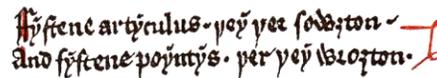


Did you know.....?

The Ancient Cabalists had a secret interpretation of the Old Testament, and one of the keys was to read backwards the Proper Names contained in those books. Now, if the words of the first and second degrees are read backwards, they produce the phrase " Being fortified by the practice of every moral virtue, we are properly prepared."

The Junior Warden's lecture in the first degree, in lodges in Ontario, is given using devices and symbols that are placed in the lodge room, such as Jacobs ladder, the movable and immovable jewels, the tassels, etc. In many Masonic jurisdictions outside of Canada, this lecture is given around the First Degree Tracing Board, for which it was designed. You will find the tracing board in many Ontario lodges, but are seldom used. The Senior Warden's lecture in the second degree is usually given around the second degree tracing board, which is displayed in almost all Ontario lodges.

The earliest known Masonic text is the Halliwell Manuscript, also known as the Regius Poem because it was written in poetic form. It consists of 64 written pages. It begins by telling of Euclid and his invention of geometry in ancient Egypt, and its subsequent spread. This is followed by a number of points for the Master concerning morals and the operation of a building site, and some points directed at the Craftsmen. The general consensus on the age of the document dates it to the late 14th century, and seems to have been written by an English clergyman. It also states that Freemasonry was brought to England during the reign of King Athelstan (924 to 939 C.E.). An extract is shown alongside.



Hi ffe ne artyculus . per yer fode; ton .
And ffe ne poymys . per yer wio; ton .

Why the Master is called "Worshipful"

'Worshipful' is an old English word signifying "worthy of respect." Masonically it is a title of respect for the office of the presiding officer, the Master, who the brethren believe has sufficient knowledge, wisdom, and integrity to preside over them in a proper manner. We use the word in its ancient sense – not in its modern sense of denoting awe and humility. Indeed, English and Canadian mayors are still addressed as: "Your Worship."

Saluting the Worshipful Master

Many Masons are still confused when it comes to saluting the Worshipful Master in the Lodge.

The Book of the Work directs that the only times a brother shall salute the Worshipful Master are:

- When entering the Lodge;
- When leaving the Lodge;
- When addressing the Worshipful Master; and
- When called for in the Ritual.

It follows therefore that a salute is **NOT** required After you have received instructions from the Worshipful Master. (The Wardens will, of course, be guided by the Book of the Work.)

After you have finished speaking. (**AVOID THE "SECOND SALUTE"**.)

Please remember that salutes are only given to the Worshipful Master, (or to the brother who is in possession of the gavel in Lodge).