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AN EXACT REPRODUCTION

OF THE

"MACNAB MASONIC MS."

A.D. 1722.

EDITED BY

WILLIAM WATSON

(OF LEEDS),

P. M., P. PROV. G.S. OF WKS. AND HONORARY LIBRARIAN OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN

(OF TORQUAY),

P.S.G.D. OF ENGLAND, ETC., ETC., ETC.

London:

GEORGE KENNING, 16, GREAT QUEEN ST.

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1896.



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of floor of lands beo first built a bouse of stone and timber Juball found out musick. Juball found out smusick Juball found out smusick Juball found out smusick Juball found out of gold Silver copressions, shoel floor Memory out of out of weavoing, and these bildren knew if god would take very and for sirun oither by fire or water floor for their did write these Seyonces if they back found in two sillars

Woman Tureing your Approntiship.

So you shall not stood any mans goods but opposiall agour faid Master or anoy of his follow Masters or Sufer anoy one to stood of their goods but shall hinder it follow if you can est you cannot you shall against you Master sibis said follows.

Page anthe

Storge Self & 1722.

Reduced facsimile of portions of

"THE MACNAB MASONIC MS., A.D. 1722,"
In the possession of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire.

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY H. CECIL WATSON, HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.

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SPECIAL EDITION OF

250 COPIES.

TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE EACH.

(Post free.)

This

Typographical Reproduction

of the

" Macnab Masonic MS."

is

Respectfully and Fraternally Dedicated

to

R. W. Bro. the It. Hon. Im. Lawies Jackson,

J.P., 311.P., &c., &c., &c.,

Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire.

By

Wm. I. Hughan and William Walson.

Leeds: St. Michael's Pap, 1896.

Introduction.

E Province of West Yorkshire has done its part nobly in making known the character and texts of copies of the "Old Charges" which are in its possession or owned by one or more of its Lodges. No other Masonic Library has such a collection of these invaluable Manuscripts, now numbering eight—equalled only by the British Museum;

there being two others located in West Yorkshire and five in North and East Yorkshire, making fifteen in all in the County.

Through the generosity of the lamented Brother, the R.W. Thomas W. Tew, P.G.D.Eng. (late Prov. G.M.), the whole of these MSS., save the 8th, in West Yorkshire, have been reproduced in the important series edited by my friend Bro. William Watson, the zealous Honorary Librarian, as follows:—

ı.	"Thomas W. Tew MS."			17th century			1889.
				also 2nd e	dition		1892.
2.	"William Watson MS."			A.D. 1687			1891.
3.	"Clapham MS."			1700 circa			1892.
4.	" Waistell MS."			A.D. 1693			1892.
	"Hughan MS."			17th century			1892.
_	"Stanley MS."			A.D. 1677			1893.
	"Thomas W. Embleton M.	s."		17th century			1893.
	-						
ла	Lodge No. 302 The '	Hope	MS."	17th	centur	y	1892.
	Lodge No. 61 The '	Probi	ty MS	5." 18th	centur	у	1892.

Most of these contain Introductions by me, and there are also portions of the MSS. in fac-simile, as frontispieces to the Reproductions, so that the work has been done most thoroughly on behalf of the lamented Donor.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire requested the "York Lodge," No. 236, to permit "the Ancient Rolls of Constitutions in its possession to be reprinted, with photolithographic illustrations, in a uniform manner with those recently published by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire [the

Honorary Librarian really], in order that the whole of such documents at present known to exist in the county may be available to Masonic students."

The Committee appointed—The W.M. No. 236 (Bro. J. B. Sampson), Bros. J. Todd, M. C. Peck, and T. B. Whytehead, with Bro. Peck as printer and publisher—issued a most artistic volume in 1894 (which is still for sale), having also an Introduction by me, and contains the following MSS. with a portion in fac-simile of each scroll:—

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The "York MS. No. 1."
                                                 A.D. 1600 circa.
The "York MS. No. 2."
                                                 A.D. 1704.
The "York MS. No. 4."*
                                 ...
                                                  A.D. 1693.
The "York MS. No. 5."
                                                 A.D. 17th Century.
                                 ...
                                             ...
                          ...
                                       ...
The "York MS. No. 6."
                                                 A.D. 17th Century.
                          ...
                                ...
                                             ...
The "Scarborough MS. (G. L. Canada)"
                                                 A.D. 1705.
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Since then, the following Manuscript has been acquired for the West Yorkshire Masonic Library.

Owing to the good offices of Bro. T. A. Withey, of Leeds, I had an introduction to Captain J. Macnab, R.N.R., of Liverpool, who had a copy of the "Old Charges" presented to him by the late Bro. Younghusband (of the same City) and was willing to part with it, on condition that it was placed in a permanent Collection; the sum to be paid for the document being devoted to Masonic Charities.

In pursuance of an old promise of mine to do my utmost to raise the number of MSS. in the West Yorkshire Masonic Library to *eight*, I at once agreed with this zealous craftsman for its purchase, nominating that Library as its resting-place with the warm approval and co-operation of Bro. Watson, who likewise agreed to my condition, that it should be named after the recent owner.

The document was originally a Roll of paper measuring some twelve feet in length and nearly seven inches in width. It is now composed of fourteen strips, having been thus divided (most unfortunately), and lacks the Invocation as well as the early part of the Traditional History before "Note I pray you, that these Seven are contayned under Geometry," the first five lines preserved being imperfect:

The MS. being thus divided doubtless makes it easier to read the Scroll, but it is much to be regretted that it has been so maltreated. The margin at the right hand has also been cut very closely, to the loss sometimes of a concluding letter or two. The writing, which is very distinct and clear, appears to have been the work of two or three Scribes, and on the whole is more correct than the majority of such documents. It is now carefully mounted throughout on fine calico and runs, in length, to a little over ten feet. At the foot of the Scroll, in red ink of about the same period, and by one of the Scribes (according to my judgment) the following is written:—

George Webstr 1722.

being 27 years old March ye 25.

A water mark in the paper of one of the strips has a crown with the letters "G.R." below, which agrees well with the estimated period of transcription, viz., the third decade of the eighteenth century.

The text belongs to the *Roberts* Family, and so I number it F₅, it having as companions the "Grand Lodge MS. No. 2," the "Harleian MS. No. 1942," the "Rawlinson MS.," and the "Roberts" Reprint of 1722, the latter being numbered F₁ and the others F₂ to F₄ respectively.

The Scribe (or Scribes) followed his own fancy as to several names, e.g., *Eda* for Adah or Ada; *Nema* for Naamah; *Lasuie* for Lunie (F1) or for Lucium (F2 and F3); and *Emeas*, the others having *Emens*.

Marble and Latres agree with the remainder of the Family, but this Roll is again original in its mention of Alemongrecus, in lieu of "Memon Grecus," and also has Annon for Hiram Abiff as the "Grand Lodge MS. No. 2"; the "Harleian" and the "Roberts" having Anon. The wages noted as paid in St. Alban's time "three shillings six pence ye week," accords with the other manuscripts referred to, and so the curious error of "Sheep and Lands" for Lambs (excepting F4). The "Grand Lodge" reading is the more correct, however, as "ye teachinge of discreet men," rather than discreditt men teaching" as this MS. and the "Harleian" and " Roberts." The 11th and 12th agree with the "Grand Lodge" and "Roberts," save that they are reversed, the shorter one being omitted in the "Harleian." Nos. 21 and 22 are separately enumerated as the "Grand Lodge" and "Roberts," but united in the "Harleian" as No. 21, and all agree in the Ten Miles limit. At the conclusion of these 26 Rules, a brief obligation is added like unto the "Harleian" and "Roberts," and then follow the "New Articles," as in the former, only separately numbered, with the heading:

These Articles following were added here unto since by ye best Mrs. & fellowes.

There are a few peculiarities in the "Rawlinson" transcript that I should like to be assured are in the original located in the Bodleian Library.

For the sake of instituting an exact comparison, a certified copy is much needed, prior to its testimony being accepted as favouring the various readings of either of the other MSS. and the typographical reproduction. There are differences in the "Roberts" text which were probably not in the original, but due to errors of the transcriber or printer, such as "by virtue of your Dominion" (re Euclydes) instead of Commission.

The Macnab MS. has some independent readings, one in particular being noteworthy. Its 23rd Rule has the additional words:—

"or if it be kept onst in A Quarter or as often As is "concluded of by ye Lodge you be long to."

The long O.B. comes immediately after the New Articles in the "Harleian" but ends the "Grand Lodge," in which it is termed the "Oath of Secresie." The MACNAB, however, is more discreet, and merely says "I.A.B., &c."

There are only three MSS. (hence their special value) and the "Roberts" print that contain the new articles, viz., the "Grand Lodge No. 2," the "Harleian No. 1942," and the "Macnab." These are undated in the manuscripts, but to "Roberts" is the heading.

"Additional Orders and Constitutions made and agreed upon at a General Assembly held at on the eighth Day of December, 1663."

In the "Book of Constitutions," A.D. 1738-46, the date is given as 27th Decr., 1663, "according to a copy of the Old Constitutions," when these Regulations were agreed to. I think it likely Dr. Anderson obtained the "New Articles" from the Roberts print, but made some alterations in the text, as customary with him, such as the insertion of the title "Grand Master" instead of Master.

The Regulations are thus numbered in the three Manuscripts "Roberts," &c.:—

" Harleian"	26	27	28	29	30		31
"Grand Lodge"	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
" Macnab"	1	2		3	4	5	6
"Roberts"	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
"Dr. Anderson"	1	2	3	4	5	6	

The 7th refers to the Oath of Secrecy which is not given in the various Books of Constitutions from 1738 to 1784.

There are not a dozen, of over sixty Manuscripts traced, that contain the Charge to Apprentices, and of these six are located in Yorkshire, four being in the famous West Yorkshire Masonic Library, viz.:—

D.	20	•••	Clapham		A.D. 1700 circa,
E.	7		T. W. Embleton		17th Century,
E.	8		Waistell	•••	A.D. 1693,
F.	5	•••	Macnab		A.D. 1722;

the others belonging to the valuable York Collection (Lodge No. 236) and the Lodge of Hope, No. 302, Bradford. As explained in my Introduction to the "Ancient York Masonic Rolls" (1894), I think it likely, although most of the MSS. are deficient of the interesting Apprentice Charge, that it was in general use for Masonic purposes, only not ordinarily preserved as a part of the usual Roll of the Old Charges, but as a separate document. The clauses are simply those that would be common to the Apprentice Indentures of the period, only that these have a Masonic flavour.

On the general question as to the text of the operative and speculative Constitutions and their relation to the Fraternity, I must refer those desiring more information to my "OLD CHARGES OF BRITISH FREEMASONS" lately published.

WM. JAMES HUGHAN.

The "Macnab MS."

1722.

[The commencing part, in italics, is supplied from the "Roberts Pamphlet," A D. 1722.]

The History of Free Masons, etc.

[The Almighty Father of Heaven, with the Wisdom of the Glorious Son, thro' the Goodness of the Holy Ghost, Three Persons in one Godhead, be with our Beginning and give us his Grace so to govern our Lives, that we may come to his Bliss, that never shall have end. Amen.

Good Brethren and Fellows, our Purpose is to tell you how, and in what manner the Crast of Masonry was begun, and afterwards how it was sounded by worthy Kings and Princes, and other wise Men, hurtful to none, and also to them that be true, we will declare doth belong to every Free Mason to keep sirm good Faith, if you take Heed thereunto it is well worthy to be kept, which is contain'd in the Seven Liberal Sciences as follows, viz.

Imprimis, It's Grammar that teaches a Man to fpeak truly, and write truly.

- II. It's Rhetorick that teaches a Man to speak fair, and in subtle Terms.
- III. It's Logick that teaches a Man to difcern Truth from Falfhood.

- IV. It's Arithmetick that teaches a Man to Accompt, and reckon all Manner of Numbers.
- V. It's Geometry that teaches Mett and Meajure of any Thing, and from thence cometh Majonry.
- VI. It's Musick that teacheth Song and Voice.
- VII. It's Aftronomy which teacheth to know the Course of the Sun, Moon, and other Ornaments of Heaven.

¹ Note I pray you that these Seven are

² contayned under geometry for it teacheth

3 met & meafure, ponderation and weight for

every thing in & upon ye whole earth for you to

5 know that every Crafts man workes by meafure 6 he or shee that buys or selles by weight & measure

husbandmen navigators planters &co: All of them

s use Geometry: for neither Grammar, Rethorick Logick nor aney other of ye faid fciences can subsist withou

10 Geometrie Ergo most worthey laudable & honorable

IF you aske mee how this fcience was ffirst inven my answer is this that before ye generall deluge which is comonly caled NoEs flood there was A man called Lamech as you may read in ye fourth of Genesis who had 2 wives ye one called Eda ye other Zilla by Eda hee begot 2 fonnes Jabell & Juball by Zilla hee had one sonne called Tuball & a daughter called Naamah these four children found ye beging of all ye crafts in world Jabell found out Geometry & he Devided flocks ²⁰ of fheep & Lands hee first built a house of stone and timber Juball found out mufick Tuball found out Smiths trade or craft also of gold silver copper Iron and Steel NEMA found out ye craft of weaveing and these children knew yt god would take vengeance for Sinn either by fire or water ttherfore they did write these Scyences yt they had found in two Pillars of stone yt they might be found after yt god had taken vengeance, ye one was MARBLE that would not burn ye other was Latres yt would not drown in ye 30 water so yt ye one would bee Preferved & not confumed if god would any people to live upon ye earth

Note.—The terminal words or letters in italics are missing from the original MS, and are supplied from the Noberts Pamphlet.

32 it resteth now to tell you how these stones were found where on ye faid Sciences were writen after ye said It so pleafed god that ye great Hermarmes deluge in whose sonne Lasuie was who wos ye sunne of SEM: who was ye Sonne of NoD ye faid Hermarmes ye father of wisemen hee found one of ye 2 Pillars of stone he found these Scyences written there in hee taught them to other men & at ye Towre of Babilon king of bab

40 who was Nemorth was a mason & loved ye Science and when ye city of Nineue & other citys of ye East should bee builded NEMORTH sent thither threescore Masons at ye desire of ye King of Nineue & when they went forth hee gave them Charge after this maner that they should be true one to another and love one another that he might have worship by them in sending them to his Cuzin ye King he gave them Charge concerning their Science & then was ye first time that aney Maso

50 had charge of his worke or Science in Abraham & Sarah went into Egipt & taught ye Egiptians ye seaven liberall sciences & he had an Ingenious Scholar called Euclides who perfectly learned ye said liberall Sciences pened in his dayes that ye Lord & States of the Relme had soe maney Sonnes unlawfully begotten by other mens Wifes & Ladves that ye Land was burthened with them haveing small means to maintaine them withall the

60 King understanding thereof caused a parliam tó be called or Sumoned for redrefse but being soe Numberles yt noe good could be done then he caused a proclamation to be made thro

ye Realme yt if any man could devife aney cours how to mantaine them to enforme ye King and he fhould be well rewarded where uppon Euclide

came to ye King & said thus my Noble Soverigne If I may have ye order & Government of thefe Lords Sonnes I will teach them ye seaven liberall 70 Sciences whereby they may live honeftly like Gentlem

provided you will Grant me power over them by Vertue of your comission which was immediately effected & their M^r Euclides gave them these admonitions following

r To be true their King

2 to be true one to another

3 to their Mafter they serve

4 not to mifcall one another Knave or Such like

5 to do thir worke Soe duely yt they may deferve their wages at their Masters hands

6 to ordaine ye wifest of them Mr of their Lord & Mrs worke

7 to have fuch reafonable wages yt ye workmen may live Honeftly and with Credit

8 To come & Afsemble together once in ye Yeare to toke counfell in there crafte how to worke best to ferve their Lord & Mr for his proffitt and their own credit and to correct such as have offended

Note that Masonry was heretofore termed geometery and since thence ye children of Israell came to ye land of Behest which is now called Emeas in ye cuntry of Jerusalem & King David loved well Masons he began A Temple that is now called ye Temple of our Lord or ye Temple of Jerusalem & he cherifhed Masons & gave them good payment & did give them charge as Euclides had given them before in Egipt & further as followeth & after ye decease of king Daved Solomon his son finished ye Temple that his father began he sent for Masonons of Divers Lands to ye number of 2400 of which number 4000 elected & nominated masters & Governours of ye worke & there was a king of another ragion our cuntry called Haram who loved well King Solom

& he gave him Timber for his worke & he had a Son y^t was called Annon & he was Master of Geometry & he was cheif Master of all his Masons of carving worke & of all other Masonry y^t belong

to ye Temple as a-ppers by ye bible in Libro REGUM CAPITE QARTO. And King Solomon confirm

all things concerning Masons yt Daved his father had

110 given in charge & these Masons did Travel divers cuntreys

Sum to augment theire knowledge in ye said Artt & to Instruct

others. And it happened yt A curious Mason named

Alemongrecus yt had been at ye building of folomens Templ

came into ffrance & taught ye Scince of Masonry to ye ffrenchmen & there was a King of ffrance called Carolus

Mortell who loved gretly Masonery who sent for this said Alemongrecus & learned of him ye said fcience & becam one of ye ffraternity & there upon began great workes & liberaly did pay his workmen, he confirmed them a 120 large Charter & was yearly present at their assembly which was a great honour & encouragement to them: thus came ye Science into ffrance, ye knowledge of Masonery was unknown in England untill St Alban came thither who Instructed the King in ye said Science of Masonery alfo in Divinity who was A Pagan: he walled ye Town now called St Albans he became in high favour with ye Kinge in somuch as he was Knighted & made ye Kings cheif steward & ye Realm was Governed by him under ye said King he gretley cherished & loved Masons & 130 truly paid them there wages weekly, weh was three shi llings six pence ye week, he purchased them a Charter from ye King to hold a generall Assembly & councell YERLY. he made many Masons & gave them such a charge as hereafter is declared. It happened prefently after ye Martyrdome of Sant Albion who is truly termned Englands Protomartir that a certaine King Invaded ye Land & destroyed most of ye Natives by fire and Water that ve Scinc of Masonry was decayed 140 untill ye Raign of King Athelston with some write Adleston who brought ye Land to peac & rest from ye Infulting Danes: he began to build maney Abbeyes Monasteries & other religous houses as also Castles & divers foretresses for defence of his Realme he loved Masons more then his father. He greatly Studed Geometry & fent into maney Lands expert in ye science, he gave them A very large Charter to hould a yearly Affembly & power to correct offenders in ye said science and ye King himfelf caused A generall Affembly of 150 all Masons in his Realme at YORKE & there made many Masons and gave them a deep charge for observation of all such Articles as belonged

of them had aney writing yt concern Masonery or could Informe ye King of aney thing or matter that was wanting in ye said charge already deliverd that they or he should show them tt ye King or recite them to him & there were Som in Greek & sum in ffrench and sum in English and other languages where upon ye King caused a booke to be made which declered how

Masonry and delivered—them ye said chirter to keep—& when this assembly was gethered to gether he cawsed a cry to be made that if aney ye Science was first Invented & ye utility thereof which booke he commanded to be read & plainly declared when a man must be made Mason yt he might fully understand what Articls, Rules, & orders he was A bliged to observe & keep & from yt time untill this day Masonry hath been much respected & preferved & divers new Articles have been added to ye said Charge 170 by good advice & consent of ye best Masons & fellowes

Tune unus ex Senioribus teneat librum illi qui Jusjurandum reddat et ponat manu libro vel fuper librum dum articulett precepto Sibi legantur Saying thifs by way of exortation:

My Loving & refpective frinds & brethren I humbly befeech you as you love your selvs Eternall welfare your own credit & your own good to be very carefull in Observing of these Articles yt I am about to read to this deponant for you are obliged to perform them as well as he

180 Soe hopeing of your care herein I will by gods Grace

begin the Charge.

I am to Admonish you to honour God & his Church yt you use no Herese nor error in your understanding or discreditt men teaching.—

2 I am to admonifh you to be true to our Soveraign Lord ye King committing no treason misprission of treason or fellony & if aney mn shall commit treason yt you know of you shall give notice to his Majesty his privicouncellors or some other that hath commicion to enquire thereof

3 You shall be unto your ffellows & Brethern of ye Scince of Masonry & to do to them as you would

be done unto.

4 You shall keep Secrett ye obscure & Intricate parts of ye Science not disclosing them to any but such as studdy & use the same.

5 You shall do your worke truly & faithfully endeavorin the proffitt & advantage of him who is the owner of the said worke.

6 You shall call masons fellowes & brethern wthout Addition of Knave or aney other bad language

7 You shall not take your neighbours wife villanoafly nor his daughter nor his maide to use ungodlily.

8 You shall not carnally lie with aney woman y^t is belonging to ye house where you are at Table.

9 You shall truly pay for your Meat & drinke where You are at table. You shall not undertake aney mans worke knowing Your self unable & unexpert to performe & effect ye Same yt no aspersion or discreditt may be imputed to ye Scince or ye Lord or owner of ye said worke be aney wife prejudiced.

11 You shall soe take your worke yt thereby you may live honeftly & pay your fellowes truly

as ye Science doth repuire.

12 You shall not take your worke to do at exceffive or unreasonable rates to deceive ye owner thereof but so as he may be truly & faithfully served with

his own good.

230

250

220 13 You shall not Supplant aney of your fellowef of there worke that is to fay if he or they or aney of them hath or have taken any worke upon them or him or he or they stand Mr of aney Lords worke yt you shall not put him or them out or from ye said worke although you perceive him or them unable to finish ye faid worke.

14 You shall not take a apprentice to serve you in ye said Science of Masoonry under ye terme of 7 year

nor aney but such as are of good & honest parentage descended, that no scandall may he imputed to ye Science of Masonry.

Macon without ye privity & consent of 5 or 6 of your fellowes & none but fuch a one yt is free born & whose parence live in good fame & name & yt hath his perfect limbes & perfonall of body to attend ye said Science.

You shall not pay aney of your fellowes more money then he or they have deferved yt you be not deceived by sleight or false working & ye owner thereof much wronged.

17 You shall not slander any of your sellowes behind their back to impare their temporall estat

or good name.

18 You shall not whout urgent cause answer your sellow doggedly or ungodlily but as becometh a loving Brother in ye said Science.

19 You shall duely reverence your fellow yt ye bond of charity & mutuall love may continue stedfast & stable among you.

20 You shall not except in Chrismas use aney lawles games as cards Dice or suchlike.

21 You shall not frequent aney houses of bowdrey or be a uphoulder to any of your fellowes or others wch will be a great Scandell to the Science.

22 You shall not goe out drinke by night or if any

occision happen yt you must goe you shall not flay past TENN of ye cloke having fom of your fellowes or one at ye least to bare you Wittness of ye honest place you were in & your good Behaviour to avoid Scandell.

23 You shall come to ye yearly assembly if you know where it is kept or if it be kept onst in A Quarter or as ofen As is concluded of by ye Lodge you be long to if it be within Ten Miles of your Abode submitting your felf to ye censure of your fellowes where in you have erred to make satisfaction or to defend by order of ye Kings Lawes.

24 You shall not make any mould square or rule to mould Stones wth all but such as are allowed by the fraternity

25 You shall fet Strangers on worke having Imploy ment for them at least A fortnight & truly pay them there wages & if you have not worke to set them to you Shall relive them with money to defray there reasnable charges to ye next lodge.

26 You shall truly attend your worke & truly end ye same whether it be taske or journey worke if you may have your wages & payment truly according to ve bargine made wth ve Master or owner thereof.

²⁸⁰ These Articles & charge wch I have rehersed to you you shall well & truly keep & observe to your power so helpe you god & ye holy contents of this booke.

> THESE articles following were added here unto since by ye best Mrs & fellowes

First that no person whatsoever degree be accepted a free mason unlest there be A Lodg of 5 free Masons at ye least whereof one be a Master & too Wardins of that limit or divition where such a lodg shall be kept & Another that worketh Stone

²⁹⁰ Seconly that no perfon shall be accepted A free Mason but such that is of able body honest parentage good reputation & observers of ye laws of ye Land. Therdly that no person shall be admitted into aney Lodg or assembly until he hath brought a certificate of the time of his Exeption from ye Lodg that accepted him into ye freternity from ye Master or Wardins you shall bring your

Certificate or anote to ye Master or Wardins which you com to the end that he may be enrolled 300 in such priority of place as ye person deservs to ye end that the whole company & fellowes may ye better know each other.

Fourtly that for ye future ye sd Seciety Company & fraternity of free Masonry shall be regulated and governed by one Mr and too Wardins as ye sd companey shall thinke fitt to chuse at every verly

generall Assembly

Fiftly that no person shall be accepted mason unless he be one & twenty yers of age or more 310 Sixtly that no person hereafter shall be accepted a free Mason or know ye Secrets of ye Sd Socity untill he shall first have taken ye Oath of Secrefie hereafter followinge.—

VIZ :--

320

330

I A B &c &c

this charge belongeth to An apprenties is as followeth VIZ

I You shall truly honour God & his church ye King your Mr & Dame, you shall not absent your self out wth ye Licence of both or one of them from their fervice by day or Night.

You shall not purloyne or Steal nor be privie or accerfary to any to ye purloyning or Stealing to ye value of sixpence from them or either of them.

3 You shall not commit Adultery or ffornicattion in ye house of your Mr wth his Wife Daughter or Maid.

- 4 You shall not disclose your Mr or Dame their councell or secretts which the have imported unto you or what is to be concealed spoken or done with in the Presence of his house by them or either of them or anev free Mason
- 5 You shall not mantaine any disobedient Argument with your Mr or Dame or aney free Mason

6 You shall reverently behave your felf to all free Masons useing neither Cards or Dice or any other unlawfull games Chrifmas excepted.

- 7 You shall not haunt or frequent any taverns Alehouse or such like as to go unto them except upon your Mr or Dames or one of their affaires or wth there or one of there confents.-
- 8 You shall not committ Adultery or ffornication in any mans house where you goe or be at table.
 - 9 You shall not Mary or contract your felf to any Woman dureing your apprentiship.

your faid Master or aney of his fellow Masons or Sufer aney one to steal of their goods but shall hinder ye fellow if you can. If you cannot you shall acquaint your Master & his said fellowes Presently.

350

George Webstr 1722

being 27 years old March ye 25.

Transcribed by me this 14th day of February, 1896, from the original manuscript.

WILLIAM WATSON, P.M.,

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