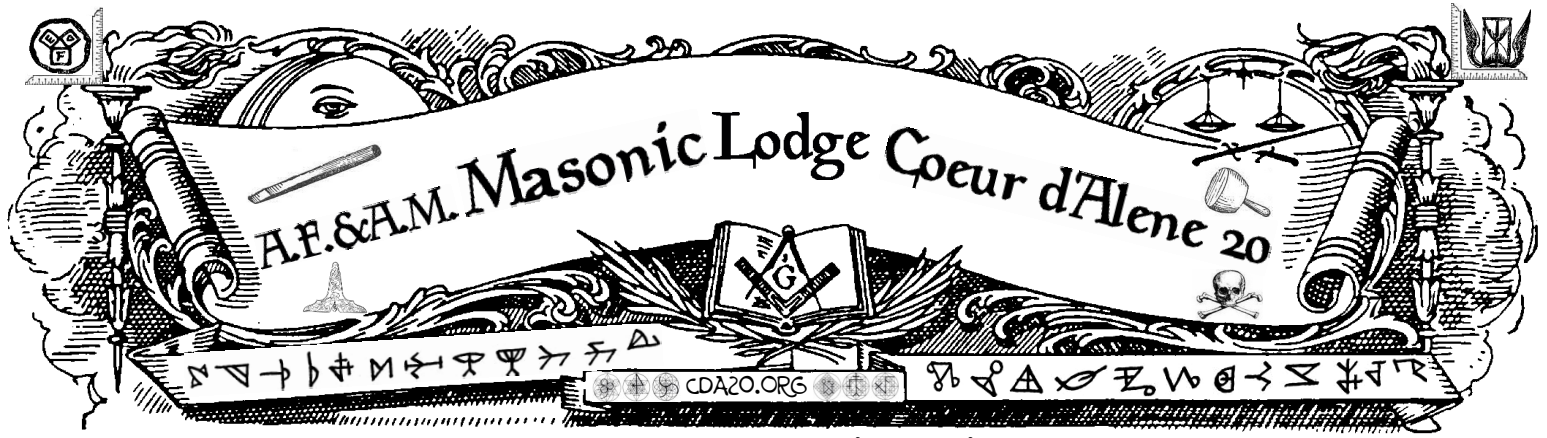
The remainder of the text is as above, and this is continued through the editions of the work down to that of 1813, the last. The above does not appear in the first edition (1756).

Now in the Constitutional Lodge, 294, at Beverley, there still remains a fine specimen of the sword alluded to by Dermott, and I enclose a sketch. The sword itself is nearly four feet long, with polished blade and gilt handle. The stand is wood painted



and gilded. The central portions of the metal arch and beam below are hinged to admit the sword, and fastened with pins.





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**UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD OF
FREEMASONRY THE ONLY EFFECTIVE MEANS
FOR PERMANENT PEACE THROUGHOUT THE
WORLD**

By Albert Churchward

M.D., M.R.C.P., F.G.S., P.M., P.Z., 30°

If the ostensible ends of the Peace Society are ever attained, they will be accomplished by the Universal Brotherhood of Freemasonry combined, as this is the only effective means for permanent Peace throughout the world.

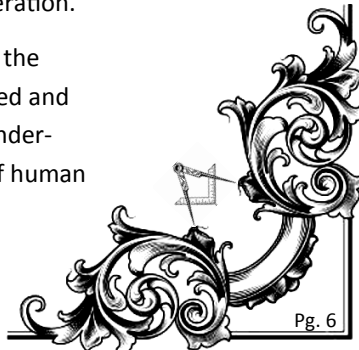
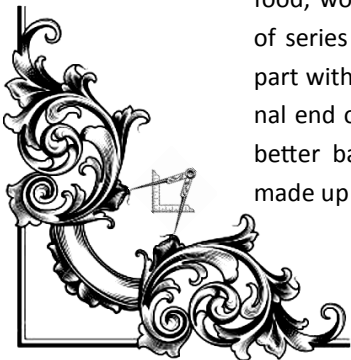
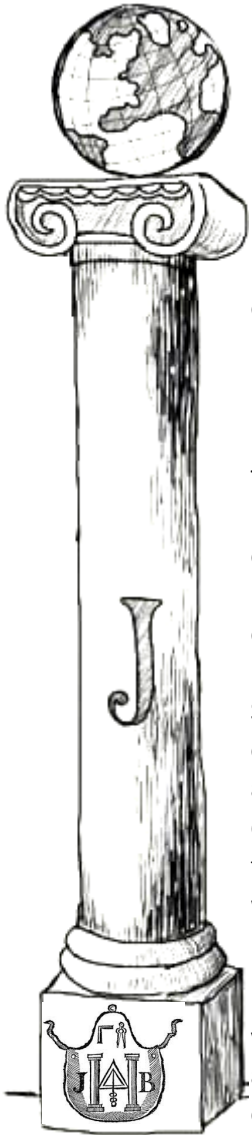
The difficulty is one that can be overcome only by the progressive evolution to a higher type of Homo, which is governed by the Periodic Laws of the Corpuscles. Thus man, depending on his evolution, will be advanced or retarded by the struggles between individuals and States obeying, or not, the fundamental Laws of Nature. These Periodic Laws of T.G.A.O.T.U. are true and immutable, and although we have dark and degenerate ages, decay and obliteration of erring nations in the world's history, yet we find that evolution of the human race is progressive.

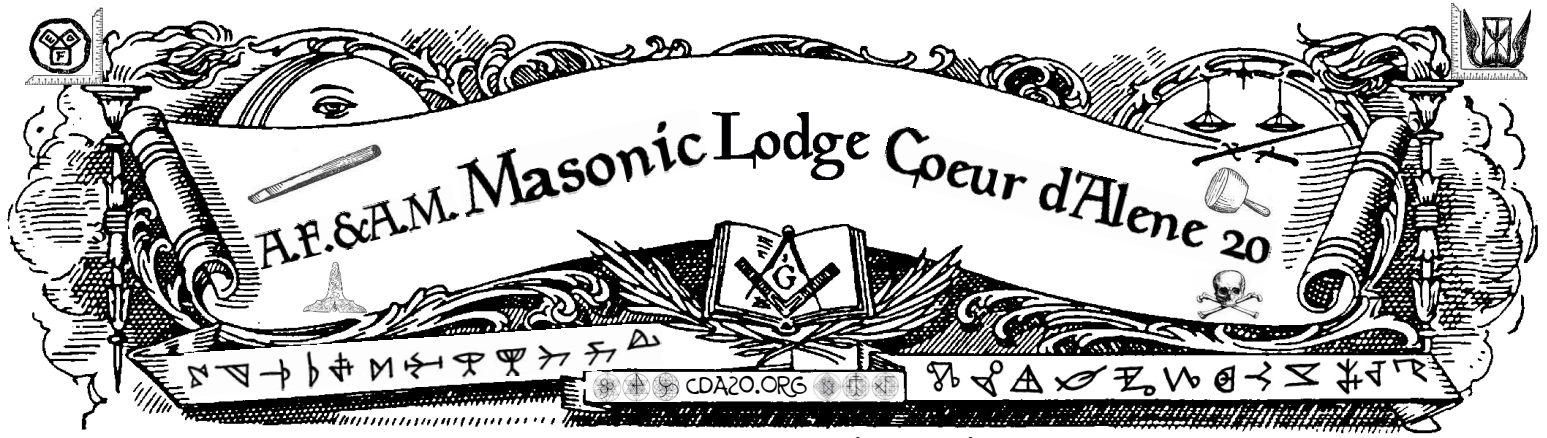
Man ought to be ever striving to help the Divine evolution by becoming to the best of his ability well instructed and informed. True education in every sense of the word, with congenial and healthy surroundings and good food, would tend to produce a larger number of series of corpuscles with less inclination to part with one or more corpuscles at the terminal end of the normal series, thus producing a better balanced brain and mind. Civilizations made up of individuals who

refuse to travel the road that leads to complete development, and by selfishness and greed reach seeming prosperity, only waste away and die without having grasped the duty of every race, namely, to receive and pass on to posterity the message of truth — these seek to dominate and control the life and conscience of the individual and subject him to tyranny and bondage.

Now we come to the question, "Is Freemasonry a Failure?" To one who has made a deep study for forty years, and can read and understand the Ancient Glyphs, which give a history of the past rise and fall of all great nations, and the causes for the same, as well as the progressive evolution of the human race, the answer is, at this date: It has not been, and is not now, a failure; but at the present time English Freemasonry is in the very gravest sense at a critical period, with the balance of the scales at equipoise. This statement is true, because, when studying the progressive evolution of the human race, it is not difficult to understand why the present humans here in England, in this supposed enlightened period, should have acted and set themselves against the Periodic Laws of the Universe, which are true and immutable — that have been, are, and will for all eternity be in active operation.

Hitherto in this country (England), the Government at least have neglected and despised science; they have not understood that it is simply the whole of human





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experience ordered and classified.

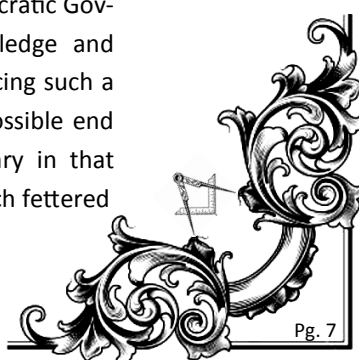
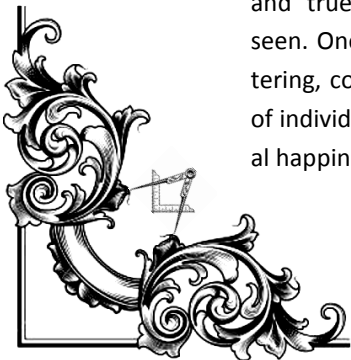
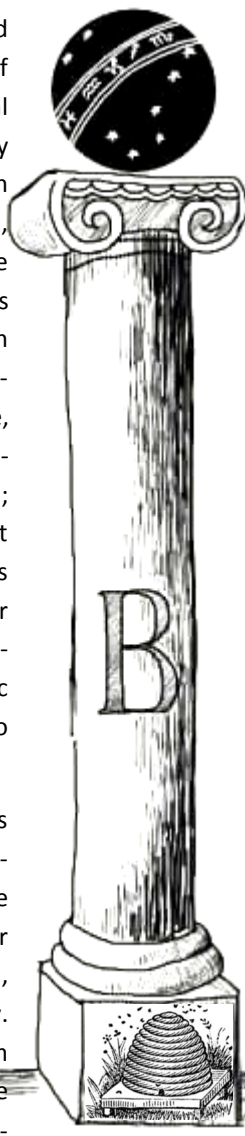
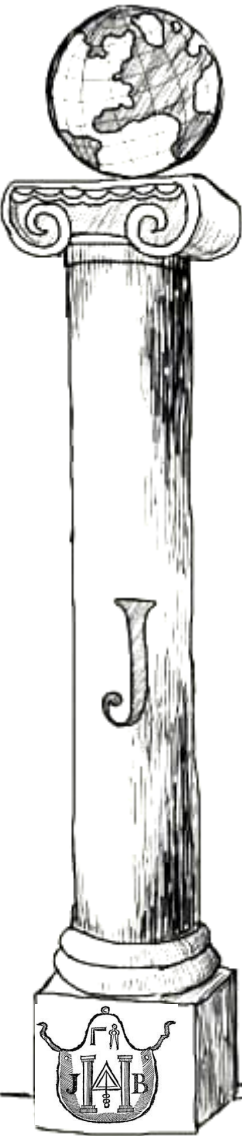
A State that tries to govern its affairs without science is blind ; every step it takes is a step in unexplored ground, and it only learns by bitter experience the folly and disaster that follow such a course. If a nation permits a Socialistic, Bureaucratic Government to be set up at its head at this period of the evolution of the human race, there can be only one end; the principle of this kind of government is to augment official power, official members, with undue influence or authority — officials who govern by a rigid and arbitrary routine, causing delay, muddle, extravagance, red tape, corruption and scandalous waste.

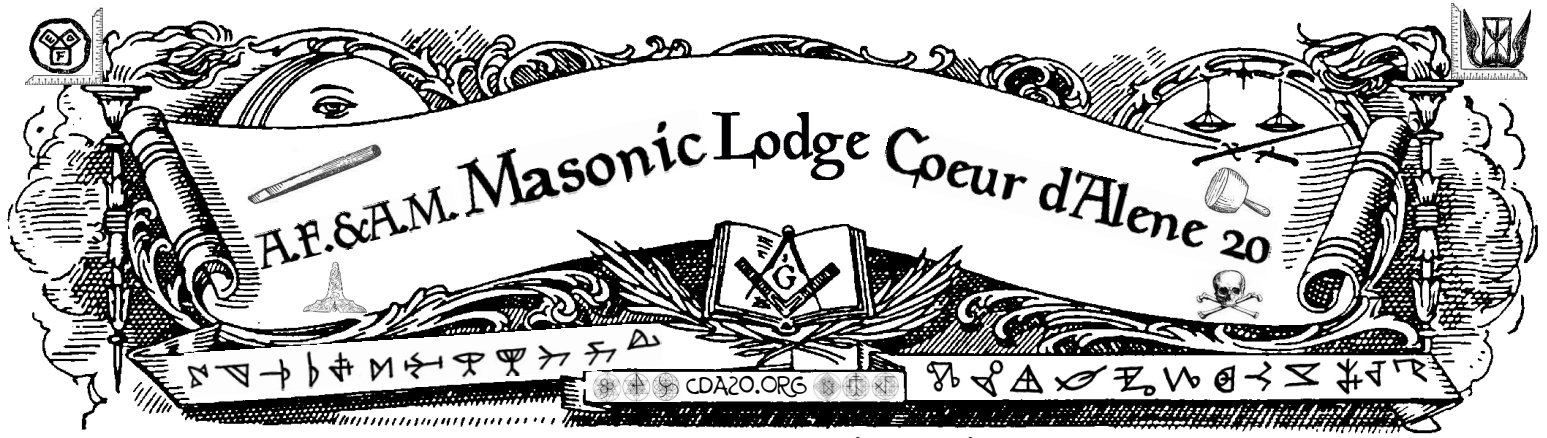
The people are not given a chance of developing on true human lines — that is to say, the laws of natural evolution of the development of the human race have been stultified; the system of education is to make the individual a unit in the machine of State, and the individual is merely an accessory part, all his best instincts are stifled, only blind obedience and servility being taught.

Freemasonry, on the contrary, teaches and inculcates those principles which, if followed, will build character, increase intelligence, foster self-reliance, promote independent thinking, abolish fear, annihilate superstition, spread love and goodwill everywhere ; it possesses the highest and truest ethics which the world has ever seen. One of these has been, and is, the unfaltering, courageous and consistent championing of individual life, individual liberty, and individual happiness against

the other force of Bureaucracy, which, with equal persistency, is seeking to dominate and control the life, intelligence and conscience of the individual, and subject him to individual bondage and servitude. Unfortunately, many Freemasons have been, and are, assisting in this latter disastrous course, and if pursued, Freemasonry will become a total failure. The question is whether our Brotherhood has learnt the bitter lesson that has already been taught in the past for the survival and continuation to a higher type of evolution of our race, and, therefore, the continuation of Freemasonry in this country to a higher standard; and for it not to be a failure. Brethren must learn to use, and not work against, those Laws which T.G.A.O.T.U. has given as a guide for our future welfare — the Periodic Laws of the Universe. If we still persist in supporting Socialistic Bureaucracy, we shall become a failure and go under.

The penalty of sin is death, and the sin in this case is not only neglect, but actual active operation against the laws of evolution and the universe, which will, and must, lead to disaster and destruction of the British Empire, and, therefore, to Freemasonry in this country. However much some Brethren may differ from me in this opinion, which is founded upon the knowledge of the Periodic Laws of the Universe and the past history of the fall of all great nations, it is a fact that Bureaucratic Governments, through want of knowledge and ignoring scientific truths, are producing such a state that there can be only one possible end to any country, and to Freemasonry in that country, where such fettered





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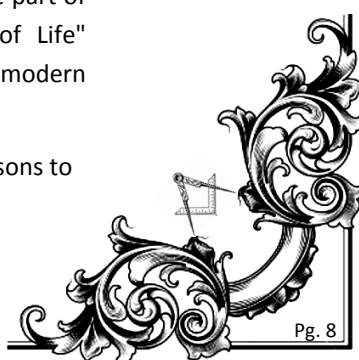
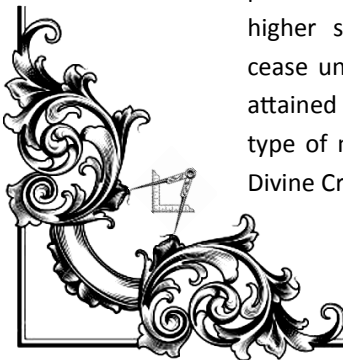
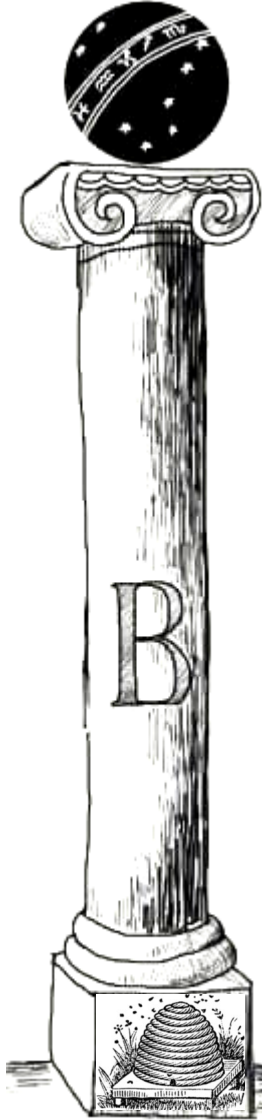
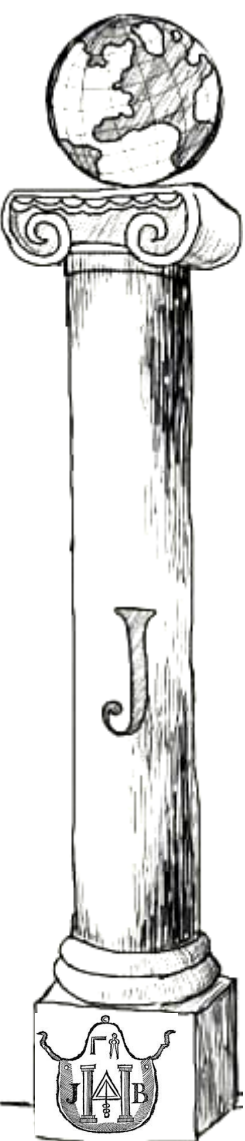
Governments are adopted. Freemasonry will not live in the future to perform its allotted task by simply being a charitable club and good-fellowship.

Freemasonry is something more than this. Thousands of years ago T.G.A.O.T.U. gave the old Wise Men of Egypt the written laws for life everlasting, as well as a "doctrine of final things."

These the human race has never been permitted to lose, and the foundation of our Brotherhood was built on these solid rocks. Although we have travelled far and long since our "originals" were in existence, and we therefore have many innovations in our Rituals on account of compilers of latter days not understanding the originals, yet the "substance" has never been lost. In these laws not only have we the spiritual side, but our duties regarding our country and fellow-men are laid down as a guide for our future actions. We have the experience, and therefore knowledge, given to us for the causes of the fall of all great nations in the past, and with their fall we know how the learned Brethren of each country were murdered, or driven forth to other countries, there to rise again and form great nations. As long as a nation has continued to follow the Divine and immutable Laws of the Universe, T.G.A.O.T.U. has prospered and assisted that nation to advance to a higher state of evolution. Wars will never cease until the whole of the human race has attained that higher evolution ; if the lower type of man will not progress in the way the Divine Creator has appointed, he

will be destroyed, and if one nation which has risen to the highest state of evolution then ignores and acts against these laws, it is acting against T.G.A.O.T.U., and the result will always be the same — destruction and disintegration, and another nation will rise and take its place. Freemasonry, therefore, which has risen to a higher and better state of evolution in this country, is now in the balance. But let no Brother think for one moment that Freemasonry will be destroyed universally. That will never be. If we fail here to perform our allotted task. Freemasonry will progress in another nation and be carried to a higher point in evolution. If the Brother who feels he needs further direction in order to obtain a stronger faith and a larger hope will remember the origin, study the laws, carry out these, together with the tenets taught in his Lodge, in his daily life, he need have no fear for the future, but he should make himself acquainted with all the so-called Degrees in Freemasonry, because in the Craft and R.A. Lodges he has only part of the Ritual and his duties unfolded to him; whereas in all the Degrees the duty of man to himself and the world, as well as to all his Brethren, is set forth, and although some of these are apparently of modern origin, such is not really the case: they are but innovations made to supply the part of the "Ritual of the Resurrection of Life" which has not been known to the modern compilers.

It is for the Brotherhood of Freemasons to





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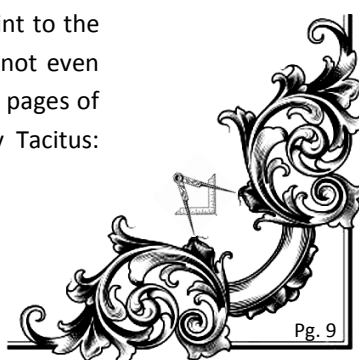
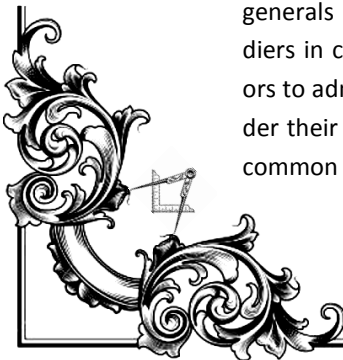
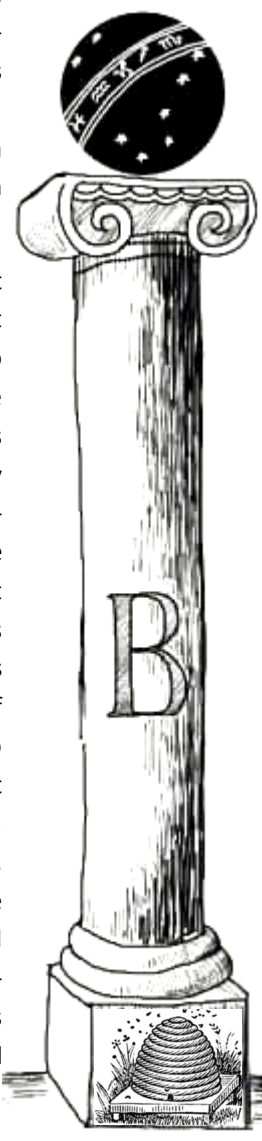
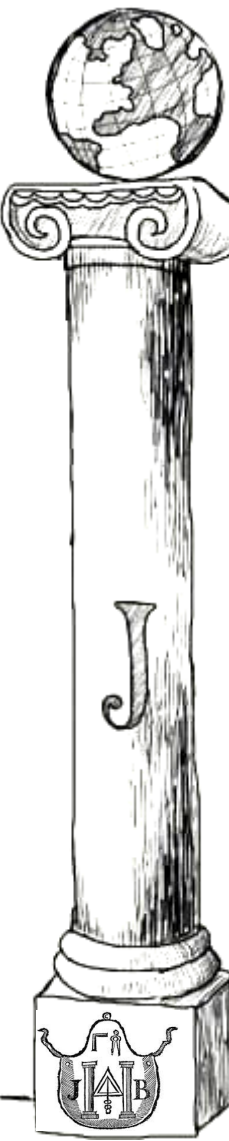
recognize the Laws of the Universe and follow them as T.G.A.O.T.U. has ordained, if they do not wish to be scattered over the face of the earth and water again. If the peace of the world and universal brotherhood is to be attained, it will be done through and by Freemasons, and not by Socialism and Bureaucracy, for these latter are responsible for the destruction of every great nation that has perished, without any exception, as the past history of the world proves, and are directly opposed to the Periodic Laws. If England is to be saved from following the fate of Russia, and Freemasonry is to flourish and not be a failure, the Brethren must light their lamps, otherwise they will be left to perish and represent the Foolish Virgins. They have only to remember the past history of Old Egypt, their Motherland, whose temples became hopelessly abandoned and hidden beneath the accumulated filth of generations of Arabs.

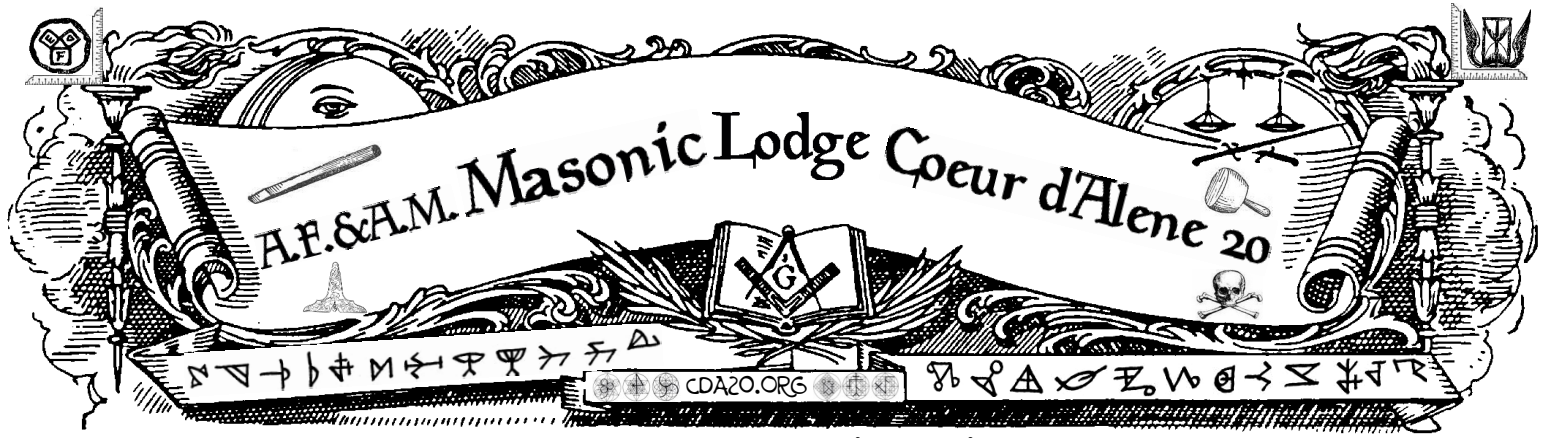
Their Great Library was burnt to ashes, their Wise Men were slaughtered, or driven forth to find a home in another land, and the latest example, where history has repeated itself, is quite recent. The Socialists and uneducated classes in Russia have revolted against the educated classes: Socialism in its worst form has been preached and let loose, with' the result — the destruction of the very thin layer of educated people that it had taken Russia centuries to collect. Where they murder their officers and generals of experience and put common soldiers in command, and tramp soldiers and sailors to administer the revolutionary courts, murder their physicians and surgeons and establish common house-porters in their places, all law

and order must disappear, to be replaced by anarchy, civil war, starvation, and breaking up of a mighty empire, and the progress of the evolution of this part of the human race will have to begin again, dating back a thousand years. They will have to begin from the bottom of the ladder of civilization.

If Freemasonry is not to be a failure, it just take such action that a similar fate shall not befall this country, although we appear to be running headlong in that direction; these are not idle words, but sure deductions drawn from immutable laws. If Freemasonry is not to be a failure, the Brethren must follow and practice those teachings outside the Lodge that they are taught inside. It will not be sufficient to subscribe to the Institutions and be a "good fellow." Freemasonry is more than that. It is the old true religion of the world, without dogmas or sects, and to preserve Freemasonry from failure it must be acted on and taught as such in our lives. If we fail to obey the Laws of T.G.A.O.T.U., we must not complain or be surprised if He destroys us. It would be we have failed, and not Freemasonry or the "Ritual of Resurrection and the Life to Come." That still stands good where it did 300,000 years ago and more.

If Masonry needed to be justified for imposing political as well as moral duties on its initiates, it would be enough to point to the sad history of the world. It would not even need that she should turn back the pages of history to the chapters written by Tacitus: that she should recite the





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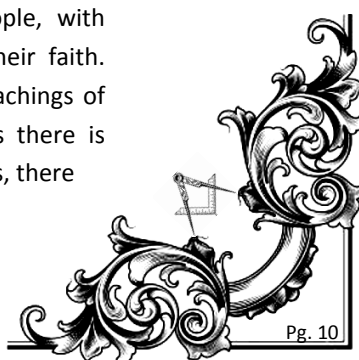
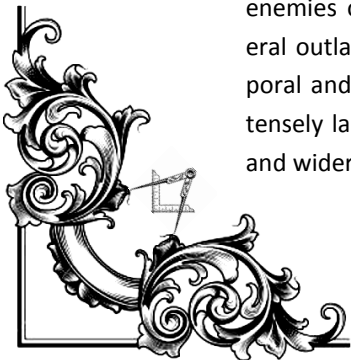
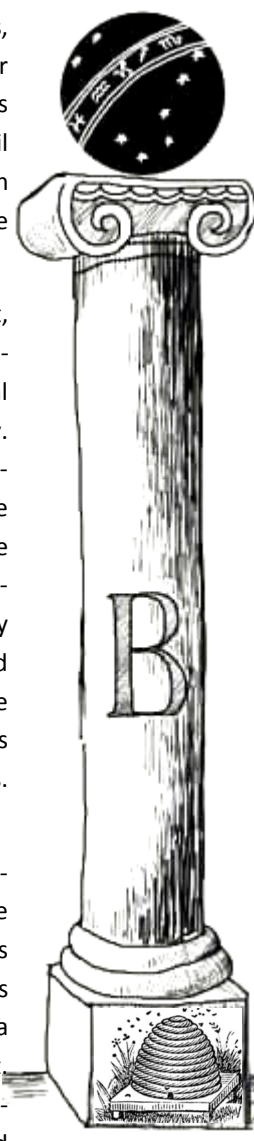
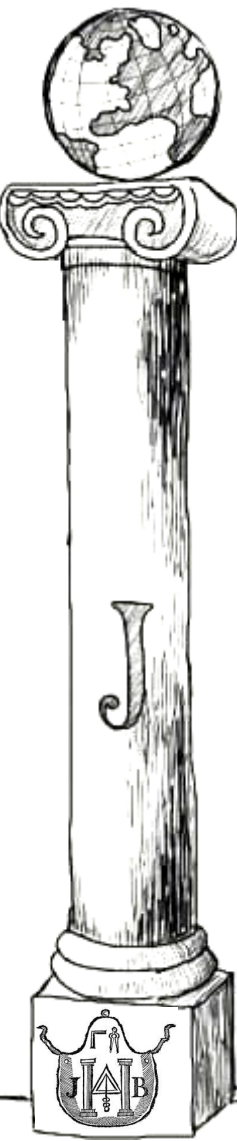
incredible horrors of despotism under Caligula and Domitian, Caracalla and Commodus, Vitellius and Maximin. She need only point to the centuries of calamity through which the French nation passed: to the long oppression of the Feudal Ages, of the selfish Bourbon Kings: to those times when the peasants were robbed and slaughtered by their own lords and princes like sheep : when the lord claimed the first-fruits of the marriage-bed: when the captured city was given to merciless rape and massacre : when the State prisons groaned with innocent victims, and the Church blessed the banners of pitiless murderers and sang *Te Deums* for the crowning mercy of the Eve of St. Bartholomew, and when the Pope's Nuncio and the Cardinal de la Roche-Ayman, devoutly kneeling one on each side of Madame du Barry, their King's abandoned prostitute, put the slippers on her naked feet as she rose from the adulterous bed.

Then, indeed, the people were beasts of burden. Why has France risen again in all her glory? Because France has seen that man is supreme over institutions, and not they over him. Man has natural empire over all institutions. They are for him, according to his developments: not he for them. Man owed it to himself to be free. He owed it to his country to seek to give her freedom and to maintain her in that possession. It made tyranny and usurpation the enemies of the human race. It created a general outlawry of despots and despotisms, temporal and spiritual. The sphere of duty was intensely large. Patriotism had henceforth a new and wider meaning Free government,

free thought, free conscience, free speech — all these came to be inalienable rights, which those who had parted with them, or been robbed of them, or whose ancestors had lost them, had the right to retake. Civil and religious freedom must go hand in hand. Free government grows slowly, like the individual human faculties.

Liberty is not only the common birthright, but it is lost as well by non-user as by mis-user. It depends far more on the universal effort than any other human property. France has to thank Masons for the freedom she possesses now, and France will rise to a higher, freer, and happier state, the individuality and independence of her people will assert themselves, and Freemasonry will flourish in France more than it ever did before in all her history. In her Lodges she has recognized T.G.A.O.T.U., but she has obliterated for ever the Church dogmas. And what of Italy?

The trite tale is the same. Rome, more intolerant if heresy than of vice and crime, came to fear the Templar Order. It has always deemed philosophical truth a dangerous heresy, and has never been at a loss for a false accusation to try to crush free thought. One has only to mention all the persecutions that the Brotherhood have suffered from Rome. But they have at last risen to be a free and independent people, with Masonry as the foundation of their faith. One has only to consider the teachings of Masonry. In the whole teachings there is not a single false principle of ethics, there





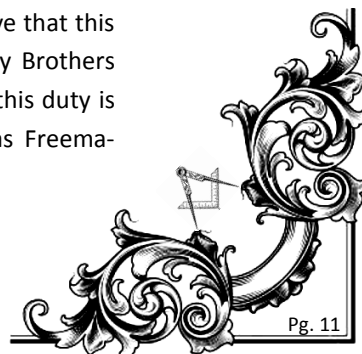
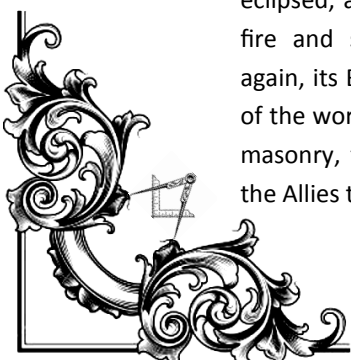
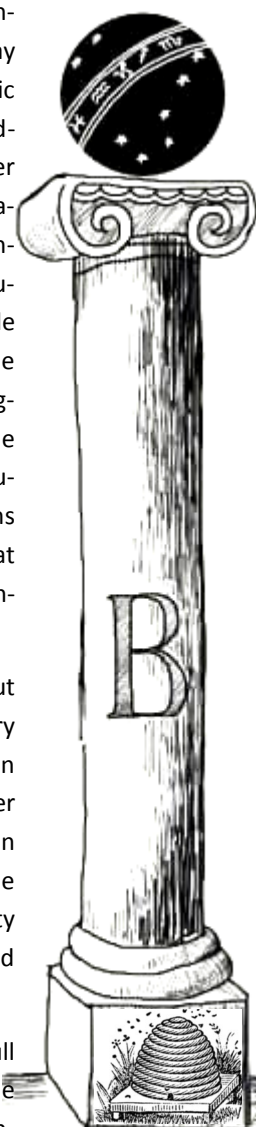
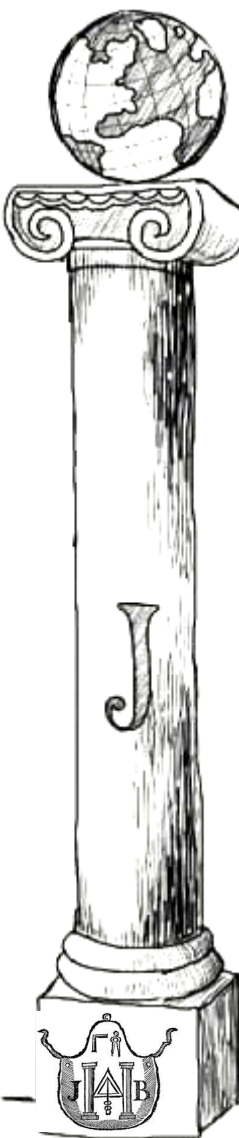
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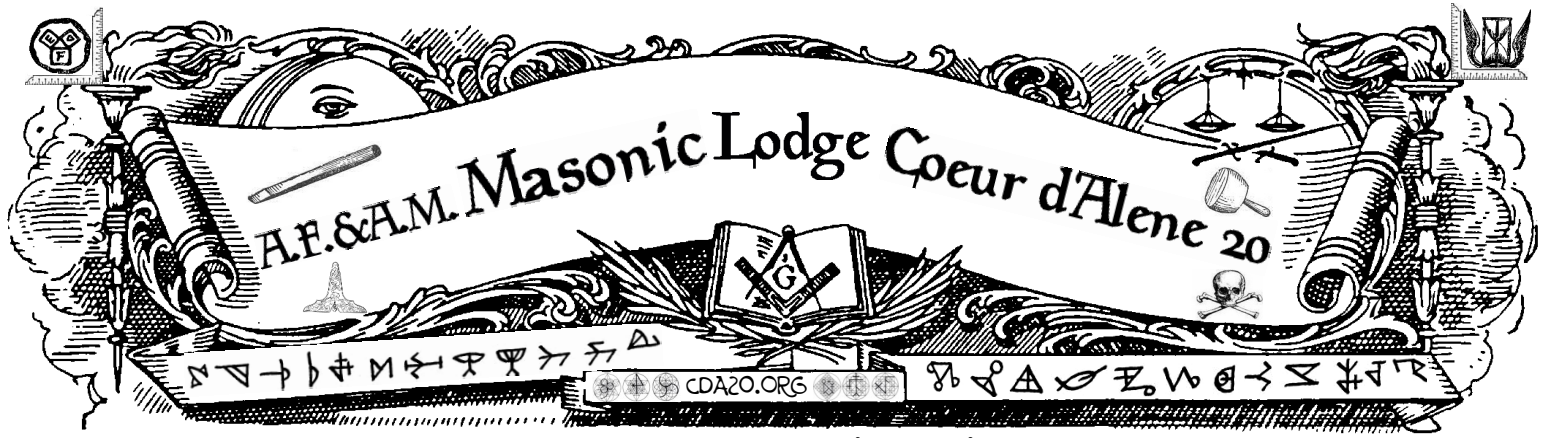
are no fetters to break. Science and Masonry are necessary to checkmate the secret and well-understood effort now being made to gain control of, and to subvert the original purpose of, our dearly-won freedom. From the dawn of civilization to the present moment two active and opposing forces have been engaged in deadly conflict over the destinies of human intelligence. One of these — Freemasonry — has been the unfaltering, courageous, and constant champion of individual life, individual liberty and individual happiness. The other has, with equal consistency and persistency sought to dominate and control the life, intelligence and conscience of the individual, and subject him to individual bondage and servitude. The one has dignified and emphasized the individual intelligence and appreciated its value, both to itself and to society. The other has persistently ignored the great fundamental fact in Nature that the individual in his own right, as such, is vested with certain indefeasible attributes and certain inalienable rights, privileges and benefits which must be respected. The profound philosophy and science locked up in the symbolism of Freemasonry has come down to us from the Eschatology of Ancient Egypt. It was the common bond and the religion of the human race all over the world 300,000 years ago. Through the dark ages of the last 5,000 years its temples had been thrown down, its blazing star had been eclipsed, and the old Brothers had been put to fire and sword; but Freemasonry, has risen again, its Brothers have fought for the freedom of the world, and that great stronghold of Freemasonry, the United States of America, joined the Allies to fight for right, justice, morality,

truth, and freedom for humanity from tyranny and oppression. The Masonic force to-day finds its nucleus for a universal undogmatic and unfettered manifestation in our worldwide Institution. Against this there is another force, its field of operation being in an organized body that seeks to maintain itself without regard to the largest measure of individual liberty and enlightenment. Upon one side stands an Institution that has "from time immemorial and through a succession of ages" given light to all its votaries. Upon the other side are entrenched Socialism and Bureaucracy, an organization that champions ignorance, superstition and fear, and that dominates and controls the reason and conscience of its communicants.

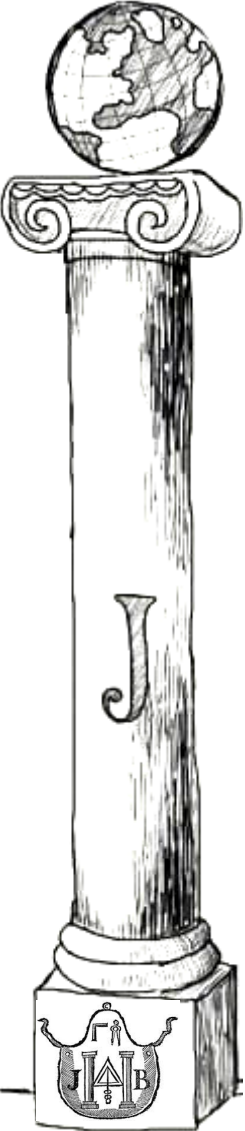
How many of the Brotherhood throughout the world are working, truly trying to carry out the duty that is morally imposed upon them as Free-masons, to attain this higher evolution of the Brotherhood and the human race? I say unto every Brother, of every clime and of whatever creed, that this is a duty which devolves upon him by the Laws and Tenets of our Order.

Let all those who doubt me attend the full Ceremony and Working of the Ritual of the "4" — "The Secret Master" — and those other higher Degrees which unfortunately in many places are "confirmed" on the Brother and not worked in extenso. I believe that this is the reason and cause why many Brothers do not know or comprehend that this duty is taught and imposed upon them as Freemasons.To be continued.....

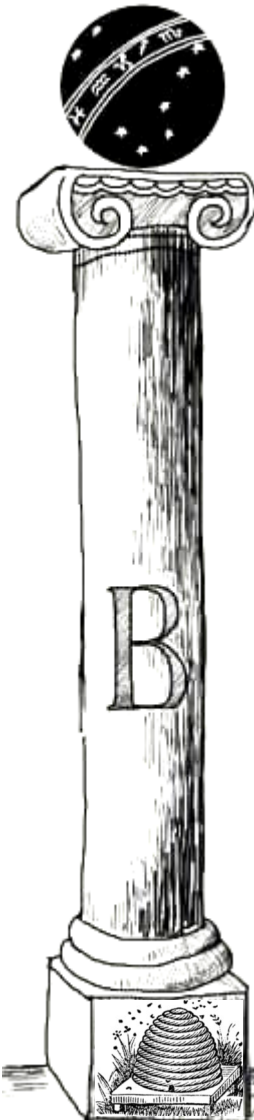




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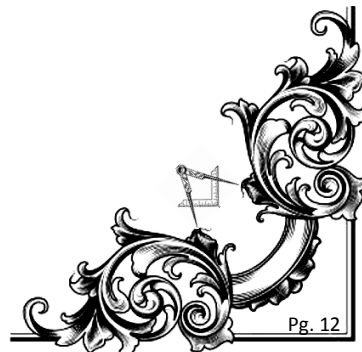
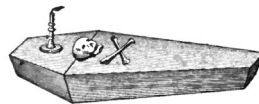


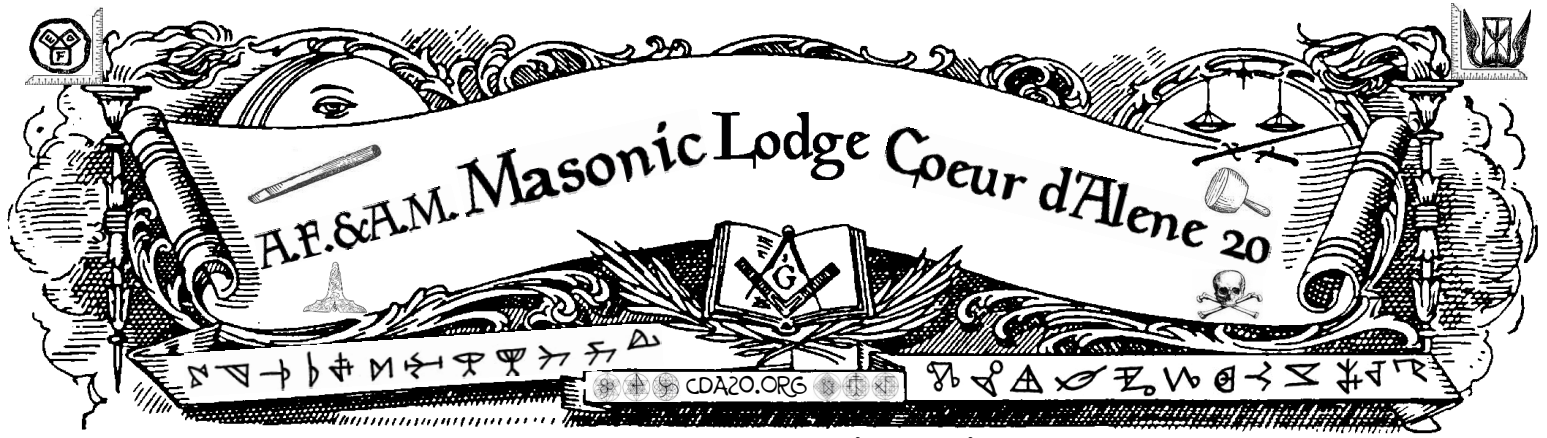
(Oldest known Illustration in Speculative Masonry)



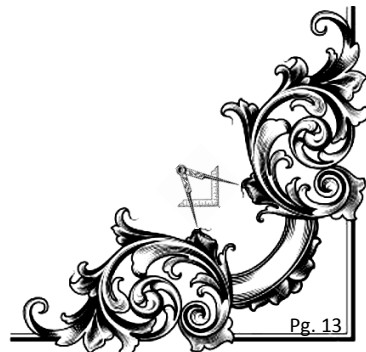
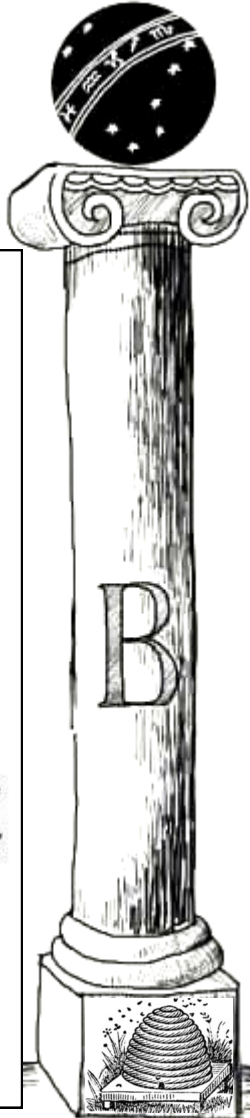
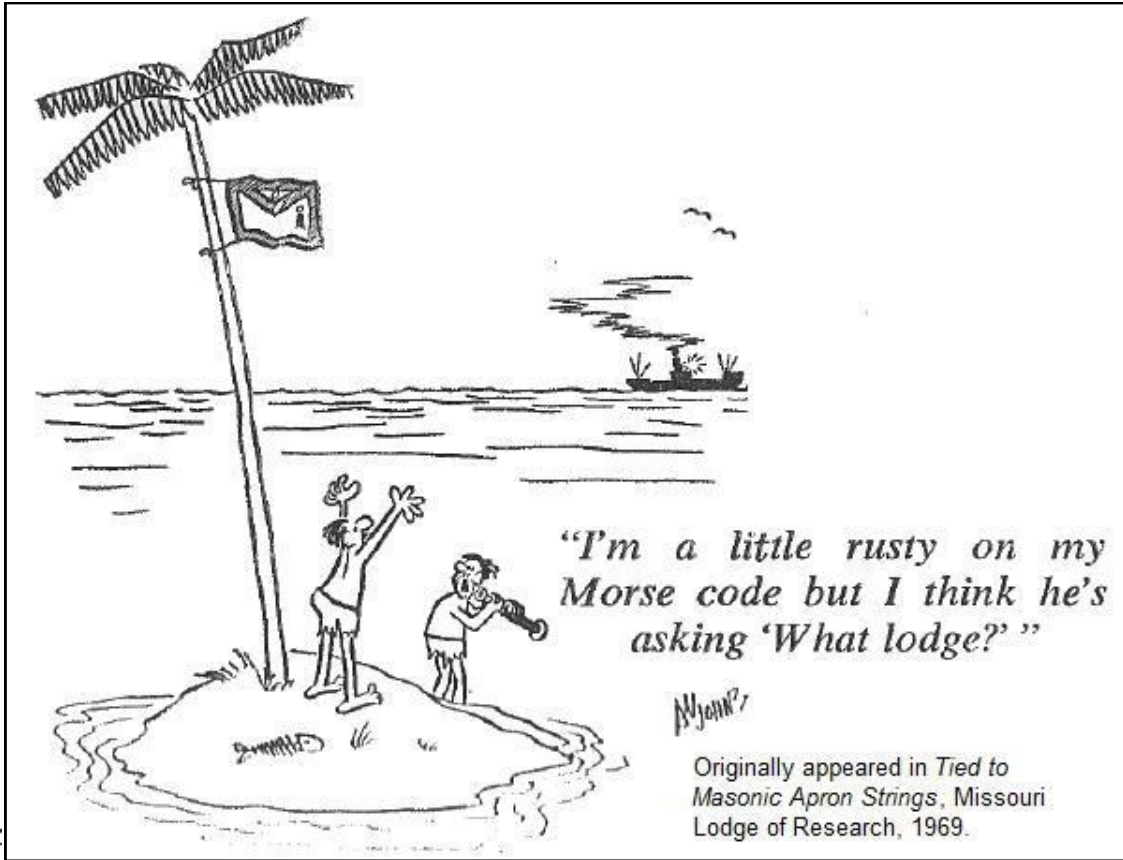
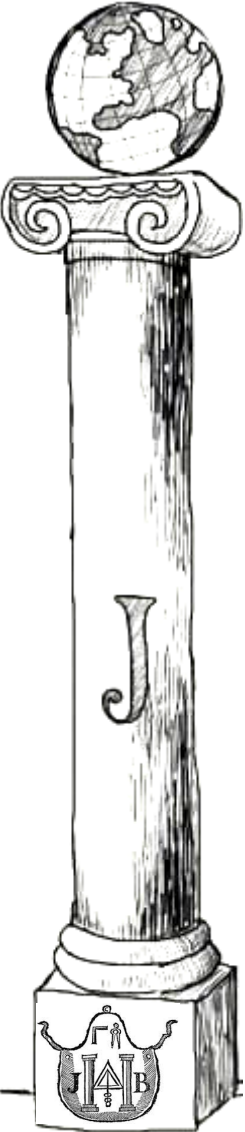
Two non Masons were passing a lodge after having quite a few drinks. What do you think goes on in there? asks one. I don't know but I am going in to find out, said the other. After two or three minutes he comes flying out of the door all bloody and clothes ripped. What happened to you? asks the first.

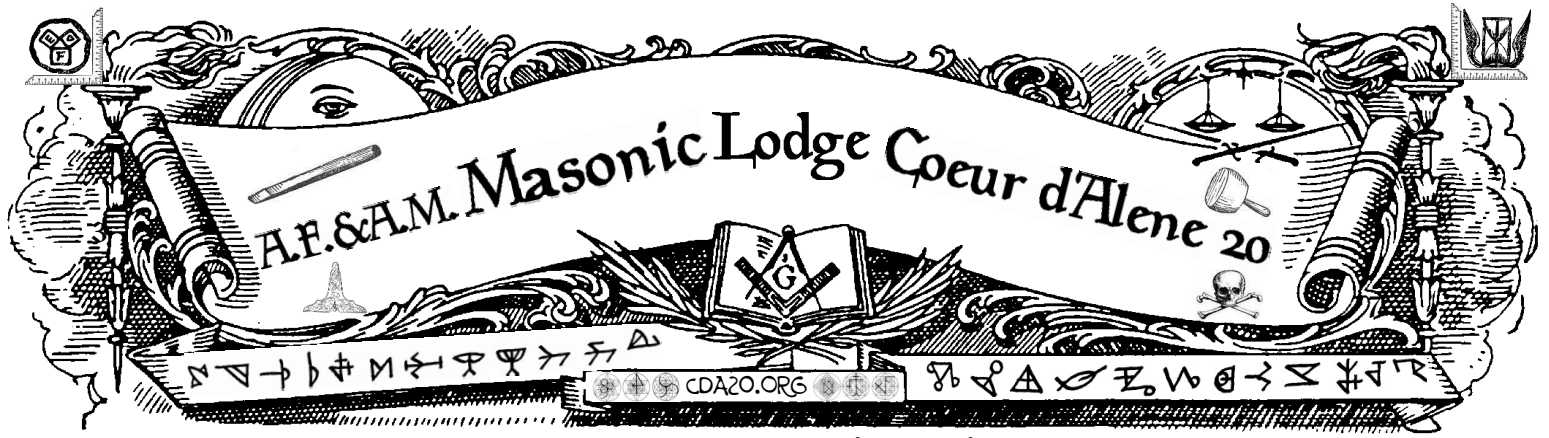
Well he said, after passing through the entryway, I climbed a winding stair. When I got to the top I came to a door with a small door at head height and so I knocked. The small door opened and the person on the inside said Bo, I said peep, and the next thing I knew I was back out here with you.



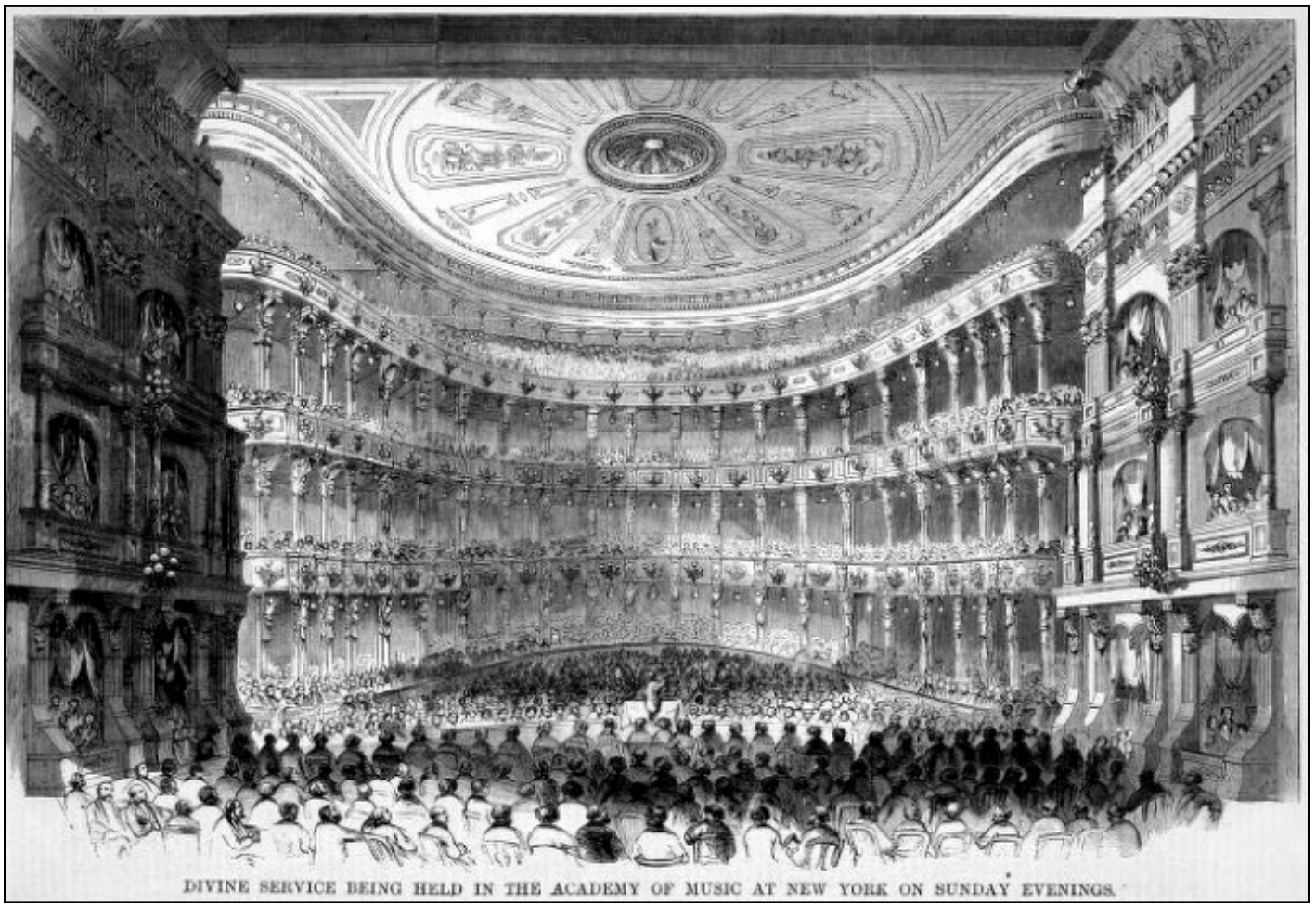


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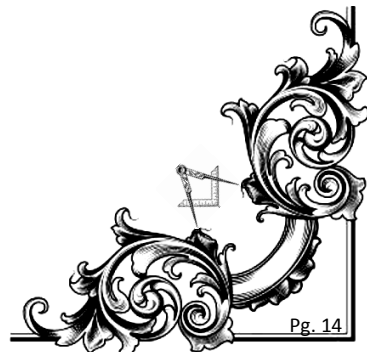


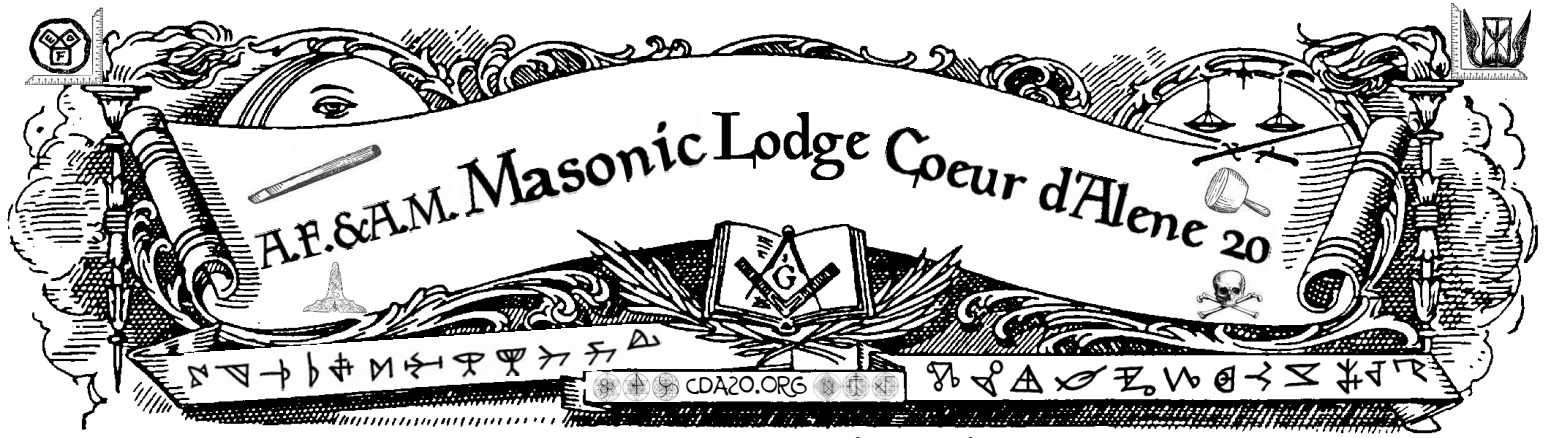


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