

THE
FREE MASONS
MAGICK LADDER;

BEING A
GENERAL DESCRIPTION
OF ITS
GEOMETRICAL USES
IN THE
MYSTERY OF MASONRY

By INSPECTION.

ALSO

The true Elevation and Depreffion of the POSTE-
RIORS, which is necessary, and required to be per-
form'd in the Operative Part of MASONRY, in all
the regular constituted LODGES, at the making or
admitting of a new Brother.

WITH AN

Account of its particular Application and Use in the
Electing of a GRAND MASTER for the Year ensuing, at
MERCHANT-TAYLORS HALL in *Thread-needle-street*.

To which is added,

An O D E

Inscribed to— GRAND MASTER,
ON HIS

Presenting the FRATERNITY with a SWORD of STATE.

To which is annexed,

The Renegado Mason's Ramble.

By a Real MASON of the Order of St. John's.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE whole System of the *Free Masons* hath been conceal'd for a long Succession of Time, without Interruption: But every Age, by the Increase of Knowledge, is producing something for the Benefit and Advantage of Mankind in general. So we in this Age, being a curious and speculative People, have for some Years been amus'd (till lately) by the invisible Pretensions, and extraordinary Delusions of the *Free Masons*, and great Numbers of People, whether of Sense or not, in every Station of Life, led by the Itch of Curiosity, have been accepted into the Fraternity, thinking to have improv'd their Genius by some occult Mystery in the Arts and Sciences; but finding it, as the Author of *Masonry dissected* has describ'd, a ridiculous insignificant Catechism, of no Use to School-Boys, and much less to Men of Sense; for the wiser and major part hath

relinquish'd and left the remaining unthinking part to proceed in their own Folly, who with Zeal assiduous, espouse the Cause, and often bring inevitable Penury on themselves and Families.



THE

THE
FREE MASONS
MAGICK LADDER.

I.

IN Days of yore, when Beasts could speak,
And Trees confabulate;
When Crows and Magpies politick
Settled Affairs of State.

II.

Free Masons then laid Claim to Art
From something or another;
And they their Secrets did impart,
At the making of a Brother.

III.

Sure Magick Spells were never us'd
For Masons in those Climes,
The Craft establish'd, not abus'd,
By Rebels of the Times.

IV.

IV.

It was in great Perfection brought
 By the Nobles of that Place,
 Who with Submission did resort
 All with a comely Grace.

V.

To be accepted Masons made,
 Their Secrets for to know,
 Do condescend to learn the Trade,
 And their Posteriors show.

VI.

This Magick Ladder's Use explain'd
 In all its several Branches,
 Does shew the World what is contain'd
 Betwixt our Brother's Haunches.

VII.

Thus when our Ladder's duly plac'd
 To six Feet Elevation,
 Our accepted Brother's A—se is rais'd
 Exactly in Proportion.

VIII.

VIII.

The Masters of the Lodge draw near,
 And give their Approbation,
 That he is qualify'd to wear
 The Masons Leather Apron.

IX.

The Wardens then do both advance
 Their Brother's Station higher,
 And smilingly do take a Dance,
 As pleasing Thoughts inspire.

X.

The Fellow-Craft they do obey
 The Order of their Master,
 By walking round, and nothing say,
 But burst into a Laughter.

XI.

Now Enter'd Prentice learn your Part,
 And good Instructions know,
 Ascend the Ladder now with Art
 And your Perfections show.

XII.

XII.

Also our Guardian at the Door
 With Cap and flaming Sword,
 Old *Hiram's* Right he doth restore
 By whispering out the * Word

* *Boaz,*
Jachen.

XIII.

And now our Brother he must pass
 His greatest Elevation,
 And to View expose his A—se,
 Making no Hesitation.

XIV.

Thus whilst the Master does survey
 Our Brother's Situation,
 The Wardens do without Delay
 Call him accepted Mason.

XV.

The Fellow-Craft and Prentice do
 Immediately follow after,
 And give to him the Badge that's due,
 As ancient as the Garter.

XV

XVI.

The ceremonial Part thus acted,
 They all around him pass;
 And with their Lips really contracted
 Salute their Brother's A—se.

XVII.

A Bible then forthwith was brought
 with Compasses and Square,
 And I required without Thought
 Immediately to swear.

XVIII.

Or in that Position to remain
 Without any Laxation,
 Which gave my Body extream Pain,
 And to my Mind Vexation.

XIX.

A dreadful Oath I then did take,
 Which griev'd my Mind full fore;
 So I their Lodges did forsake,
 And came not near them more.

B

XX

XX.

By what Authority, I've not yet seen,
Or Magisterial Power
They have, of giving Oaths obscene,
From that Time to this Hour.

XXI.

An enter'd Prentice forthwith came
A Fellow Craft to be,
Who me releas'd from the same,
And thus was I made free.

XXII.

So then my Place he soon supply'd
The said Degree to pass,
And with active Art he try'd
For to exalt his A——se.

XXIII.

With Approbation of the Lodge,
A Fellow Craft he passes;
The Master and the Warden's Pledge
His Health all in full Glasses.

XXIV;

XXIV.

A Master still we have to pass,
An accomplish'd Mason's he,
With tender Skin and brawny A——se,
And skill'd in the Rule of Three.

XXV.

Then up the Ladder he ascends
To its greatest Elevation,
And his Posteriors does descend
Unto its least Depression.

*An Ode inscrib'd to —— Grand
Master, on his presenting the Fra-
ternity with a Sword of State.*

I.

TO the Great Defender of our Fate
All Gratitude we owe,
By ornamenting with such State
Our splendid Raree-show.

II.

A Sword of State to us you gave,
 And fourscore Pounds it cost,
 The Honour of the Craft to save,
 And Masonry not be lost.

III.

Thus as a Doctor, skill'd in curing Ills
 His Patient does deceive,
 By gilding o're his nauseous Pills,
 And thereby them relieve.

IV.

So now the Myftery's been of late
 Revealed by a Brother,
 You introduc'd a Sword of State
 His Foibles for to smother.

V.

And in great Triumph 'twill be seen,
 With Compass, Level and Square,
 Adorn'd with Aprons neat and clean,
 The Masons Jewels rare.

VI.

VI.

The Day on which our grand Feast's made
 At Merchant Taylor's Hall,
 When Lords and Dukes and Fools, 'tis said,
 Are met and assembled all.

N. B. The Price of the Tickets being usually ten Shillings, we thought proper to make a Deduction of two Shillings and six Pence, in order to prevent so many extravagant Superfluities, and to reduce the great Quantity of Wine which infected most of our Brothers Pericraniums the last Year; so that the use of Swords, Canes or Fists, 'tis hoped, will be quite laid aside, except a Cowan, Eves-dropper, or Listner should invade.

The Renegado Mason before he rambles, knowing the Uncertainty of Human Life, makes his Will in the Manner following.

After I am defunct, I desire my Body to be buried without Bell, Book or Candle. *Im-*

Imprimis, I give and bequeath to Orator *H—y* my Square, in order that he may apply it in a conscientious Manner, by squaring his own Actions, that they may be always found within Compass, and by that means increase this Flock.

Item, I give and bequeath to *Obadiab Greenhat my Father-in-Law*, the Sum of four Pounds twelve Shillings, due on an old Bond of *Mr. Chanticlear's*, to be laid out in genteel and fashionable Skittles, for the Use of his Ground, and for the good Offices receiv'd from him, *especially of improving my Talent committed to his Charge, according to the Law of his Religion, without Ostentation.* I freely give the choicest Book out of my Cabinet of Rarities, called, *A Cap of Grey hairs for a Green-head, or, A Dialogue between Father and Son.*

Item, To the Author of the *Perjur'd Free Mason*, I freely give my Library, in order to improve his Understanding; and upon the Failure thereof, I desire it to be forthwith given to my elaborate and learned Friend Orator *H—y*, to revive his Conventicle whensoever it declines, or to establish him a Second-hand Bookseller in *Moor fields.*

Item,

Item, I give and bequeath to the *One Tun Lodge, whereof I was a Member*, my old Hanger, so that they may keep a Guard at their Door, and thereby prevent any more scandalous Reflections from the Maids of *Sodomitical Practices.*

Item, I give to my worthy Friend (under the *Rose Silent John the Carpenter*, all my Mathematical Instruments, and Cabinet of occult Mysteries.

Item, I give unto the Executors of this my last Will and Testament, my choice Collection of Divine Poems, by several learned Hands of this Nation: So finding my Spirits quite exhausted, and renouncing all Wills made heretofore I depart from hence, and keep wandering in *unknown Paths of the Elysian Shades.*

Jan. 20th,
1730-31.

The

The Renegado Mason's Ramble.

AS I an Excurſion the other Night made,
I happen'd to meet with a merry Blade,
Who immediately with me began to punn,
Saying, Mother Lodge, it was open'd at the
One Tun;

Which made me begin for to mutter and
ſwear,
The Truth of the Matter reſolving to hear,
Away then goes I into *Noble-ſtreet,*
Where hung a new Lanthorn moſt curious
and neat.

The Level and Plum-rule, the Compaſs and
Square,
Had no other Uſes, but as Jewels moſt rare,
With old Leather Aprons entirely rotten,
Or elſe Mother Lodge would have quite
been forgotten.

Amas'd then I ſtood, but not quite ſtruck
dumb,
Inquiring the Meaning of all that did come,
The

The Maſons run mad, and were all in Deſpair,
To ſee Mother Lodge hang out in the Air.

A curious Inſcription on this Lanthern was
ſeen,

That the Maſons within were ſick with the
Spleen.

Good People come in, and ſet us to rights,
And you'll be convinc'd we are not *Sodomites.*

I willing to give my Aſſiſtance, went in,
And ſee that they all had been drinking Gin;
Inſtead of the Spleen the Vapours did riſe,
Which was prejudicial to thoſe of weak Eyes.

And amongſt thoſe who were ſober and
ſtrong,

There was a Small-coal-man ſinging a Song;
At laſt the Effluvias crept into his Brain,
And his Note it was chang'd into a new
Strain.

But with his high Noſe, and ſquinting Eyes,
My Spirits was ruffled into a Surprize;
So a Carver he came and gave me a Dram,
And ſmilingly ſaid, drink it off Brother *Sam,*

To my own Habitation I immediately went,
 And with good Companions I rested content,
 Resolving to go no more amongst Fools,
 That acts without any Sense, Reason or
 Rules.

Tabitha to Aminadab sends greeting.

DEAR FRIEND,

WE are now met and assembled together,
 and the End and Intention of our
 meeting is this, for to continue the Love, I
 say the Love, or more properly the Unity
 that were betwixt thee and I, that those
 good Things that were instilled in us might
 be set in a clear Light, and be made mani-
 fest from the Works of Darknes: But my
 dear Friend, thee hast gone from revealed
 Truth, and has taken Refuge among the
 profligate and profane Society of Men, cal-
 led the *Free Masons*, which are stigmatized,
 a People of no Repute, but are delivered
 over unto Satan to be buffeted; therefore
 I advise thee to forsake those People, and be
 establish'd in the Truth, according to the
 Gift

Gift of the Spirit: And in so doing, thou
 will for ever gain the Esteem of thy wor-
 thy Sister and best Friend

Jan. 29, 1731

Tabitha.

Aminadab to Tabitha.

Thou dearly beloved Sister,

THE great Esteem I have for thee, en-
 ables me to withstand all the Temp-
 tations of *Satan*, thro' the good Gift of the
 Spirit; and I shall, because thou desirest me,
 obey the Commands thou shalt lay upon
 me, though it should extend to extravagant
 Fancies; but I beg Leave to exhort thee, that
 thou may'st not be uneasy at my being a
Free Mason, tho' it may be a Fault, and
 there is no one without Faults, nay, hei-
 nous ones too: Therefore, I say, my dear
 Sister, excuse me for being guilty of this
 one, upon the Condition of abandoning
 them, and utterly forsaking them; for they
 now are become abominable; there is none
 that doth good, no not one; they say and
 forsay, and the Truth is not in them; for
 they was to have made a grand and extrava-
 gant Feast on *February 2d, 1730-31*, at

Merchant Taylor's Hall, but have reduced it to two Shillings and six Pence, at a Tavern in St. Martin's-Lane, where every Mason is to repeat a horrid Oath, which they themselves imposed on them. But my beloved Sister, I will forsake those Assemblies, and walk in the way of the Light and the Truth, and Hope, I shall thereby gain the Esteem of thee my worthy and chief Friend,

Jan. 30, 1730-31.

Tabitha.

This is to give Notice to all Masons of all Orders whatsoever, that there may no more Disputes arise concerning the keeping of our Grand Festival hereafter.

I — Grand Master for the Year ensuing, with the Consent of our worthy Brethren, at the Meeting held of our Grand Lodge in Palace-Yard, Westminster, on Saturday January 30th, 1730-31, then present our late Grand Master Maachanah, our Deputy Grand Master Hiram, with both

both the Grand Wardens, Boaz and Jacobin, and their Deputies, did unanimously agree to give a Reward of one thousand Pounds, for the future Good of the Fraternity, to any Chronologer, Astronomer or Astrologer, that can determine what Year of the Jewish Epocha, and what Month of that Year Solomon was born; also what Day and Hour of the said Month, with the Position of the Heavens at that Time, and the Name of the Planet presiding at his Birth, and what Tendency it hath to the Exhalation or Destruction of the Free and Accepted Masons since that Time. Such Person or Persons making a genuine Discovery of the aforesaid Particulars, shall be paid the Reward above mentioned, by the Grand Lodge.

E — R. Secretary.

N. B. Solomon, according to the Apocrypha, was ten Months in his Mother's Womb.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THIS is to give Notice to all Masons of what Denomination soever, that there will be opened a Hedge Lodge, of the Order of St. John's, at the Sun Alehouse on Adle Hill, the first Monday in Easter Week, where Barbers, Hatters, Coblers, &c. after playing a Rubbers at Skittles, and paying 2 s. 6 d. each, shall be initiated Brother Masons.

Per forming a Lodge of 3, 5, or 7.

Obadiab Green-hat Master.
William Stamper } Wardens.
John Bond }

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