LIFE AND ACTION

THE GREAT WORK IN AMERICA



Knights Templar Conclave Souvenir Number

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Life and Action

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Editor in Chief ..... TK.
Assistant Editor ..... Florence Huntley
Assistant Editor ..... J. D. Buck, M. D.
Book Review Department ..... J. Lloyd Hammond, M. D.
Business Manager ..... LeRoy F. Spurlin

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Greetings to You

Sir Knight, Comrade and Brother Mason:—

We extend to you and to every Knight Templar and Brother Mason present at this great Triennial Conclave of Knights Templar, a Knightly salute and a greeting of good will.

Inasmuch as **Life and Action** *is* **not** *a Masonic Magazine, it is but natural that you should wonder why we venture to express our unfeigned sympathy, good will, genuine admiration and love for the Craft, and dedicate to it this entire Souvenir Number, and present to you and your fellow Knights* 50,000 *copies with our compliments, free of charge.*

It is your perfect right to know. *For that purpose we want to ask you to preserve this copy until you have the time and opportunity to read it from beginning to end. You will not find it dull, nor dry, nor tiresome; but every paragraph* **should** *be of deep and lasting interest to you, both as a man and a Mason.*

When you have finished reading it you will **know** *why we have presumed to express for you and your noble Craft our friendship and good will. And you will* **know** *that our motives are both unselfish and worthy of your unqualified approval.*

In the meantime please accept, in good faith, our cordial greetings and fraternal good wishes and believe us,

Sincerely and truly,

Life and Action

Fraternity as the source from which our courageous and mighty ancestors had derived their love of Independence, their undying hatred of oppression, their ideals of a democratic and free government and their unalterable determination to assert and maintain their "inalienable right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness".

I became an active and enthusiastic Mason, and have remained so from that day to this. I became a student of Masonic history, and soon found myself in the midst of deep perplexity. Exoteric Masonic "*Authorities*" assured me that Freemasonry had its origin in the Labor Unions and Guilds of Europe only about two hundred years ago. I did not believe it.

I studied the conditions which led to the organization of these Unions and Guilds, and I could find no traces of the exalted knowledge of *Spiritual* Life, Laws and Evolution, which are at the foundation of Freemasonry. There was nothing in the conditions of *society* at that time to call forth nor to foster a profound knowledge of *Spirituality* such as that which constitutes the central and vital inspiration of Freemasonry, nor in fact any other knowledge save that which had to do with the economic and purely materialistic problems of the time.

I said to myself—and sometimes timidly to my Brother Masons—that there was some grave mistake as to the origin of our Order. I found that other students of the subject felt as I did. Everywhere the conviction was fixed and unalterable, that the sublime and magnificent *spirituality* of Freemasonry had come down to us from some ancient Parent School of Spiritual Wisdom in the dim and distant past so remote as to have been lost in the twilight of human history and evolution.

I *knew*—as if through the conscious channels of a sixth sense—that this was *true*; and I had the abiding conviction

that *sometime, somewhere,* I should come into conscious and definite affiliation with that Great Parent School of Spiritual Wisdom from which our modern School of Freemasonry received its profound knowledge of the great problem and mystery of Life, so perfectly concealed and revealed in its ceremony of initiation.

It was not until the summer of 1883 that I received the full confirmation of this unalterable conviction, and came face to face with a living member of that Great Parent School of Freemasonry, of whose existence I had been super-consciously aware for many years.

I became a "Master Mason" in that Ancient Parent School twenty-six years ago, and through unremitting toil and self-denial have earned the right to represent it in this country during my present lifetime.

Its relationship to the School of Modern Freemasonry I have established with absolute certainty, and to the entire satisfaction of leading Masons all over this country.

In 1907 I gave to the world in published form a careful statement of facts in Volume III of the Harmonic Series, entitled "*The Great Work*".

In Chapter IV of that volume I have given "*The Lineal Key*" —and for the benefit of my Brother Masons, I am herewith publishing that chapter in full—omitting only the first three introductory pages. I trust this brief introduction will be sufficient to impel them to read the Chapter through carefully, and ponder well its meaning, and its vital importance to every "just and upright Mason". Here it is:

1. *Name of The Great School.*

The term "School of Natural Science" is not the name by which the Great School herein referred to has been known to its members throughout the ages. It is but a modern adap-

tation. This modern name of an ancient School has been chosen because it can be made to convey to the modern mind of our western civilization a clear and definite meaning in harmony with the facts. The ancient name, though it were written in boldest type, would convey no intelligent conception of the School itself, nor of its methods, purposes or achievements. It would serve only to mystify, obscure and confuse. Furthermore, the ancient name of this "Venerable Association" has been so often misappropriated by modern organizations that its publication at this time would scarcely be deemed a sufficient identification. Indeed, it is believed that in some instances its misunderstood associations would only serve to prejudice the minds of those who might otherwise receive beneficent help and a spiritual, mental and moral uplift from the study upon which we are entering. For these and yet other reasons it is deemed but fair and just to the reader that he be left free to form his own conclusions and judgments of what follows, entirely upon the internal evidences of its truth or fallacy. This alone would seem just to both the reader and the writer as well as to the larger interests involved.

2. *Its Membership.*

The School of Natural Science, as a physical entity, is composed of a voluntary association of men whose lives and labors are dedicated and devoted to the acquirement and perpetuation of knowledge in the broad and unlimited field of science—physical, spiritual, psychical and ethical—and to its application to the development of individual life, individual intelligence, individual conscience, individual liberty, individual morality and individual happiness. To these devotees of science in its broadest and best sense, may be added such students as have come to them for definite instruction in the various departments of their knowledge. These men of science

represent practically all the advanced and progressive civilizations and peoples of earth. For reasons which appear to them both imperative and just, their work of investigation, experiment, demonstration and instruction is prosecuted and accomplished under the protecting shield of personal confidence and secrecy. This fact alone has been made the basis of much unjust criticism from two different sources, namely, from those who are ignorant of the cause of and reasons for such secrecy, and from those who are openly, or secretly, in league with the enemies of intellectual liberty and individual conscience. Nevertheless, their work will go on in secret until such time as they shall deem it wise to take the enemies of individual enlightenment and progress into their confidence, or until the time would, in their judgment, appear more propitious for a public work than at present.

3. *Where They Work.*

The members of this School are scattered over the earth, wherever the conditions for the success of their efforts appear to them most favorable. Their work is carried on in the midst of the most enlightened and progressive civilizations and peoples, and their students are among the most unobtrusive intelligences in their several communities.

Their Headquarters.

While its membership is thoroughly cosmopolitan, in the sense that it represents practically all the progressive nationalities of earth and draws its knowledge and experience from all races and peoples throughout the civilized world, it nevertheless has a headquarters and a local habitation from which its integral work proceeds and its silent influence radiates. From this organic center each individual member receives his authority, and to it he must render an account of his labors. There

its records are transcribed and a sequential history of its work is preserved. Inasmuch, however, as its active work of experiment, demonstration and instruction is carried on by its members very largely "in the field", as it were, a knowledge of its central location can in nowise be of service to the reader nor to the general public, beyond the simple fact that it is in far-away India. On the other hand, any publication of such knowledge at this time could only serve to open the door to an endless flood of inquiry and obtrusive attention from the curious, the thoughtless, the inconsiderate, the selfish and the hostile, and thereby divert the attention of its members from their arduous and important labors which depend upon time, opportunity and the protecting shelter of obscurity for their accomplishment.

When the time shall come that the work can best be accomplished without such protection and the preservation and perpetuation of its records can safely be entrusted to the public, concealment will no longer be necessary and will no longer exist. In the meantime, however, there are no insurmountable barriers between its accumulated knowledge and the honest seeker who can prove himself justly entitled to receive it. In other words, those who are able to give "the right knock" will have no difficulty in finding their way to the "door of the Temple," and though they be both "poor" and "blind", a "guide" will be found to conduct them safelv over the way.

5. *What Are Its Lineage And History?*

These cover a consecutive and unbroken chain backward from the immediate present to a time many thousands of years before the Mosaic period. In truth, the chain is complete to a time long before Egypt had become a center of civilization, of learning, or of power. This fact alone is sufficient

to suggest the futility of any attempt to cover the subject in detail. Nor would the writer be able to give the details even if he desired to do so. For a number of years, however, he has been in personal touch with members of the Great School and during that time has received from them a definite and personal instruction, from which it may not be deemed impertinent or presumptuous to present for the thoughtful consideration of the reader the following brief and incomplete summary:

1. *Its Origin.*

The most ancient records at this time known to man, are those of the Great School. There can be little doubt, however, that the School, in some form, long antedated its most ancient authentic records. This would seem to be true because the great fundamental principles of individual life, liberty and happiness for which it has stood throughout the ages, and for which it stands today, go back to the very infancy of the human race. From this point forward the contest between the representatives of human liberty on the one hand and those of human bondage on the other must have proceeded. This was long before the date covered by the earliest formulated records of that contest. And the Great School, being the first known associate body of men to champion the cause of human liberty, must also have been identified with the prehistoric struggle which long antedated the earliest records of that struggle.

2. *Its Influence.*

Be that as it may, certain it is that to this Great School is clearly and distinctly traceable the original impulse of many of the organized movements of the intervening centuries, for the establishment of human liberty and the protection of human happiness. To its influence are due many of the organized

protests against human bondage—physical, spiritual, intellectual and moral. From it has unceasingly emanated a powerful impulse for the recognition of the rights of men and women as individual intelligences. In it many of the most heroic, illustrious and majestic martyrs to the cause of truth and humanity have received their education and training. In truth, wherever the spirit of intellectual Liberty, religious Freedom, and the practice of Fraternity and Equality have gone, the genius and spirit of the Great School have pointed the way.

3. *Initiation.*

The ceremony of initiation into the Great School is founded upon an exact science. It is the result of personal experiment and personal demonstration. It was wrought out of definite personal experiences. It constitutes an exact scientific formula. It lays down in the most specific terms possible, a line of scientific procedure. By following this out, in both letter and spirit, the successful initiate may, in time, achieve the exalted goal of personal Mastership. What this means, in all its fulness, can never be known to any but those who have traveled the path, received the instruction, done the work, made the demonstrations, and had the personal experiences. To others than these the most that can be given is a mere word picture. Under the most favorable conditions this can convey but an imperfect conception of the great truths of which the picture itself is but an inadequate reflection.

4. *Work of the Initiate.*

To the initiate, or student, the Great School has a definite and specific purpose in presenting this formula, namely, that he shall work it out item by item and step by step until he shall have transmuted its principles into a living personal experience. By this method only can the demonstration be

made. This, primarily, involves a work of education. It may, perchance, require years of personal study and earnest effort. Above all, it demands of the student a specific and personal application of the principles of the formulary to the right development of his own character and the right use of his own individual powers. Whether this shall require years or only months depends upon the moral character, intelligence, courage, perseverance, application, time, place, opportunity, instruction and other conditions which may or may not facilitate his progress. Thus, the individuality of each student is a strong determining factor in the rapidity of his progress. What one might accomplish in a year may require ten years or even twenty for another.

From the foregoing it will be observed that the work of the initiate in the Great School is that of a "Builder". From the beginning to the end of his labors he is building the "Temple of Human Character." This he does upon the solid rock of enduring truth, and "when the Temple is completed" it stands as a column of unfading "Light" to illumine the pathway of life to all who travel that way.

Thus, it is a fact of the most profound and significant interest to our modern students, that the Great Ancient School is and ever has been a School of symbolic Masonry. The "Master" in that School is he who, as an "Entered Apprentice", has established his life upon the enduring foundation of Moral Principle. As a "Craftsman" he has accomplished the technical work of unfolding and awakening his spiritual consciousness and powers until he can, of his own free will and accord, demonstrate the continuity of life beyond the grave. Finally, as an accredited member of the Inner Court or "Master" of the Third Degree, he has attained to that mastery of self by the exercise of which he may, at will, temporarily withdraw from the physical body and "travel in foreign countries", free

from the obstructions and hindrances of physical nature, and receive a Master's reward therefor.

In view of these facts and conditions it will be observed that the Gulf of Mystery has already been spanned long ago, and that the Great School today constitutes a natural bridge—a bridge of exact science—between the two worlds of matter, life and intelligence. As such, it opens the way for those who are duly and truly prepared, worthy and well qualified, to travel the road for themselves, independently, self-consciously, and of their own volition and choice.

5. *Freemasonry.*

Freemasonry, in its modern form, represents but one of the many efforts of the Great Parent School to transmit its knowledge to the world in definite, scientific and crystallized form. Had that effort been entirely successful the Masonic Fraternity never would have come to be known as a mere "Speculative" Order. That is to say, our modern order of Speculative Masonry is only a "Substitute" for the association that was originally planned and intended by the Great School of the Masters. Had the original design been fully consummated an exoteric Order of "Operative" Masons would have been the result. Its members would have become "Operative" Masons in the ancient and exalted meaning of that term. That is to say, they would have become master operators of the faculties, capacities and powers of their own souls. In that event, Freemasonry would have become a great public School of Spiritual Wisdom, in direct touch and co-operation with the Parent School from which it received its inspiration and its authority. It would have become a great educational institution wherein its members would have learned the definite fact of another life and the scientific method of its independent, rational and voluntary demonstration.

All this and vastly more were included in the original plan and purpose of Freemasonry.

As already indicated, however, that original plan and purpose were never fully consummated. The reasons for this are told, in figurative language and symbolic form, to every candidate who is regularly initiated, passed and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in the great Speculative Order of today. He is told, for instance, that the Grand Masonic "Word" was "lost". By means of figure and symbol and allegory he is told exactly *how* it was lost. But what is meant by the "Word", to which the Masonic ceremonial so guardedly alludes? If he but knew, he would have the key to one of the most profound "Mysteries" of Freemasonry. It is this. The instructions of the Great School could be communicated only by "word" of mouth, and to those alone who were "duly and truly prepared, worthy and well qualified" to receive them. The "word" of direct instruction meant vastly more to the Mason of old than the mere Pass Word. To him it meant Spiritual Life and Light. By it he guided his footsteps in the Pathway of Truth. By conforming his life to its immutable precepts he enjoyed a blessed and comforting hope of immortality.

When unforeseen conditions arose which made it for the time impossible, or at least inexpedient, to go forward with the original design, the instructions of the Great School were discontinued, or withdrawn, and hence the "Grand Masonic Word" was indeed "lost", to the exoteric order, until future ages should find it again. And so it has remained from that day to this. And so it will continue until the Masonic Fraternity shall make it possible for the Great School to restore to it the "Lost Word" of direct instruction. Can this be done? It not only can but will be done. Moreover, the preliminary work to that end is already well under way.

But when this shall have been accomplished the Masonic Fraternity will no longer remain a "Speculative" Order. For by that fact alone it will have become "Operative", and will then stand as it was originally intended to stand, namely, as the direct channel through which the Spiritual Wisdom of the ages may be given to the world. It will then become the "Operative" Body through which the Great School will be able to pass its knowledge to all who shall prove themselves "duly and truly prepared, worthy and well qualified, of lawful age and well recommended".

For the benefit of those Master Masons who may chance to honor these pages with their thoughtful and considerate attention, it would be a matter of the most profound interest and satisfaction, to present the data at hand upon which the foregoing statements are made and sustained beyond the shadow of question or doubt. Tempting as are the theme and opportunity, however, the scope and purpose of this present volume forbid. Subject matter of more direct and vital importance to the thread of this work demands attention.

6. *Jesus, The Initiate.*

The life and ministry of Jesus represent another effort of the Great School to convey its message of Light and Life to the world. To this School Jesus went for his spiritual instruction. In it he spent the years of his special preparation. From it he went forth to preach the Gospel of Peace and the Kingdom of Love. For the cause it represents he labored and suffered and died. After his instruction and preparation for the Great Work, the manner in which he was received by his own people, who had known him as an infant and also as a youth, is alone sufficient evidence of the obstacles to be met and overcome in such a work.

In the selection of his disciples he gathered about him a

group of Visible Helpers. He chose for this purpose the intelligences he deemed best qualified to receive from him a personal instruction and under his direction become demonstrators of the law and teachers among their fellow men. More than once he assured them that if they but followed his instructions and were faithful to the trust he reposed in them, they, in due time, would be able to do all that they had witnessed him do, "and greater things than these". At every step along the thorny pathway of his public ministry he gave unmistakable evidences that an essential part of his plan and mission and purpose was to educate a select group of men for the express purpose of enabling them to carry forward the Great Work after he should have finished his earthly labors. Had he remained with them until their instruction and work of preparation were completed the crowning purpose of his earthly ministry would have been accomplished. For in that event his student-disciples themselves would have become "Masters of the Law". The wonderful things he had done to establish his knowledge and power, they too would have been able to do, and in addition to these the "greater things" to which he referred in his significant promise to them. In short, had their education been completed, had they finished the task of preparation for their part in the Great Work, they then would have been qualified to take their places before the world at once as teachers, exemplifiers and demonstrators of the law.

Such, however, was not the case; for in this instance, as in that of Freemasonry, the untimely death of the "Master Builder" severed again the chain of purpose and compelled a modification of the original design. That which was to have become a great exoteric School of Spiritual Demonstration, again became a School of Speculative Philosophy based upon the ethical teachings of the Master. This, in turn, has

undergone other modifications, as the centuries have passed, until a school of dogmatic theology has come into existence which has obscured still further the original purpose of the Great School.

It is not within the scope and purpose of this volume to enter the field of mere discussion, nor attempt to present the complete chain of fact and evidence upon which the reader's final judgment must be rendered. But in order that he may, if he so desire, pursue a line of independent inquiry which cannot fail to supply him such material as his intelligence and reason demand, it may be permissible to suggest that the relationship of the Master, Jesus, to the Ancient School of India and of the Great School to his life and work, may be established beyond all question by those whose interest and desire impel them to the task with sufficient intelligence, courage and perseverance to complete the search. To that end the following brief chain of data and evidence may be of helpful interest:

[a] The records of the Great School contain a detailed history of the life of Jesus, of his education and preparation for his work in the world, and of the purposes to be accomplished thereby. While it is true that these records are not accessible to the general public, they are nevertheless open to those who are "duly and truly prepared, worthy and well qualified", and who can establish the right to such a confidence.

[b] The ethical teachings of the Master, in so far as they have been accurately stated in the Gospels, are identical in spirit and in principle with those of the Great School. In so far as we have a public record of his teachings during his active ministry, he was but echoing the ethical philosophy of the ages as it had been wrought out and crystallized within the secret body of the Great School of the Masters.

[c] Notwithstanding the possible errors of his historians,

the inaccuracies of translators, and the mistakes and interpolations of revisers, the Gospels themselves contain many of the most significant links in the chain of fact which binds the Master, Jesus, to the Ancient School of India.

As an illustration, it will be recalled that when Jesus was born, "there came Wise Men from the *East* to Jerusalem", etc. Who were these "Wise Men"? And whence came they? Were they members of the Egyptian School of Magic, as some have claimed? And did they, therefore, come from the land of Egypt? The relative locations of Egypt and Jerusalem are, of themselves alone, a most direct and conclusive answer to all these questions. Egypt lies to the south and west of Jerusalem. They were, therefore, not from Egypt, for they were "from the East" —from the Orient.

Is it not remarkable that Biblical students have taken so little note of the most significant phase of this unusual incident? The mere fact that "Wise Men" came at all, or from any direction, at such a time, is of itself significant. For their coming alone is conclusive evidence of the remarkable fact that they were already acquainted with events leading up to the birth of Jesus, and understood the importance of his life and something of the nature of his mission. Why is it such evidence? Because they came "to worship him". But as a key to his subsequent instruction it is far more significant that these "Wise Men" came from the *East*. And so it is that the Gospels themselves verify the records of the Great School wherein the "Wise Men of the East" have personally recorded their own account of the same event.

Another seeming mystery which has puzzled and disturbed our modern students of Biblical history and for which they have found no adequate or satisfactory explanation, finds a clear, simple and complete solution to students of the Great School. In the Book of Hebrews it is recorded that Jesus

was "made an High Priest forever after the Order of Melchizedek" [Heb. 6-20], thus distinguishing him from members of the priesthood of the "Order of Aaron" [Heb. 7-11]. The seeming mystery is that which surrounds the identity of Melchizedek. Who was he? And what was the priestly Order of which he was a member? When it is known that his name is familiar to members of the Great School as one of its most illustrious Grand High Priests, the Scriptural record that Jesus was made an High Priest of the same order dispels the mystery, and another link in the chain of relationships is completed.

Yet another interesting and significant fact concerning Jesus is, that the Gospels give us a minute and vivid account of his birth, infancy and early youth, until he reaches the age of twelve years, at which time he suddenly and mysteriously disappears from public view, and for eighteen years he remains in such absolute and impenetrable seclusion and obscurity that but one, single, indefinite and unimportant reference is made to his life during all those eighteen years. [Luke 2-52]. That he should disappear at the interesting age of twelve, just at a time when he had made such a profound impression by confounding the learned Doctors at Jerusalem, and reappear only at the age of thirty, is of itself a most remarkable incident. That he should disappear as a precocious child and reappear as a Master, is far more significant; for in this fact alone we have evidence of the most positive and conclusive character that the mysterious and unexplained interval of eighteen years was a period of the most vital importance, in that these were the years of his preparation for a public work. But when the further fact is known that the records of the Great School contain a detailed account of his life and his work as a student of the Masters during that remarkable interval of his preparation, another mystery is explained.

In this connection it is also significant that John the

Baptist immediately preceded him on his return, proclaiming his coming in terms of the most definite and unqualified character, and in his own way endeavored to prepare the public to receive him. All this is indisputable evidence of his absence. It also bears specific testimony to the fact that John was fully advised of his coming, that he also had definite information as to the nature of his mission and the character of the work to be inaugurated by him, and that his return was an event of unusual importance.

Then again, later on in the course of his ministry, when the Master refused to tell the chief priests and scribes by what authority he came among them and performed such wonders, he was but following the policy of secrecy and silence in strict conformity with which the Great School has proceeded throughout the ages, and will continue to do until secrecy, silence and obscurity are no longer necessary to protect it from the selfish obtrusions of men.

If the subject is of sufficient interest to inspire the reader to further inquiry, a thoughtful reading of the Gospels, in the light of these suggestions, will disclose to him many other evidences of a similar and corroborative nature, the presentation of which in detail would require another volume. With reluctance the subject must therefore be left at this point in order that we may not lose the thread of our historic sketch.

7. *Buddha, The Master.*

The life and ministry of Buddha represent yet an earlier effort of the Great School to open the doors of its treasure-house to a needy world.

All that need be said in this connection is that no intelligent and unbiased student, with the data of this School before him, can compare the philosophy and teachings of the Prince of India and those of the Prince of the House of David without

at once recognizing their unity of spirit and purpose as well as their common lineage and identical source. Their differences are those of method only and not of substance.

8. *Ancient Egypt.*

We come now to a department of our theme which cannot fail to elicit the most profound interest and earnest consideration of every thoughtful student who has followed with patience the development of the subject to this point—Ancient Egypt, the home of magnificence and mystery.

More than ten thousand years before the dawning of the Christian era, Egypt was entering upon the period of its intellectual and spiritual ascendency. About this time the Great School, ever watchful for a propitious opportunity to convey its message of scientific knowledge and spiritual light to the world, believed that the hour for which it had waited and worked had indeed come. Its "Wise Men" in council assembled, after the most thoughtful consideration and prayerful deliberation, decided to undertake the establishment of a branch School and subsidiary headquarters near the heart of Egyptian civilization. To that end "Eliola", one of the Great Masters, was commissioned to direct the difficult undertaking. Under his personal supervision the work was undertaken and inaugurated. A School was established. Under all the ancient safeguards of secrecy and the protecting shield of obscurity its work was conducted "in due and ancient form". For more than four thousand years its influence was a potent factor in the evolutionary unfoldment of Egyptian civilization. Its wisdom and unfailing judgments became the solid foundation of governmental policies. Its science and its art became a natural basis for the loftiest ambitions, the most exalted achievements and the holiest inspirations of the soul. Its religion was the religion of Life, Light and Immortality. Evidences of their

science, art and religion were wrought into enduring monuments which, even to this day, mark the upward pathway of Egyptian civilization and bear silent but eloquent testimony to the wisdom and the work of the Great Masters.

But the tide of civilization at last reached its height. The material prosperity of a nation or a people, when it rises to a certain point, seems of itself to develop a subtle poison whose cumulative effects will, in due time, manifest themselves physiologically within the body politic. First comes the spirit of selfishness, then the desire for power, then the struggle for place, then the struggle for wealth, then the practice of dishonesty, then the oppression and suppression of the weak, then the protest of the injured, then the internecine strife, then the final struggle for existence, and in the end spiritual darkness and national death.

The poison of unassimilated material prosperity was in the blood of Egypt. The spirit of selfishness took possession of her people. The struggle for position and power began. Dishonesty prevailed. Oppression and domination followed. Suffering and sorrow were everywhere. The cry of the subject was unheard and unanswered. Death had set its irrevocable seal upon the proudest of nations. Egypt died. The history of her death struggle is the tragic story of the approaching and appalling spiritual darkness which finally settled over that beautiful land of sunshine.

9. *Birth of a New School.*

When the flood tide of Egyptian civilization had reached its height and the fatal ebb of national life began a new School was born. This new School is that which, in modern times, has come to be known and designated as the "School of Egyptian Black Magic", or the "School of Black Art". Its votaries, filled with the spirit of selfishness, and consumed with the

desire for material wealth, political preferment and power, knew that the wisdom of the Great Masters had guided the nation over the rough pathway to the summit of its splendor and power. They knew that the faith of the people in the guiding wisdom of the Great School was established. They knew, therefore, that if they could but simulate successfully the profound knowledge and powers of the Masters, they might thereby, through trickery and fraud, hope to gain control of the state. This accomplished, they could thenceforth administer its powers and its material wealth to further their own selfish and ambitious purposes.

To this end they openly and shamelessly proclaimed themselves members of the Great School. To substantiate their claims they performed tricks of legerdemain in public places to demonstrate their magical powers. By their clever tricks, cunning simulations and subtle falsehoods they blinded the eyes of the credulous multitudes and forced their way into the councils of the nation. Carefully measuring the credulity, the innocence and artlessness of the masses, together with their awe of and reverence for the miraculous, they began to invent the beautiful, seductive and delusive fictions which later found a place in what we of today know as "Egyptian Mythology". Slowly and carefully, one by one, the fascinating mystical rites and religious ceremonials of early "Paganism" were thus invented and solemnly inaugurated. Accompanied by an artistic and beautiful ritualism they became an important part of the sensuous and idolatrous worship of the new School. Thus, upon the foundation of hypocrisy, selfishness, vanity, greed and the most deliberate falsehood, Egyptian Paganism was reared as a powerful institution of human slavery. Ignorance and superstition superseded wisdom and virtue, and the School of Egyptian Black Magic—whose offspring is Paganism —triumphed over the School of the Masters. Intellectual bond-

age and spiritual darkness succeeded intellectual liberty and spiritual light.

10. *Withdrawal of the Great School.*

When this deplorable condition had become an established fact and the doom of the nation and its civilization had been irrevocably sealed, the Great School withdrew from Egypt, and by special edict not one of its members nor accredited students remained from whom the secret wisdom thereafter might be obtained in that country. The door of the "Temple of Light" was closed and sealed. And so it was, that the glory of a great nation departed with the wisdom and the honor of its people and the sun of its intellectual light and spiritual life went down in darkness and despair, never to rise again until the coming of a new race, a wiser people and a better religion. Egypt became "The Land of Darkness." And so it still remains.

During the first three hundred years of the Christian Era, before the religious teachings of the Master, Jesus, had yet been counterfeited or adulterated to any considerable extent by the spurious doctrines and dogmas of Paganism, the Christian movement grew but slowly. Its active teachers and open advocates were few and its enemies were many and strong and bitterly hostile. Surely this was a case where a living entity was forced by the law of its being to make its struggle for life in "the midst of a hostile environment".

At the dawning of the fourth century, however, its potency and influence were just beginning to make their impress upon the countries immediately bordering the Mediterranean Sea. The two most important centers of its development and influence, at this time, were Constantinople and Rome. It had now become apparent to its enemies that open hostility and direct opposition could never destroy it nor permanently check

its progress. It was, in truth, a living and potential reality. Although it had come into being unbidden and unwelcomed, it had come with a vitality and a growing power which nothing could withstand.

11. *Paganizing of Christianity.*

It was only when this had become a thoroughly established fact that the skilful and subtle political trickery of Paganism began to manifest its power. Since Christianity could not be destroyed by persecution nor its progress arrested by open assault, there was but one alternative remaining to its enemies. They must divert it from its original purpose. By political craft and duplicity they must convert it into an instrument of their own. They must control it through the subtle power of absorption. They must transform it by the slow and imperceptible process of elimination and substitution. By this cunning and insidious method it must be thoroughly Paganized, and this, too, in such a manner that the trick may not be discovered until the purpose should be fully accomplished beyond recall.

This was the task set for Paganism. It was finally determined upon and undertaken as the only means of accomplishing the desired end—the perversion of the teachings of Jesus and the destruction of their influence. Rome was selected as the logical center of this final master-stroke and counter movement. From this center the work was carried forward. From this center it was finally accomplished.

Slowly, silently, subtly and surely the process was set in motion, and never for a day thereafter did it lag or waver until the foundation of primitive Christianity in Rome was completely undermined and the Roman Church thoroughly Paganized. Although the task was one of gigantic proportions and tremendous importance, requiring many years of persist-

ent and unremitting effort, nevertheless, it was finally accomplished. As a result, the Church of Rome stands today a living monument of Egyptian Paganism, with all that this implies. In spirit, in form, in essence, and in everything save an empty title, Roman Catholicism exists today as the natural offspring and living representative of Egyptian and Roman Paganism.

The importance of these unqualified statements is fully understood and appreciated. They are not rashly nor idly made. Neither are they made in the spirit of hostility, nor for the purpose of provoking controversy, nor with the thought of inviting or exciting the resentment of those who call themselves Roman Catholics.

In truth, it would be an act of the most inordinate folly, if not one of insanity, for any man deliberately and openly to challenge the active enmity of a great international organization which, according to the dictum of one of its most able advocates, "never forgets an injury nor forgives an enemy". When it is known and duly considered to what extent the Church of Rome has both the power and the disposition to punish those who incur its condemnation, such an act would appear all the more devoid of discretion and common sense.

Let it be understood, therefore, that the foregoing statement of facts is inspired by no such motives. On the contrary, it is made, primarily, because it contains important facts of history; and secondarily, because those facts constitute a necessary link in the historic chain which explains the present attitude of the various organic religious and philosophic movements and forces, in their relation to each other as well as to the two Great Parent Schools, from one or the other of which each of them is lineally descended.

In other words, the present purpose is to give to the reader an intelligent, lineal key by means of which he may trace every

religious or philosophic movement to its natural antecedents and determine with unerring certainty to which of the two great antagonistic world-forces it belongs.

With such a key in his possession he may know with accuracy whether any such movement stands for Light or Darkness, Freedom or Slavery, Evolution or Devolution, Construction or Destruction.

There is, indeed, such a lineal key. Not only this; it is so exceedingly clear and simple that it needs only to be stated to be understood perfectly and without effort. Its paramount value and profound importance will be recognized at once and appreciated most deeply by every student whose researches have ever brought the subject specifically within the radius of his personal inquiry. It may not be deemed wholly gratuitous, nor entirely foreign to the subject matter and purposes of this work, to fit this important key into the lock of mystery which seems to have baffled and disheartened so many honest and intelligent searchers of the past. To that end the following data are presented, with the simple suggestion that therein may be found a simple, specific and complete solution of the interesting problem which must commend itself to every intelligent and unprejudiced inquirer. Note carefully the meaning and importance of the facts in the order of their presentation.

1. From the early dawn of civilization to the immediate present, so far as we are able to determine, two active and opposing psychological forces have been and still are engaged in a seemingly irrepressible conflict over the status and legitimate function of individual intelligence in its relation to humanity as an aggregate organism.

2. These two great forces divided, and stand opposed to each other, upon the vital and fundamental problem of man's rights and privileges, duties and responsibilities as an individual intelligence.

3. One of these mighty psychological forces has constantly, unfalteringly and consistently moved forward in the direct line of man's highest individual development and largest personal liberty in his evolutionary search for individual happiness. It has fostered the spirit and encouraged the growth of constructive individuality in its deepest, broadest and fullest sense. It has given both dignity and emphasis to individual intelligence as the natural and essential basis of all human progress. Its action, at all times and under all conditions, has been in the direct line of intelligent, individual unfoldment. Its psychological results have been and are constructive in their relation to and their effects upon men and women as individualized, intelligent souls.

4. The other of these great, psychological world-forces has just as constantly, unhesitatingly and consistently moved forward in the direct line of man's suppression and subjection in his individual capacity. It has antagonized the spirit and discouraged the idea and growth of individual liberty at every point. It has constantly minimized and depreciated individual intelligence as a factor in human progress. Its action, at all times and under all conditions, has made for individual subordination and subjection. Its results, therefore, have been throughout the past, and must ever be, destructive in their relation to and their action upon men, women and children as individualized, intelligent souls.

5. Far along the backward path of human history at a point so remote as to confuse all our unscientific ideas concerning the date of "Creation", or the birth of man, the first mentioned of these two great psychological world-forces—that which we have designated as "Constructive"—crystallized into a definite human organization. That organization was and is the venerable Brotherhood of Ancient India, herein referred to as "The Great School", and whose modernized and adapted name is "The School of Natural Science".

It is not intended nor desired to convey the impression that the Great School herein referred to is absolutely the first human organization based upon an understanding and acceptance of the Constructive Principle of Intelligent Individualism. On the contrary, it is quite possible, and by some may even be deemed probable, that it was and is but a crystallized emanation from some antecedent School or Movement of much more ancient origin. Be that as it may, it was and is the first organized movement of its kind of which we have any consistent data.

6. The other of the two great world-forces—that which has been denominated the "Destructive"—was ultimately crystallized into a great and powerful organization with its active center of radiation and power in Egypt. This was the School which has come to be recognized as the "School of Black Magic", or of "The Black Art", which in later form came to be known as the "School of Egyptian Paganism".

This School, as hereinbefore suggested, assumed definite organic form in Egypt and therein became a dominant and actively dominating power but a comparatively short time before the final withdrawal of the Great Indian School from that field. It was, in truth, the direct and immediate cause of that withdrawal.

It must not be understood, however, that the great Egyptian School was the first organized expression of the destructive psychological force in human society. On the contrary, it would not only seem possible, but probable beyond a reasonable doubt, that it received its inspiration from some antecedent organization of much greater antiquity. However this may be, its history and lineage backward to this point are clear and unbroken. What they may or may not be still further back in the remoter ages, is not of vital importance in this connection. It is sufficient for our present purposes that this

Great Egyptian Organization, in the natural course of events, itself became a progenitor, and that its living progeny is with us today in the visible form, presence and personnel of one of the most vitally active and powerful human organizations on earth.

7. Among the most prominent and important movements that are lineally descended from, and directly related in principle to the Great Parent School of India, are:

Freemasonry, both ancient and modern;

Buddhism, in its origin and primitive character;

Primitive Christianity, as exemplified by the Master, Jesus;

Protestant Christianity, in so far as this stands for a protest against the Paganizing of Primitive Christianity.

8. Among the many and various organic movements that are lineally descended from and directly related in principle and method to the Great Parent School of Egyptian Black Magic, are:

Paganism, both Egyptian and Roman;

Mohammedanism, both primitive and modern;

The Greek Church, both primitive and modern;

Roman Catholicism, in its present form.

9. As already indicated, a great and fundamental principle of human life constitutes the point of divergence between the two Great Parent Schools here referred to. Indeed, nothing less vital ever could have become an issue of such transcendent importance as to inspire the segregation of humanity into two such powerful, organized, opposing forces. Moreover, perhaps the only fundamental principle of human life great enough, deep enough, broad enough and vital enough to incite humanity to a conflict of such extraordinary proportions and of so irrepressible a nature, is the sublime principle of Individual Liberty. Suffice it to say, this is the one vital principle at the foundation of the greatest struggle the world has ever known—the

Struggle for Individual Liberty—otherwise known and designated as the Struggle for Happiness.

The two Great Parent Schools have stood throughout the centuries and stand today diametrically opposed to each other upon the basis of principle which underlies, and forms the subject matter of, this greatest of human struggles.

As might be readily anticipated, the motives which inspire these two powerful organic forces to align themselves on opposite sides of the struggle for Individual Liberty are equally different in character and wholly irreconcilable.

One of these has been inspired to action by the most unselfish love for humanity; the other has been moved by the spirit of human greed and the love of power. The one has exemplified the spirit of altruism; the other that of the most inordinate egoism. The one has sought to liberate men from the bondage of ignorance, superstition and fear; the other has cunningly played upon these infantile elements of human nature to bind them the more securely to its cause. The one has striven through the potency and influence of knowledge to break the shackles of unjust physical bondage, debasing spiritual domination, stultifying intellectual suppression, unwholesome moral oppression, enervating religious dependence and destructive psychical subjection; the other has sought through the pliable influence of ignorance to bind these chains yet more securely about the souls of men, that it may the more easily and surely use them as the passive and willing instruments of its ambition, vanity and greed. The one has sought to accomplish its mission of emancipation by the natural unfoldment of the individual intelligence through the expansive power of a broad, liberal and non-sectarian education, until men might be able to see, understand and appreciate the fact that individual human liberty—physical, spiritual, intellectual, moral, religious and psychical—is an inalienable and para-

mount duty of every intelligent soul; the other has persistently and consistently opposed the development of any and all forms of education intended to liberate men's souls from the bondage of superstition and fear—upon which alone it must depend for the successful enforcement of its assumed authority over them. The one has been impelled to its task of liberation by the unerring consciousness that a knowledge of the truth alone can ever make men free, and that they must thus be made free before they can hope to find individual happiness here and hereafter; the other, in like manner, has been impelled to its struggle against intellectual, moral and religious liberty, by the same unerring consciousness that such liberty, if permitted, would inevitably shatter its assumed authority over men and free them from its dominating power. The one points out a straight and narrow path whereby the individual who wills, may bring his life by his own personal effort, into perfect alignment with Nature's Constructive Principle, in all the departments of his being—the inevitable results of which are the development within himself of an awakened consciousness of spiritual things and an independent, personal and scientific demonstration of the continuity of individual life; the other points out an easy, subtle and seductive way whereby the individual who will submit his life to its domination and unquestionably abide by its authority, has the comforting assurance that he may thus evade the Law of Personal Responsibility and shift its consequences and its burdens from his own soul to the soulless organism of which he is a member.

From the foregoing statement of facts the thoughtful student will doubtless make his own analysis and draw his own conclusions. It may, perhaps, have been a mystery to him, as it has been to many another, why the Church of Rome entertains and at all times and under all conditions and circumstances expresses so deep-seated and violent a hatred against

Freemasonry. In the light of the facts it will now be clearly apparent that this spirit of bitterness and hostility is an hereditary development of the ages. It springs from the very fundamental principle which constitutes the dividing line between the two Great Parent Schools from which these two modern organizations are lineally descended.

While Roman Catholicism is the immediate offspring of Egyptian Paganism, Freemasonry received its credentials as a "Progressive School of Moral Science" from the Parent School of India. In the ancestral records are contained all there is of allegory, symbolism, mysticism and ethics in Modern Freemasonry. Even our Blue Lodge Ritual of today is but a modern English adaptation of the ancient ceremonial of initiation into the "Temple of the Sacred Mysteries". From the ancient School of Natural Science, therefore, Freemasonry received the inspiration which has made it throughout the past and makes it today the consistent, open and acknowledged champion of individual human liberty and the unselfish defender of the widow, the orphan, the downtrodden and the oppressed.

And so it also now can be understood why Protestant Christianity is held by the Church of Rome in the attitude of an hereditary enemy. This is because the Protestant movement represents in large measure a direct protest against Egyptian and Roman Paganism. In just so far as this is true, it stands for primitive Christianity which is a direct lineal descendant of the Parent School of India.

At this point, and in this connection, it will be of both interest and value to those who have not been in position to follow the subject through other and more popular channels, to know that the Church of Rome is today engaged in the execution of a most carefully planned and subtle movement to Romanize the Protestant Churches. More especially is this

true of the Protestant Episcopal Church of both England and America. One of the most interesting features of this movement is the significant fact that the Roman Catholic Church is employing the same subtle and destructive methods which its Paganistic progenitor so cleverly and successfully practiced on the School of Primitive Christianity in Rome. That is to say, by the slow but clever and wonderfully effective process of "elimination and substitution" it is gradually but surely converting Protestant Episcopalianism into Roman Catholicism. This work has been carried on so cleverly and so unobtrusively that doubtless there are many loyal Episcopalians who are not yet fully conscious of the existence of such a movement and would be inclined to dismiss the subject as unworthy of consideration. Notwithstanding this natural reluctance on the part of those who are not informed upon the subject, the fact remains that the process already has been carried successfully forward to such a point that the final act necessary to effect the complete absorption of the Protestant organization is being seriously considered by representatives of both bodies. Those who may, perchance, question the accuracy of these important statements should immediately acquaint themselves with a work entitled "The Secret History of the Oxford Movement", wherein a detailed account of the facts may be found.

An intelligent application of the lineal key of relationships will furnish a clear and conclusive answer to a number of important questions which have commanded the interest and attention of students and thinkers in the related fields of religion and philosophy all over the world.

It has been observed, for instance, that between Freemasonry and Protestant Christianity there plainly exists a strong and fraternal bond of sympathy and fellowship. This bond is so distinct and unmistakable as to suggest the existence of some possible esoteric kinship and lineal relation which

which might seem to be incompatible with the exoteric or outward positions of these two organizations. It is a well-known fact, however, that Freemasonry is in no sense recognized as a "Religion", within the generally accepted meaning of that term. The limit of its own claim is that it is a "Progressive Moral Science". It is generally regarded, however, as more truly representing a "Moral Philosophy".

Protestant Christianity, on the other hand, is distinctively a "Religion of Faith", and is based upon certain fundamental dogmas which, considered as a whole, constitute what we are wont to recognize as a religion or a religious creed.

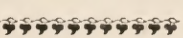
The questions which so often arise in this connection are concerning the exact nature and real basis of this mysterious bond of sympathy and understanding between these two great bodies, the one representing a moral philosophy and the other a religion of faith.

Why is it that these two organizations go hand in hand as concomitant factors and intelligent forces in the defense of individual human liberty? Why is it that the one as a moral philosophy, and the other as a religion of faith, stand together as a unit in impeaching the authority of any organization or association of men, either political or ecclesiastical, that denies the right of individual thought and individual conscience as inalienable and indefeasible?

The lineal key which unlocks the mystery of their common parentage furnishes a complete answer to these and many other questions of equal interest and importance. It is because Freemasonry and Protestant Christianity are the direct, organic, lineal descendants of the same progenitor, the "Venerable Brotherhood" of India—the Great Parent School of Individualism and Freedom—from which they have inherited the same undying love of individual human liberty.

In closing this chapter a great volume of additional data

bearing directly upon the same subject presents itself for consideration and expression. It is of such a nature as to anticipate the numerous questions which the foregoing mere syllabus or summary of the subject will naturally suggest to those who find themselves sufficiently interested to seek further information. But further consideration of the theme at this time would exceed the natural limitations of this present volume and divert attention from the more central purpose herein sought to be accomplished. In due time and proper sequence, however, the broader theme will be resumed in the hope of presenting the data with much greater fullness of details.



"*Roman Catholicism threatens the very foundation of our institutions, it strikes at the very root of our liberties.*

"A good Catholic is *bound* to believe that supreme sovereignty is inherent in the holy Pope at Rome, and that the Pope has the power, as the vicegerent of Christ, to depose kings and rule nations. That has always been the Catholic doctrine, and the *Church boasts that it never changes.* It can wait, it can dissemble, it can wheedle and hoodwink and deceive, but it does not change. Its purpose is ever the same, and wherever it has been a master it has been a blight."

——Watson.

Cardinal Manning says: "It is necessary that the temporal authorities should be subject to the spiritual power. . . Moreover, we declare, say, define and *pronounce it to be altogether necessary to salvation that every human creature should be subject to the Roman Pontiff.*"

"*I pledge and swear true obedience to the Roman Pontiff, vicar of Jesus Christ.*"——*Profession of Faith, Baltimore* 1884.

Freemasonry "The Open Door to Damnation"



HE following article, under the title *"Free Masonry"* we reproduce from the March 26, 1910, issue of *"The New World"* —the *Official Organ* of the Roman Catholic Church for the powerful diocese of Chicago.

We give it place in this special issue of *Life and Action* for a number of important reasons, each and all of which should be of special interest and definite value to our readers—more especially those who have any thought or consideration for the life [or death] or future welfare of the Masonic Order in this country. Here are some of the reasons that impel us:

1. Because the article is *false* from beginning to end. It would be difficult to conceive of any article of equal length containing a larger number and volume of falsehoods, nor uttered with more destructive purpose and intent.

2. Because the article was written for and published in the Official Organ of the Catholic Church in Chicago, and represents the position of that great and powerful church toward the Masonic Fraternity—*not* at some remote period in the past when the church might plead *"ignorance"* as an excuse; but in the immediate present, when it *should be able* to speak from the fullness of its wisdom, and in the spirit of Truth.

3. Because this article represents the spirit, the purpose, the motive and the method which animate and inspire the leading intelligences and acknowledged *authorities* of that church, who furnish the intellectual and educational food which

they feed to their ignorant and innocent masses, both old and young; and upon which they are today educating the children of Catholic parents, and fostering in the minds of the young men of the country an undying hatred of the Masonic Fraternity.

4. Because the article will show, without a word from us, that the hatred which the Catholic Church holds against the Masonic Fraternity is fundamental; and that there is no libel or slander its authorities will not commit to create and foster hostile prejudice in the minds of its rising generations of Catholic children and youth who are later to rule the destinies of that Church—and they *hope* the destiny of this nation, under the pope of Rome, and the college of Italian cardinals.

5. This article may help some of our readers and friends to understand that our frequent reference to Roman Clericalism, and the political influence and policy of that church in this country, is in no sense an "attack upon *religion*" nor a "fight" against Catholics. It is but an effort on our part to lay before our readers and friends the simple facts which demonstrate the hostility of the Catholic Church against the Great School, the Masonic Order, and all that these two associations represent—and prove that the Catholic Church is waging a mortal battle against Freemasonry and the principles of free government and loyal Americanism and American Institutions for which Freemasonry stands.

Here is the article to which we refer. We beg our readers and friends to give it their thoughtful consideration. Then remember its purposes:

Freemasonry.

"You, young man, who are perhaps being solicited to join this secret "craft", do you know what it is? No, of course you know nothing about Freemasonry, how could you? In that case, your common sense even if it be of the most un-

developed and elementary kind, ought to forbid you to allow yourself to be hoodwinked and rushed into a rash act the consequences of which are entirely hidden from you and of which you can form no idea whatever. Very few of the brethren know what the thing is; it is not necessary for them to know, and it would be extremely dangerous to the "craft" to tell them. They seem to be well satisfied with the limited amount of information imparted to them, which they accept in all simplicity. They have been told, and they will tell you, that it is a very admirable society founded upon the Holy Bible, whose purposes are purely fraternal and benevolent. Many good men have been thus deceived; and by various other baits—such as social and business advantages, etc.—many have been led into the Masonic snare. The greater number of these good men do not care to know more. They have no desire or intention of going deeper into the secrets of the "craft"; they joined it for business reasons, and they have no curiosity about anything else. It is well for them that they do not know, and do not even suspect, that they have been deceived; they would be greatly humiliated if they knew they are mere dupes, that they are being used as hunters use "dummies", simply to entice silly game into traps and snares.

If it were true that the childish nonsense of the 33 inferior degrees *is all of Freemasonry*, as the brethren are instructed to believe, they might be permitted to assert their claim that there is nothing very objectionable or culpable in it. But the fact that an unnecessary, unlawful and immoral oath is required, condemns it in toto. In a merely fraternal society an oath has no place; the fact that an oath is demanded ought to excite the suspicions of well meaning men as to the *real* and *ultimate purposes* of the oath-bound cult. An unnecessary oath is *always unlawful*, because it violates the divine Commandment which says: *"Thou shalt not take the name of*

God in vain." How can a conscientious man—perhaps a minister of the gospel—take an *unnecessary, unlawful oath* without sin? And if each of their 33 degrees demands a separate oath [which is not denied], then the sin of profaning the Holy Name of God is committed a countless number of times in their lodges. Can conscientious men sanction this gross violation of God's *positive commandment*?

Another thing condemns Freemasonry, viz., it teaches a spurious philanthropy which practically denies the brotherhood of man, since it includes only Freemasons and excludes all the rest of mankind. Its supposed benefits are for Freemasons *alone*; the larger part of the human race may be exploited and unjustly dealt with if the good of the Masonic "craft" requires it.

A third well known fact utterly condemns this Masonic "craft", viz., *it is a false religion.* Whether its claim to be a religion is specifically set forth in its secret text books and ceremonials, or orally in its lodges, is an insignificant matter; for it is admitted by the brethren that they regard it as a religion. Old Freemasons are often heard to say: "*Freemasonry is a good religion. A man needs no other.*" The writer was brought up a Protestant, and he was assured by venerable Protestant Christian men that this claim made by Freemasons proves that the "craft" is *opposed to the religion of Christ*, which he was taught *is the only true religion.* Subsequent experience has fully confirmed him in this belief of *good* Protestants, viz., that Freemasonry is opposed to Christianity. Judging from its effects upon church members who become Freemasons, no other conclusion is possible; for it cannot be denied that great numbers of Christian men, after taking the unlawful Masonic oath, abandon the church and practically renounce Christ. That the men have lost all interest in religion, is now the cry of our ministers.

To understand what kind of religion Freemasonry is, let us look at a few of its dogmas; these will supply sufficient grounds for the opinion held by *good* Protestant Christians that Freemasonry is anti-Christian. There is reason for the belief that their secret dogmas are similar to, if not identical with those which follow. [After due consideration of certain facts admitted by members of the "craft", and other facts which it best suits their purposes to deny, the Masonic religion when "boiled down" gives this residuum]:

Masonic Dogmas.

1. *Oath-bound fidelity to Freemasonry.*
2. *Oath-bound secrecy.*
3. *Death is the punishment for breach of secrecy.*
4. *Oath-bound fidelity to the brethren under all circumstances, even though they are known to be criminals.*
5. *Absolute fidelity to the Masonic oath, which is strictly binding under all circumstances.*
6. *The Masonic oath is more sacred than the Bible or the church.*
7. *The Masonic oath is more sacred than religion or God.*
8. *The Masonic oath is the only absolutely necessary religion.*
9. *If a man's conscience forbids any deed required of him for the benefit of the Masonic "craft", he is bound by the Masonic oath to violate his conscience and obey his sacred oath.*
10. *The Freemason's duty to the Masonic "craft" is the highest duty of man.*
11. *If there should be question as to the priority of Freemasonry or patriotism, the claims of the Masonic "craft" are of greater importance.*
12. *Nothing whatever, in heaven or earth, is higher than the Masonic "craft".*
13. *Heaven shall be the reward of those members of the "craft" who are faithful to the Masonic Oath.*

More or less of this kind of instruction is administered to the brethren in all of the lower degrees up to the 33rd degree; not all at once, but as they are able to digest it. If any are deficient in docility, or retain a modicum of reverence for God, they would not be initiated [too rapidly] into these mysteries.

Let no one suppose that the 33 inferior degrees include ALL of Freemasonry, or that the dogmas taught to the brethren therein give anything more than a vague hint of the essential wickedness of the "craft". In order to comprehend what Freemasonry is *in reality*, the existence of other and higher degrees must not be ignored. Common sense and reason compel the belief that there are other degrees, which are kept profoundly secret from the common herd of the inferior brethren; these are the Anonymous or Black Degrees. Any one of the inferior brethren of the 33 lower degrees will deny most positively that there are any higher degrees. Well, so far as he is concerned there are none, because these high degrees are *not for him*, and of course he knows nothing about them. The fact that almost all of the inferior brethren on the 40 minor degrees are kept in *total ignorance* of the anonymous degrees, explains how it has been possible to hoodwink good men into the belief that there is *nothing very bad* about Freemasonry.

Facts that have leaked out at various times, make it impossible to doubt the existence of the anonymous and purely diabolical degrees of the higher and real Freemasonry. This secret, which has been so well kept, may be exposed by a simple, rational process. Does any one of the inferior brethren know *who is the head* of Freemasonry? Not one! But who can believe that an organization so extensive as this could continue to exist *without a head*? It is not possible to accept that opinion. The Masonic "craft" *has a head* undoubtedly. Why, then, is the fact always denied and concealed? It is because there are very grave considerations which make its concealment

imperative. By no other means can the venomous serpent which has crawled its slimy way to that accursed eminence escape the vengeance of mankind. The head of the Masonic "craft" is a MONSTER, *who, if known, could not save himself from the hangman. He would be outlawed in any country in the world.*

As compared with the real Freemasonry of the anonymous and truly occult degrees, the "Black Hand" society of the Italian Mafia is a praiseworthy organization. Is this exaggeration? Not at all. The Black Hand bandits are simply robbers; they demand only money; but *the ultimate purpose of the higher Freemasonry is to destroy religion and morality, to dethrone God from the hearts and minds. Enough is known to justify the belief,* that *the Masonic "craft", guided and ruled by its supreme head, is engaged in an inveterate war to the death against God, who is regarded with invincible hatred. All of the members of the nameless degrees are atheists; they deny the Christian's God. They hate the name of God; hence they speak only of* "THE SUPREME BEING", *by which terms they mean the head of their "craft" who sits in the Black Lodge, or else they mean Satan himself! Any one of the brethren of the* 33 *inferior degrees is in the direct line for promotion to the black degrees, if he is an atheist and sufficiently advanced in wickedness.*

We can easily imagine what the unwritten dogmas of the black degrees are like, and why they shun the light of day. It would be difficult to believe that they are not identical with or similar in spirit to these:

DOGMAS OF THE MASONIC NAMELESS OR BLACK DEGREES.

1. *There is no God.*
2. *There is no moral law.*
3. *The Christian religion is superstition.*
4. *The Supreme Being, whom we love and worship, is Lucifer.*

5. *The only God that rules this world is our master Lucifer.*

6. *Christianity has slandered and persecuted our master, whom it calls "the devil".*

7. *Therefore, Freemasonry will never cease its war upon Christ and His religion.*

It is the boast of Freemasonry that their "craft" is a very ancient institution of Jewish origin, dating as far back as Solomon's days; that he indeed is its founder. This myth has a certain significance, in the fact that there are so many *avowed Christ-haters* among Freemasons. These are principally Jews, of whom the "craft" is very largely composed. Can anybody imagine that Jews would flock into a Christian or Christ-honoring society? No one could believe it. But it is entirely believable that Freemasonry was *founded and organized by Jews* in the vain hope of destroying Christianity, and it is quite believable that it is now controlled by Jews. That Jews are the master spirits of the Masonic "craft", there can be no doubt; not in the inferior degrees, which constitute the *breeding grounds* for which the Jews care nothing at all and are more than willing to leave such child's play to the inferior brethren who are merely the dupes of their Jewish masters. *There is no reason to doubt that a Christ-hating Jew is the head of the Masonic "craft" at this time—and at all times.*

Not all Masonic Jews are atheists, but those at the top of the "craft" undoubtedly are; they are apostates from Judaism, they hate God whom they hold responsible for the downfall of the Jewish religion and the wide spread of Christianity. Some persons may think that it is only the Catholic Church that excites their hate, but this is a mistake. *Jesus Christ and His religion are the true objects of Jewish Masonic hatred.* It is true they seem more vengeful towards the Catholic Church, but this is because the members of the Church refuse to enter the Masonic "craft", while Protestant Christians unfortunately

do so in large numbers. *What a strange thing, that our Protestant Christians, even our Protestant ministers, are found working hand in hand with atheists and Jews to dishonor Christ and Christianity!* One of the consequences of this treachery to Christ ought to open the eyes of Protestant Freemasons, and that is the undeniable fact that many of them quickly lose *all faith*; they become apostates from Christ and His religion, some even renouncing belief in God. *No other proof is needed to convince any good Protestant Christian that the Masonic "craft" is an accursed thing, than the fact that it changes Christians into scoffers, atheists and infidels.* This is what might be expected to happen to men who subject themselves to immoral Jewish oaths, by which they will soon be transformed from honest men into unscrupulous slaves of an *unknown master whom they have wickedly sworn to obey. If one of them should be called upon to serve on a jury to decide the case of a murderer whose guilt is fully proven but who is a Freemason, he would be compelled to commit perjury no matter which way he voted; for if he voted "not guilty" he would violate his lawful oath as a citizen, and if he voted "guilty" he would violate his unlawful and immoral Masonic oath.* Can any one doubt that the oath of the Masonic "craft" is unlawful, immoral and sinful, in view of the fact that it subjects a man *to the necessity* of committing the crime of perjury almost any day?

Honorable and conscientious men ought to be fully convinced that they *cannot* take the oath of the Masonic "craft" without deeply offending God. If they have done so heedlessly without sufficient reflection, they ought to withdraw from the society as soon as they realize that they have been misled; it would be at the peril of their morals, *and of their salvation*, for them to remain in it. *If they do remain in it they have great cause to fear that God will abandon them to the power of Satan, who is the true deity of Freemasonry.* Think

of it, honorable, conscientious, good citizen that you are at the present time! If you do not withdraw from that society, or if not yet being a member you are contemplating the taking of the unlawful, immoral, Masonic oath, remember this: Your impious act will bring upon you a grievous punishment; that *wicked oath will almost certainly lead you to commit the crime of perjury and will be the cause of your damnation. Your unlawful Masonic oath may demand of you, at any moment, the violation of your lawful oath as a good citizen in the performance of your duty in a court of justice.* Are you willing to remain in such a society, or to suffer yourself to be cajoled into a snare like that by the miserable bait of business advantages? The man who would deliberately put himself in such a perilous predicament, or willingly remain in it, would thus demonstrate that the difference between him and a conspirator and traitor against his government and citizenship is only an *imaginary line*; it need cause no surprise if this man's career ends in apostacy from Christ and God.

To know the number of the anonymous degrees of Freemasonry is of no importance whatever; secrecy and safety being the dominant requirements, the fewer the degrees and the fewer the number of members admitted the more likely are the sinister designs of skulking conspirators to remain hidden. *It is reasonable, therefore, to believe that the membership is strictly limited to men who are carefully chosen, and there can be no doubt as to the terrible character of these men*; for in order to carry out the purposes of the "craft" it is necessary to use human tools, but these tools have been thoroughly *tempered* in the machine shops of the 33 inferior degrees. *No man can pass muster for these highest honors of Freemasonry if he retains a vestige of reverence for or faith in God, or religion, or who possesses a remnant or even a rag of that divine thing called conscience. If it is not plainly manifest in his conduct that he has—as far as*

is possible for human malice to accomplish so foul a deed—murdered conscience and dethroned God, he will never be asked to ascend to even the lowest of these infamous degrees; they will forever remain anonymous and unknown to him, for only by unscrupulous wickedness can he become worthy of such promotion. It is easy to understand why *not one* of the inferior brethren of the 33 lower degrees can answer the question: *Who is the head of your "craft"?*

Very probably this vampire is not known to more than two or three persons, and these, being so compromised with him in secret crimes, would destroy themselves by making him known. Indeed, if any one of these two or three trusted henchmen should disobey or offend him, he would simply order some of the assassins of any of the anonymous degrees to put him to death, or he might command the wretch to make way with himself—to commit harikari. The condemned would not dare to refuse; he would consider that an act of clemency had been extended to him, for by self-murder alone could he hope to escape from nameless tortures at the hands of merciless executioners.

No great effort of the imagination is required to picture the vile, hideous creature that sits on the throne in THE BLACK LODGE; *and this fiend in human shape is the diabolical* HEAD *of the Masonic "craft"* ! We can understand now who murdered Morgan, and who condemned him to death. [See note]. We can also understand that the inferior brethren of the 33 inferior degrees knew nothing of this murder, being mere dupes and dummies; and that some of them could believe and say, after the truth could no longer be concealed, that the crime was *really committed by Freemasons: "Well,* they did it *on their own responsibility; the "craft" did not order it to be done."* But this only proves that the brethren of the 33 inferior degrees are truly the dummies and dupes of the perjured creature *enthroned in the Black Lodge surrounded by assassins. The*

murder of Morgan was ordered by the Grand Master of the Masonic "craft", for the sole purpose of terrorizing the inferior brethren of the dummy classes in order to make them more servile and obedient to his will. Poor Morgan revealed nothing; no real secret was known to him. All he knew was nothing else than the nonsense of the 33 dummy degrees; but his death was decreed as an example to every dummy of the "craft", *any one of whom may be condemned to suffer the same punishment for the unpardonable offense of disobedience to the unknown dragon whom they have bound themselves by unlawful and wicked oaths to obey*. It is incomprehensible that the inferior brethren do not suspect that they are the oath-bound *slaves* of an inhuman tyrant. Probably some of them may have an inkling of the awful truth; but they have good reasons to tremble at the thought of disobedience or rebellion, they have gone too far and they *dare not* turn back. The brethren of the Masonic "craft" may be unwilling to accept the idea that the devil is the *real head* of Freemasonry; but if he is not, then it is a *human devil acting under instructions from Satan. In that case it is quite probable that this human devil is a Christ-hating, God-hating, Christian-hating, apostate Jew*. What a humiliating, degrading *servitude* for the deluded inferior brethren of the "craft" who call themselves Christians! Some of whom call themselves *ministers of the Gospel* of Jesus Christ!!

Many of the brethren of the 33 inferior degrees of Freemasonry will endeavor, in their infatuation, to refute the notion of the existence of anonymous degrees unknown to them, or of the existence of the grandest of all their grand lodges, viz.. *The Black Lodge*, in which sits a detestable apostate Jew who is the *real head* and Grand Master of the Masonic "craft". This will not be surprising; it is, however, too much of a strain on human credulity—outside of the "craft"——to believe that this organization, with its 33 *unnecessary, unlawful and immoral*

oaths, has been called into existence by benevolent motives. Fraternal societies or those formed for business or political advantages, do not require such culpable methods nor such complicated machinery, nor the employment of assassins. A society that admits to membership Christians, Turks, Jews, Chinese, and every other species of barbarian, and amalgamates them—or the majority of them—into an army of infidels and atheists, must be animated and controlled by the malevolence and malice of an evil spirit. Such a society is a menace to the human race.

Whether there is a Black Lodge and anonymous degrees, persons outside of the Masonic "Craft" may hold to be doubtful, since there is no concrete proof; but that it is *most probable* does not admit of a doubt. If they do not exist, let some one of the "craft" arise and tell us: "*Who is the head of Freemasonry?*" It is unbelievable that this, or any other organization of such dimensions and variety of membership could continue to exist through several centuries *without a head*! It *must have a head*; *and the fact that he is not known to any of the brethren of the* 33 *inferior degrees, is in itself most discreditable to their intelligence.*

Though many good men have been induced by misleading information to enter the Masonic "craft", *yet it cannot be doubted that great numbers of wicked men also are admitted*; *nor can it be doubted that men of the latter class seek admittance into the "craft" in the hope of being saved from the demands of law and justice by the influence of the oath-bound brethren.* It may be supposed, moreover, that men of this kind are *absolutely necessary* for the existence of Freemasonry, *because it is from this class that the instruments of vengeance are selected to execute the decrees of the Black Lodge.* The case of Morgan shows the necessity, and it further shows that all the inferior brethren have cause to fear these "destroying angels" of the "craft", creatures whose consciences have been practically obliterated

by the innumerable crimes they have committed. It is necessary to have men of this kind in the "craft" to intimidate any weak brethren who show signs of balking, or are suspected of an intention of deserting the fraternity. Some of the simple ones may not know, or suspect that they are at all times under espionage of the emissaries of the Black Lodge; but if anyone of them should attempt to abandon Freemasonry, he will quickly have it impressed upon his understanding that he is walking on dangerous ground. He will find out that he *has lost his freedom*, and that he has sold himself body and soul to an *unseen and unknown* master. It is always difficult and sometimes impossible, for a Freemason to throw off the hateful yoke which he has placed upon his own neck. If he is bold enough to announce that he is no longer a Freemason, vengeance will be let loose upon him; threats, insults, molestation of all sorts will pursue him, and perhaps the decree of death will be passed upon him. There have been a few persons who abandoned Freemasonry without being subjected to indignities or tortures, but these were men so prominent that it would have been too serious and dangerous a business to attempt to molest them; hence, it was wisely decided in the Black Lodge that Masonic law must be suspended in their cases, lest its enforcement should lead to the exposure and ruin of Freemasonry.

Thank God that you are yet *in possession of your liberty*! Listen to the voice of reason and conscience, which solemnly warn you in the name of God: "Young man, *never surrender the divine gift of your freedom; never allow a fraternity of conspirators to bind you hand and foot with their wicked oath,—an oath so wicked that it will change you from a free man into a cringing slave, an oath so wicked that it will inevitably cause you, as it has caused them, to lose God's friendship*!" The father of the Masonic "craft" is the father of all craft and lies; a society

that transforms *free men into abject slaves* by means of wicked oaths, cannot have any other author than Satan.

The foregoing has been written in the hope of saving our Protestant young men from a fatal mis-step; but impious men, enemies of truth, will deny and contradict. That is to be expected. The turning of a search light upon the Masonic "craft" or any other brand, is regarded by its promoters as an insult; the exposure of Masonic wickedness, is in their eyes a crime that calls for secret vengeance. Their denials ought not to deceive anyone, who is not a born idiot; it is a very important part of their religion *to deny truth.*

In order to reach as many as possible of the young and unsuspecting probable victims of Masonic craft, a copy of this warning will be mailed to ministers of the gospel, who are respectfully and earnestly requested to read it to their congregations. ——ANTI-SLAVERY.

Note:—A word about Morgan. The guilt of this man's murder at the hands of his brother Freemasons—by torture for three days and finally drowning,—will forever rest upon the skulking "craft" in spite of all their efforts to shake it off. Finding it impossible to deny the crime successfully, the brethren according to their well known methods, wish to shift the entire blame upon wretched oath-bound slaves who simply obeyed orders, *as they had sworn to do* when they accepted the Masonic religion which taught them that the wicked oath of the "craft" is more sacred than the law of God.

More than 25 years ago an old Freemason in New York City, a friend of the writer, admitted unreservedly and frankly that Morgan had been killed by the Freemasons. He said that the three men who had killed him were personally known to him; but he said they did it on their own responsibility, and that Freemasonry was not to blame for the crime. The

old man innocently [perhaps] believed that the men were not commanded to commit that murder; but no reasonable person can share this belief when he knows that Freemasonry *prevented* the punishment of the men and even vented its displeasure upon William H. Seward, who prosecuted the murderers whose conviction would have been certain if justice had not been defrauded by Masonic influence. He said further, that the same Masonic influence was exerted so vigorously at a later day against Mr. Seward, that he was defeated in his race for the governorship of the state of New York.

Many other instances of the *nullification of our laws* and the mockery and contempt of justice, by the sinister and secret influence of the Masonic "craft" could be cited. To a great number of people it is a matter of astonishment when juries fail to convict criminals though the evidence plainly demands it, and when felons are released from prison soon after conviction; but this causes no surprise to those who know the ways of the Masonic "craft". Only a short time ago a man was convicted in Indiana of murdering his wife in order to marry another woman; an appeal to the governor obtained a commutation from hanging to life imprisonment, but in a short time the adulterous murderer was pardoned! Why? "*Because*",—as was stated in the public press,—"*of Masonic influence.*"

In view of the facts, how can anyone doubt that the influence of the Masonic "craft" is a baneful thing, *destructive of human freedom and manhood, antagonistic to good-citizenship and morality, and at war with the religion of Jesus Christ.*"

The italics, in a majority of instances, are ours, and are used to call special attention to those passages and expressions which show the animus of the Catholic authorities.

We believe it will be something of a revelation to our friends and especially to our Masonic readers, to know the estimation in which the "craft" is held by leading Catholic writers and educators and clerical politicians everywhere. For this article is but a fair index of the spirit which animates Catholic writers everywhere.

With unlimited tolerance of Catholicism as a "Religion", and the most profound respect for the honest convictions of all who accept its doctrines, and endeavor to live by its moral precepts and principles, we submit the foregoing for what it may be worth because it is the message of a Catholic writer and educator and therefore authoritative.

It tells a story of malice and hatred which non-Catholics would never believe if it came to them from any but an authoritative Catholic source. And it foreshadows a conflict which Masons will never believe possible and for which they would never prepare if it were not *thrust* upon their attention by Catholics themselves.. *Nota Bene.*

"In the United States, Roman Catholicism is sweeping all before it. Fourteen millions of our people profess its creed. A few months ago, American prelates assured Pope Pius that our republic would soon belong to Rome. Not many weeks since, an American Catholic bishop declared that his church meant to capture the Presidency. It is already the power behind the throne. Cardinal Gibbons is a potentate whom Cleveland dared not offend, and Roosevelt has been notoriously controlled in various instances by the same insidious, irresistible influence. The greater number of our large cities are ruled by a combination of the priests and saloon-keepers."

——"Foreign Missions Exposed"—by Watson.

The Imminent Invasion. A Call to Horse. *By "TK"*



IR KNIGHTS AND FRATERS:-

The Brother who thus addresses you is a member of "*Old Apollo No.* 1", and within his soul is the spirit of fraternal greeting and welcome to every visiting Sir Knight and fellow Templar who is interested in the future welfare of our noble Order and loves his country.

Let it be clearly understood, however, that "*Old Apollo*" is in no sense whatever identified with nor responsible for this message, nor for any of the statements or sentiments herein contained.

In other words, this is a purely personal message from one Sir Knight who loves his country, to his Fraters and Brother Masons in whose loyalty and patriotism he has an abiding faith and a confident hope.

I verily believe that if it became an openly established fact, *beyond all question of doubt*, that this blessed and beautiful "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave" were threatened by powerful enemies who conspire against our inalienable right to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" which we all prize so truly,—there is no body of men in all this broad land who would come to the rescue more promptly, more loyally, more enthusiastically, more courageously nor more unanimously than would the members of this truly great Order of patriotic Knights Templar.

It is for this very reason, because of this unlimited confidence and abiding faith, that I am impelled to the delicate and difficult task of formulating this message at this particular

time and in the midst of the joyous festivities of this great Triennial Conclave.

If possible, without the least offense to any man, I want to call the intelligent and thoughtful attention of my esteemed fellow Sir Knights and Companions to a subject which has commanded my earnest consideration, and, I may as well admit it—my somewhat anxious and apprehensive attention and study—for some time past.

I have said that the subject is both delicate and difficult. This is only because it is almost impossible to discuss any theme involving the consideration of any important religious *organization*, without being misunderstood. If the interests of society, the state or the nation make it necessary to oppose the political policies of such an organization, immediately the defense is set up: "You are attacking *Religion*!" And because of our ingrained reverence for, and toleration of, everything that carries the badge or wears the cloak of "Religion", our sympathies are instantly aroused and our prejudices are played upon. We close the door of our reason and refuse to listen,—until suddenly one day we are awakened with a mighty *shock*, to a humiliating realization of the fact that under the false guise of "Religion" a great and vital *political* policy has been fastened upon the nation involving new indignities and heavier demands upon the ignorant, innocent and long-suffering poor who are already bending under the weight of many cruel and unjust burdens.

Before I proceed with my message, therefore, let me make clear and then emphasize the following facts, in order to remove every possible mis-apprehension and place us upon a basis of mutual understanding and mutual confidence:

1. I regard *every* man's "*Religion*" as his sacred and inalienable *Right* which, under our national constitution, every true and loyal American Citizen, most of all a Brother Mason, is bound to respect.

2. By the same authority, as well as by the natural law of our being, every individual should have the right and enjoy the privilege of "*worshiping God* according to the dictates of *his own conscience.*"

3. The Great School has no quarrel with any man concerning his *religion*, nor his *religious beliefs*, nor his right to join any church he may choose, nor his freedom to attend its *religious services* and participate in its *religious ceremonies.*

4. All these statements apply to the Roman Catholic Church and *Religion*, as fully and specifically, as unconditionally and uncompromisingly as they do to the several Protestant Churches and religions.

5. I have many warm personal friends, who are members of the Catholic Church and active participants and consistent workers therein; and I respect them and their *religious* convictions as fully as I do those of any other Church or Religion, and I value their friendship equally with that of any other friends I have.

Have I made clear the fact that what I have to say is *not* an "attack upon *religion*"? I hope so. I also hope I have made clear the further fact that I respect the *religious* convictions of an honest and conscientious Catholic as profoundly as I do those of any other individual.

With this foundation carefully laid in the Spirit of universal religious tolerance, to which this country is as uncompromisingly and irrevocably committed as is the Masonic Fraternity, let me venture with confidence, and in the spirit of fraternal courtesy and consideration, to a frank and honest presentation of the subject I have in mind and in which every loyal Knight Templar, brother Mason and American Citizen *ought* to be profoundly interested—whether he *is* so or not.

1. The Roman Catholic Church, as an *organization*, is vastly *more* than a "*Religion*".

2. In its form of government it is a *Theocracy*—in that it assumes that its authority comes direct from God, and is administered by his "Vicegerent", in the person of the Pope of Rome, and is therefore above and beyond the power and authority of the State as well as of all other "Temporal" authorities.

3. Its government, therefore, is *undemocratic* and inconsistent with the principles of true Democracy upon which our Masonic Liberators so wisely and so uncompromisingly established this American nation of *Freemen*.

4. It is a *foreign* power and principality, in that the seat of its government is in Rome, the capitol of Italy, where its legislating is done.

5. It is *Italian* in spirit, in essence and in purpose, in that its supreme head, the Pope, and a heavy working majority of its College of Cardinals are *Italians*, and must forever remain so.

6. It is a great *Political* organization and power, entirely independent of the governmental authority of this country, and is engaged in carrying forward the most secret, insidious and vitally important political plans against the very life of our national government, not only in the heart of our own country, but in almost every other country on the globe.

7. The central purpose of all this *political* effort and activity of the Roman Church is more and more completely to establish the *political* supremacy of that church throughout the world.

In this country the edict has gone forth from Rome to "*Make America Catholic*". It has been heard by the heads of that church in this country and they have echoed back the slogan, and to that end all the powers of the church,—religious, political, detective, clerical, spiritual and material—are being employed both in Rome and here, with all the cleverness and secrecy of an immense army of trained diplomats and secret service experts.

8. The most potent factor in all this secret, diplomatic, political and detective work is the *Order of Jesuits*, which has been wisely designated as the Militant Branch of the Church. This also is a foreign organization, and its principles of government and methods of action are as radically and completely *un*-American as it is possible for the mind of man to conceive.

I believe I would be speaking the literal truth if I should say that the rank and file of *American* Catholics do not generally approve this Jesuitical Order, nor sanction the methods it has employed, and does employ, in its work of helping to "*Make America Catholic.*" At any rate, I like to *believe* this is true; for it would grieve me beyond the power of words to express, if I thought the great body of intelligent and liberal-minded, progressive Catholics of America were in sympathy with the spirit and purpose of the Jesuitical Order, in its designs upon this country of ours.

The reasons for this reluctance on my part to hold our liberal and progressive American Catholics and fellow citizens responsible for aiding and abetting, even by their sympathy, this "Foreign Invasion" of the Jesuits, may be better understood and more sympathetically appreciated in the light of the following statement. It is from one of the best beloved patriots of America—the Hon. R. W. Thompson, Ex-Secretary of the Navy—who for many years made a profound study of the subject from the practical standpoint of a public official of our government in daily and hourly touch with the results of Jesuitical influence, as a disintegrating foreign influence eating at the heart of the nation.

In his valuable book entitled "*The Footprints of the Jesuits*", the author, at pages 6 and 7 of his prefatory statement gives us the following summary of *un*-American Jesuitical teachings that strike straight at the foundation of our government:

"They [the Jesuits] teach as *religious* doctrines necessary

to salvation the following: That the State must be reunited with the church, and be required to obey its spiritual commands in the enactment of laws; that the Roman Catholic religion shall be established by law as the only true religion, and every other form of religious belief treated and punished as heresy; that, along with this destruction of the freedom of religious belief, there must be corresponding restrictions placed upon the liberty of speech and of the press; that the Roman Catholic Church shall be recognized as an organization exempt from obedience to all our laws relating to the ownership and management of real property; that the clergy of that Church shall be also exempt from obedience to the laws as other citizens, and shall obey only such as the pope may prescribe; *and that our common-school system of education must be absolutely and entirely destroyed.*" [The italics are mine].

"If, in these things, the Jesuits should obtain success, our government would necessarily come to an end; and what this volume contains has been written alone with the view of making this question plain and palpable to the ordinary reader. I have written from the standpoint of an American citizen, thoroughly impressed with the belief that this is the most prosperous country in the world, and not from that of a theologian."

"I know how difficult it is to escape the accusation of a persecuting spirit from those who, like the Jesuits, allow nothing for honest differences of opinion. This, however, ought not to be permitted to interfere with the plain and obvious duty of defending our civil institutions from any assault made upon them, no matter by whom, or in whose name, the assaulting forces shall be marshaled."

Here is a man whose record as a public official and servant of our government, at the head of our American Navy, and in other responsible public positions, entitles him to the unlimited confidence of the American people. He has proven that he

is a man of admirable courage and patriotism in that he has given to the American people the benefit of his knowledge upon a subject concerning which our public press—the most powerful force in America—has not the courage to speak, nor the patriotism to proclaim the facts and enlist the intelligent and sympathetic co-operation of the people who need to know the truth in order that they may prevent a great impending national calamity.

There have been times and occasions in the religio-political history of the Roman Catholic Church when the Church, as such, acting through the pope and his clerical organization—the College of Cardinals—has condemned the Jesuitical Order and opposed its methods and purposes. These occasions, however, have been comparatively few, and have grown out of the fact that the Order of Jesuits is the only "Catholic" organization on earth in any sense independent of the pope and not absolutely under his authority and power and an automatic instrument of his will. Today the Church and the Order of Jesuits are working as a unit to "Make America Catholic"—by methods which, if successful, must inevitably *destroy* our American Government, root and branch.

It may not be known generally today that in its inception the Order of Jesuits was an organization whose absolute authority was vested in its "General", and that its General was in no sense a subject of the pope nor under his authority, direction or control. The original Constitution of the Order required of its members a solemn vow of "*implicit and unquestioning obedience to their superior*", [namely, their *General*].

It was later, that Loyola [its founder and first General] made a concession which gave to the pope the simple power of ordering its members "to whatever part of the world it shall please the pope to send them".* But this in no wise modified

* *History of the Jesuits, by Nicolini. p.* 27.

their original vow of absolute and "unquestioning obedience to their superior"—their General.

And so the Order stands today, in no sense a *papal* institution or instrument, but one in which absolute and supreme authority is vested in its General—who, by virtue of this absolute authority over the will, intelligence and conscience of its members, by a sort of grim propriety has come to be known as the "Black Pope".

Quoting from *"Footprints of the Jesuits"*, page 61: "The General is thus placed above all governments, constitutions, and laws, and even above God himself! There are no laws of a State, no rules of morality established by society, no principles of religious faith established by any Church—including even the Roman Catholic Church itself—that the Jesuit is not bound to *resist*, when commanded by his General to do so, no matter if it shall lead to war, revolution, or bloodshed, or to the upheaval of society from its very foundation."

The ominous and deplorable facts I desire—without offense to any true and loyal American citizen, and least of all to any loyal and patriotic American Catholic—to impress upon my esteemed and courteous fellow Sir Knights and beloved Brother Masons of all degrees, are:

1. That this great and powerful autocracy—the Order of Jesuits—is now in the very heart of this land of ours,already strongly entrenched, and daily digging its trenches deeper and deeper, and rearing its defensive embankments higher and higher—in anticipation of ————*What*?

2. That under the orders of its only recognized head—its General, the "Black Pope"—that powerful, secret and foreign Order is working day and night, with all the secrecy, cleverness, cunning, intelligence and determination at its command, to carry out its orders, and "*Make America Catholic*".

3. That in this tremendous undertaking, because of their

mutual political ambitions and interests in this Conquest of America, the two Popes—White and Black—have relegated the internal problem of their relative authority and power to the background, for the time, and are working shoulder to shoulder, in perfect harmony.

4. Anticipating that, in due time, they must inevitably awaken the "sleeping Sentinel" at the gateway of our American Liberties, arouse the latent "Spirit of '76", and invoke the active opposition and open hostility of the only organized force in America capable of holding their combined forces in check—they have already begun a secret campaign against the Masonic Fraternity in America. Throughout the Catholic press of the United States, as indicated by the editorial reprint on another page of this issue of *Life and Action*, a campaign of "education" is now in progress, the evident object of which is to saturate the souls of Catholic youth, and readers of Catholic current literature, with a deep-seated prejudice against and an undying hatred of the Masonic Fraternity.

Anti-Masonic leaflets, circulars, pamphlets and other literature are being distributed from centers in Chicago, Boston, New York City, San Francisco and other cities throughout the United States—showing that the most careful preparation is being made all along the lines for a mighty conflict, upon an issue that is already perfectly defined in the mind and consciousness of every Jesuit and every Catholic of America who is in sympathy with the Anti-American spirit, purpose and policies of Pius X, and his anti-American College of Cardinals.

5. By reason of the secret political intrigues of the Jesuits against the governmental policies of the various European nations [and their open defiance of established laws of the land, wherever these are not in harmony with the foreign policies of Rome], there has developed among the progressive and intelligent people and patriots of France, Germany, Spain,

Mexico, England, and even Canada, a general revulsion of feeling against Jesuitry, and all that Roman Clericalism and the Order of Jesuits stand for.

As a natural and inevitable result, the open door to Roman Catholicism—which has been unquestioned throughout the whole civilized world, until within the last decade or two—*is* slowly but inevitably, and I believe irrevocably closing.

As a natural result that great Church, and more especially the Order of Jesuits, and Jesuit priests, are compelled to find other and more hospitable fields in which to expend their immense energies and work out their selfish and inordinate ambitions.

6. By reason of our constitutional sympathy for, and hospitality to, the "downtrodden and the oppressed" of all nations, countries, peoples and religions, and because of the great prosperity and almost unlimited resources of the country, the tide of immigration [over 1,000,000 during 1909] has set toward America; and today we are an open asylum to Jesuit priests and Catholic laymen from every Catholic country in the world. And this is designedly so, and is but *one* of the several clever and effective means and methods being now employed to "*Make America Catholic*".

Even Italy, the motherland and central home of Roman Catholicism and Jesuitical power, is sending to us its ignorant, depraved and criminal poor, by the tens of thousands every year— to help "*Make America Catholic*".

The most pathetic and unqualified evidence in proof of this fact may be found in a series of strangely fascinating articles, or letters, by Prof. George A. Dorsey, Ph.D., L.L.D., now in process of publication by the Chicago Daily Tribune—for which journal Prof. Dorsey is making a careful and critical study of the subject of emigration from Italy and other countries to the United States. His letters are profoundly interesting

documents to one who is seeking to understand the causes of crime, suffering and social unrest among our immigrant labor classes from European countries.

One brief quotation from his letter of May 11, from Naples, will give you some appreciation of the vital significance and value of the data he is thus laying before the people of this country for their information and consideration. He says:

"There are in the United States today as many South Italians as there are *people* in Nevada, Wyoming, Arizona, Delaware, Idaho, New Mexico, Montana, Utah and Vermont. These states send eighteen senators to congress. If to these South Italians we add other aliens from Southern Europe who have gone to the United States in the last ten years, their combined population would equal that of the above mentioned states plus New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington, Oklahoma, Colorado, Florida, Maine, Connecticut, West Virginia, and California.

"To put it in another way, if the aliens who have entered the United States in ten years occupied these states exclusively and all had the right of franchise, they would furnish forty-four senators."

Prof. Dorsey who is evidently studying the subject solely as an emigration or immigration problem, forecasts the results with the vision of a prophet, as follows:

"The travail which causes Southern Europe to groan and to erupt streams of emigrants which flow into our cities and harden like rough, black lava flows, may not be greater than in former days, but it is more impressive. *More and more do these streams focus toward the Statue of Liberty.*

"Keep the gates open twenty, or even ten, years longer and it may be too late. . . . .There is no reason why we should be afraid to act. It would be infinitely easier to repeal restrictive or prohibitive immigration laws, if such were found

destructive, than to undo the harm which may follow a continuation of our present policy."

From the sentence above [which I have put in italics, the more easily to call attention to it], leads me to suspect that Prof. Dorsey has also gotten a vision of the greater, deeper, broader and more vital problem than that alone of immigration *per se*, namely, the *Roman Catholic* problem which is so inseparably associated with it.

For he might also have told us that this "lava flow" of emigration from Italy, and other Latin countries, is a stream of *Catholic* emigrants who are coming at the solicitation of the Order of Jesuits and leading *Roman Catholics*, for the explicit purpose of helping to "*Make America Catholic*".

And I know of nothing that would so completely destroy the meaning and spirit of our Statue of Liberty and make of it a grim travesty upon American History and sentiment as the surrender of our government to the political influence of Roman Clericalism and the Order of Jesuits, under the "Black Pope."

But the issue has been declared at Rome. The command of the Vatican has gone forth, and every resource is now being taxed to obey the command to "Make America Catholic". Do you doubt it? If so, I ask you only to give your attention to a study of the subject for thirty days. In that time you can arouse to action every drop of patriotic blood within your body.

7. By a grand federated movement within the Catholic Church recently all the multitudinous Societies, Orders, Clubs, Associations and movements, local and general, large and small, have been consolidated into one general "Federation of Catholic Societies" with its supreme head and final government vested in the Pope of Rome. [Foreign authority].

Under this federation of societies in America the entire Catholic Church of this country is under the autocratic control

of a foreign potentate, and a power that is as emphatically anti-Masonic, un-American, and as definitely and irreconcilably antagonistic to the principles, policies and spirit of our American institutions and government as it is possible to conceive.

In one of its most recent conventions in the middle west, one of the leading archbishops reminded the members and delegates of the Federation present, that one of the most important purposes of this grand federated movement was and is *political*. He called their attention to the fact that it is the purpose of the Church of Rome to *control the political destiny of this country*. It is designed to accomplish this by the "solid vote" of the Church whenever that is necessary to the interests of the Church in the politics and legislation of this country.

One of the units in this grand Federation, is the Order of Knights of Columbus. This is a Catholic military organization with a thoroughly drilled body of men numbering, it has been claimed, over 300,000 men. On the surface this is a fraternal Order, devoted to acts of charity; but it has purposes far deeper, broader and more vital to the interests of America.

It is a body of men devoted to the central purpose of Rome, namely, to "*Make America Catholic*".

These men, wherever they may be, are charged with the responsibility of looking after the political interests of the Church and creating sentiment favorable to the policies for which the church stands. And it is here that the strongest Anti-Masonic influence of the Church centers.

And, is it not significant to you, my Frater and fellow Sir Knight, that this, the most powerful and bitterly *anti*-Masonic Order of men in America, should have appropriated the symbolism of our own beloved Order, until the emblematic charm of a Knight Templar can, with difficulty, be distinguished from that of a Knight of Columbus? What do you conceive to be the underlying motive and purpose which suggested to

the Roman Church the organization and military equipment of a steadily and rapidly increasing body of men, already over 300,000 strong? And what do you suppose is the ulterior motive which inspires these men of knightly bearing to devote themselves to secret military drill with all the enthusiasm and earnestness of men under the influence of a mighty impending crisis calling for military action?

If you have not thought of these things heretofore, I trust I have said enough to impel you, my Brother, to a careful observation and study of this truly wonderful and rapidly growing Catholic Military Order in our midst, wearing the emblems of our Order. That is all for the present.

Furthermore, am I mistaken in assuming that our mutual vow of Knighthood authorizes me to call attention of my Fraters to whatsoever threatens either the welfare of our Order or the life of the Nation? If I am acting within the meaning and purpose of my knightly vow, then let me entreat each and every true and loyal Sir Knight to make a study of the subject of our Common Schools, and more especially of the plans and purposes of the Catholic Church in relation thereto. It will require but a little of your time to post yourself on this vital subject and put yourself in position to act wisely and justly as a loyal Knight and worthy citizen whenever the State is asked by the Church to contribute from our School Funds toward the support of the Parochial Schools. This is one of the live, active and vital issues now coming to the front as rapidly as it is possible for the Church to press it.

The question naturally arises in the mind of every Brother Mason: "How is it possible for us, as *Masons*, to do anything, when we are bound to the broadest religious tolerance?" This is a very proper question, and one which every Mason should be able to answer to his own Conscience before acting. It is here, however, that many a Brother Mason becomes confused

and loses his bearings. This is both unfortunate and unnecessary.

There is not a member of the Craft today who would hesitate the fraction of a second to act *as an individual*, or *as an American Citizen*, if he saw a traitor in the act of betraying his country to any foreign power. He would not stop to argue whether the "foreign power" were Russia, or Japan, or England, or the Church of Rome. Neither would he debate the question as to whether the traitor were a Mohammedan, a Scandinavian, a Jew, a Protestant or a Roman Catholic. Nor would he pause long enough to inquire whether the act came within the jurisdiction of the Masonic Lodge. His *conscience* would tell him with the swiftness and force of a stroke of lightning, that this is a case involving the life of the nation, and it calls for *patriotic action. And you would act.*

And herein is the answer to the foregoing question:

The *political* policies of the Church of Rome in this country are *anti*-Masonic, *un*-American, *un*-patriotic, and all center about the edict of the Vatican and the purpose of the Order of Jesuits, as expressed in the papal command to "*Make America Catholic*".

One of the first steps in this politico-religious undertaking is, to divert the funds of the State for the maintenance of our free Public Schools to the support of the Catholic Parochial Schools. This is a traitorous blow at the one American Institution which stands between that Church and its absolute ultimate control of the State and National Governments. Every American patriot of the past has recognized that in our non-sectarian, free Public Schools are the strength, the support and the future hope of our country.

Whatever degrades or in any manner or degree whatsoever weakens the power and efficiency of our free Public Schools is a blow which every true and loyal American citizen—and

above all, every loyal Brother Mason is bound to repel with all the energy and power of his being.

My appeal, therefore, is to my Brother Masons and fellow Knights, first, as loyal American Citizens, then as *Individual Patriots*, and finally, as Sir Knights and Brother Masons who are the logical Defenders of the Nation.

I am *not* asking them either to inaugurate or to sustain an "attack upon *Religion*", of any kind whatsoever. On the contrary, I am but calling their attention to the cleverest, the subtlest, and the most insidious attack ever made upon the life of our American Government and American Institutions.

I am but calling their attention to the fact that the Arch *Traitor* is the *Church of Rome*, and *not* the Catholic *Religion*.

I am pointing out to them the fact that the secret and powerful *Order of Jesuits* which—because of its traitorous *political* intrigues is being rapidly expelled from European countries—is the most potent single factor in this attack upon our national life.

I am endeavoring to make clear the fact that it is the *Church of Rome* [a foreign Italian power] that has made the *Issue* and thrown down the gage of battle to the Masonic Fraternity *of America*.

And in closing let me express my unqualified faith in the Courage, the Patriotism, the Intelligence and the Ability of the Masons of America to meet the issue like Free Men.

The Meaning and Opportunity of Masonry

By J. D. Buck, M. D.

PRACTICAL and permanent values of things in this world are determined by use. How to use and not misuse, and thus secure the best results possible in any given case, is one of the greatest problems in human life. In no other way can the real value of our resources be determined.

Science has been defined as, "exact knowledge of the facts of nature classified and systematized."

Ethical Science, or Morals, therefore, is the facts of human experience as applied to individual conduct, demonstrated, classified and systematized. Thus arises a Philosophy of Life supported by the recorded facts of nature and the relations of all these to man through experience, or the demonstration of science.

Argument, conjecture, inference, or belief, while they may excite interest and promote inquiry or investigation, are excluded from our conclusions, if they are really scientific.

Now the most important thing for man to know is his own nature; his faculties, capacities and powers; his resources, opportunities, obligations and possibilities.

This knowledge alone can lead to the highest and wisest use for the best results. Here lies the Constructive Principle in Human Evolution.

All known philosophies are essays along these lines. None of these, however, are complete and satisfactory and, therefore, final; for the simple reason that they invoke and deal with metaphysics in place of actual facts and experience, with speculation in place of demonstration. "Systems" of Phil-

osophy, or of Metaphysics, or of Religion, are constructed by man out of such knowledge or experience as he may have and by comparison with what others have done along similar lines. The *point of view* generally differs in every case, as does also the method of procedure. Hence, the conclusions vary or radically differ.

The "Human System", or organization of man, differs from all these. It is complete in its essential nature; in its potencies, capacities and powers; but not in its development, unfoldment or evolution.

The average man is incomplete in his evolution, and each differs greatly from every other. It follows, therefore, that each individual, in the range of his experience and degree of unfoldment, is a combination of faculties, capacities and powers, each of which is more or less unfolded or developed; and these thus united, as a whole, constitute the individuality.

Any conclusion drawn by such an individual, from such incomplete development, must itself be incomplete and liable to error; and just here lie all our so-called Philosophies,—incomplete knowledge of an uncompleted human being. Approximate truths or conclusions, with logical inferences, is all that hitherto has been accomplished along these lines by the average man.

If, however, it can be shown that certain individuals have worked out the problem of the higher evolution in their own natures by actual experience and demonstration, thus going far beyond the "average individual" already referred to—and have demonstrated the continuity of life beyond the change called death, and how and why the life lived here determines the conditions beyond this physical, earthly plane—they would be in condition to deduce and formulate the principles of life and rules of conduct that determine the progressive and higher evolution of man.

Far more complete individual evolution would give them the materials, the principles and the experience necessary to a much more complete Philosophy of Life.

Such men would not only be Philosophers in a broader and deeper sense than others, but might be said to be *Masters* of Life and experience.

The Blue Lodge degrees, with the ritual, traditions and ceremonies of Initiation, are—from beginning to end—a Symbol of just this *Mastership.*

The loss of the true meaning, interpretation and application of this *one*, composite symbol, is the *"loss of the Master's Word"*—[Logos, Instruction, Interpretation, or Philosophy of Life] which "future generations" may recover. Any other interpretation of the word "Master" is superficial, incomplete or absurd.

It must be borne in mind that a *symbol* is not the thing symbolized. For example, a certain Greek letter is everywhere taken as a *symbol* of the constant and inherent relation of the diameter to the circumference of a perfect circle. This same principle holds true of all genuine symbolism, and the symbol may be a word, a sign, a figure, a color, or a tone in music.

Now the largest and most in evidence of the symbols of the Lodge, without which no legitimate lodge can open or close—the "Alpha and Omega, the first and the last"—are the *"Three Great Lights of Masonry"*; and the first named of these is the Holy Bible.

We must bear in mind the *principle* that a symbol *is not the thing symbolized.* Hence, it is important to determine for what great truth or eternal principle does the Bible, as a *symbol*, or the Greatest Light in Masonry, stand? How does the Work of the Lodge unfold, exemplify and demonstrate the meaning of this symbol?

It should be borne in mind that the ritual and work of the Lodge are in no sense dogmatic, theological or sectarian. No effort is made to "prove from the Bible" the existence of God, the Immortality of the soul, or the Brotherhood of man. These are taken for granted, and all will admit that they are *taught* in the Bible. From these "primary postulates", however, the Work of the Lodge unfolds a code of morals, or ethics, and a philosophy of life.

These principles are *involved* in the Great Light and demonstrated by practice, which *practice* is also symbolized [as in mathematics] by the square and compass.

It is the property or office of *Light* to Illuminate and to Reveal the dark places and the hidden things.

This Great Light, therefore, stands as a symbol of the *Spiritual Nature of Man*; and the Saviors, Seers, Prophets, Redeemers and Illuminati—in short the real *Masters* in all ages—have realized, demonstrated, exemplified and taught this "Spiritual Nature". Without this spiritual nature man is "like the beasts that perish". With it he is potentially — what he wills to be.

Every *real* Master has realized and demonstrated this great truth; and hence, has stood as the "Light of the World". The Bible upon the altar, as the first "Great Light in Masonry", symbolizes this profound truth, that it may never be obscured or forgotten. This is the key to Mastership and to the entire symbolism and work of the Lodge.

Not a Master can be found in any age or among any people, kindred or tongue, who did not hold aloft this Great Light, or who had not through it developed to higher planes; and in holding it aloft, he became the "Light of the World", the *Illuminati*.

Read the Bibles or Sacred Books of any people or any age and this "Great Light" is revealed.

This is the "Sign of the Master" before all others. With this key one may read the whole symbolism of the Lodge and need make no mistake.

The Light of Intelligence, of Reason and of Conscience in man, came directly from his own Spiritual nature. When this is obscured, beclouded or ignored, the Light is dimmed and man is groping in the dark and floundering in the rubbish of the temple.

Institutional Religions may come and go, Philosophies may wax and wane and die, but the core of all religions, the crux of all philosophies, is to preserve the Great Light.

The great pyramid of Ghiza, with its casing-stones of polished marble, was said to exhibit by its very form and structure at its crown a great dazzling light that aligned it with the Zodiac and the constellations. The earliest historians describe it as so perfect that it seemed to have dropped down from heaven rather than to have been a creation of man.

The casing-stones were removed, the Light disappeared, and, in the clutch of materialism and substituted paganism, Egypt died.

Now, all great truths have a two-fold aspect or bearing: First, on the life of the Individual; and second, on associations of men composed of individuals. Hence arise the rules of conduct or codes of ethics for the conduct of life, on the one hand; and on the other the theories of government of the masses in church and state, out of which arise civic and religious institutions. This is simply the recognition of the fact that man is both an individual and a social being.

Masonry concerns itself almost solely with the spiritual illumination and moral or ethical education of individuals. It is, therefore, a "Great School" for the moral education of its members. The rules of individual conduct include and define the basis of fraternal organizations and there leave it. All

men are Brothers, and the Golden Rule is the basis of association. Every man is responsible for his own conduct and character.

To impress this great truth upon the candidate and aid him in its exemplification is the core, the very Genius of Freemasonry. These are plain, simple truths readily apprehended.

To liberate individual man from the bondage of ignorance, superstition and fear—within and without; to enable him to recognize the fact that he is essentially a spiritual being; and to inculcate those moral principles that guide conduct, build character and insure continual progress and higher evolution—this is the whole lesson of the Lodge, and the meaning of Masonry. This is the meaning of Hiram Abif, the Master who knew the secret, and having himself mastered and overcome, placed the designs—the teaching, the instruction—on the Trestleboard.

When the candidate is raised he is given a substitute [not a "symbol"] to show that only *dramatically* has he *rehearsed* a part and that he is *not yet a real Master*. He must, himself, achieve and overcome. "Future generations" [to *generate* is to *create*] may discover, or achieve, or re-cover the real secret.

Only he who by personal effort masters and overcomes shall know the real secret. The Master's Word and the designs on the trestleboard were the symbols of the Master's achievement. They were, for the time, lost; and the craft, or workmen were left in confusion by the death of Hiram, though it is evident that Solomon and Hiram of Tyre *still possessed* them. This shows that they could be given or communicated only in a definite way, or under certain conditions.

It can readily be seen that an association or community of individuals, thus trained and educated, would differ essentially from all others, and so realize the Ideal State, the "Great Republic".

Each would be a free man, free to pursue the highest aims and ideals for his own progress and higher evolution. He would recognize his essential spiritual nature as his guiding Light within. This we call "Conscience".

He would recognize God as the Universal Spiritual Intelligence "in all, through all and over all", "in whom we live and move and have our being", as the source and Father of his own being.

He would realize the Fraternity of all men as sons of the one Father; and in thus seeking his own elevation and happiness he would endeavor to assist all others along the same lines, toward the same goal; thus exemplifying the ethical principle that, whatever we do to the injury of others injures and degrades ourselves worst of all; and what we do for the glory of *others* most glorifies *us*.

Individuals so educated and trained by conscious choice and deliberate and persistent personal effort and, starting with high ideals, would acquire the habit of self-control, exercise rational choice and recognize personal responsibility. They would not be dominated from without but voluntarily control themselves from within. This is the symbolism of the cable-tow from first to last, where all outer constraint yields to voluntary inward self-restraint.

For *millenniums* the Great Masters, the Illuminati, who have "gone the way before", and themselves achieved this self-conquest, have been doing their utmost, "without the hope of fee or reward", to educate and enlighten individuals so that they might constitute such an Ideal State for the mutual good and happiness of all.

Here lies the secret of the listening ear. Men have been indifferent, contemptuous, resentful, hostile or murderous, and "would have none of it". They must come of "their own free will and accord", prepared with the listening ear. Otherwise

it would be both useless and dangerous to undertake to instruct them. Read the history of Jesus, of DeMoley and of every other great Light known to history, and see.

Not only are individuals hostile to these great truths but many *Institutions* have been, and are, the most hostile of all; for remember, the individual and social instincts and powers of man are inseparable. And here comes the strangest paradox in the whole history of man.

Individuals who seek deliberately to degrade and exploit other individuals are universally execrated by mankind. If they gave as a reason, or as an excuse, that they were seeking the "greater glory of God" they would be met with scorn and contempt, accused of blasphemy and execrated all the more.

Not so, however, with certain *Institutions* now existing and that have existed since the dawn of human history on this old earth. *These* have been permitted to exploit the name of God, or of Religion, while they have dominated mankind, devastated nations and degraded all within their baleful influence. They have relied upon ignorance, and so have done their utmost to promote and maintain it, in order that with the dogma of *obedience* they might rule mankind through superstition and fear. Please bear in mind the freedom, the education and the enlightenment for which the Great Masters in all ages, and Freemasonry today, stand. Bear in mind also our Declaration of Independence and the foundation of this Republic, with the men who founded it, and the *principles* openly declared and incorporated in the foundation.

It has been openly declared by eminent writers like Sir Albert Pike, that there are no secrets in Freemasonry regarding its Philosophy or its Ethical teaching. Those things only are *secret* that enable one to demonstrate his legitimate right to recognition as a Frater and to share in the benefits of the Lodge. All else is open to the world.

Good men and true, men who stand well among their fellows, are deemed worthy and qualified for admission to the Lodge. This is the *preliminary* "preparation". They are then "clothed" for entrance.

Now comes the very *core* of all that has preceded and that is to follow, and it should be written in letters of gold and illuminated by an arc-light over every Masonic temple. *The candidate is to be obligated to regard certain things as secret and inviolable, and to conform to and abide by the rules of conduct and basis of morals and the general obligations of Masonry.*

Before assuming one obligation as a Mason, however, every candidate is unqualifiedly assured that *no obligation* required of him shall in any way *interfere with the obligation he owes to God; to his country, his neighbor, his family or himself.* Here is recognized the "eminent domain", the right of conscience and of private judgment, *reserved to him forever*, and to be *interpreted solely by himself.*

This assurance ought to emphasize these "reserved rights" as imposing upon every Mason Personal Responsibility and and the rights of Conscience and private judgment.

Here lies the very basis of Individual Freedom and Self-government; not as a Liberty *granted*, but as an *inherited Right* and *inalienable Duty recognized*, and forever reserved and sacred. Masonry holds them reserved and sacred. Read again in this light our National "Declaration of Independence", framed and instituted by Masons.

"*We hold these truths to be self-evident.*" Whenever Pope or Priest or Autocrat pretends to be a friend to this Government, ask him to give unqualified assent to these "self-evident" Truths, then see him hedge and wabble.

In the place of these Truths he places the "Glory of God" [whatever that may mean], or the Glory of "Mother Church", and then proceeds to the dogma of absolute authority and blind,

unquestioning obedience; thus annulling every principle of human liberty, the right of conscience and individual judgment.

It cannot be too often repeated, nor too strongly insisted, that just at this point lies the crux of individual evolution and the whole progress and civilization of man. Here lies the parting of the ways between Liberty and Despotism, between Freedom and Slavery of the human Soul. For a complete statement of this wonderful antithesis, see page 385 of "The Great Psychological Crime".

It was for the express purpose of making clear, emphasizing, promoting and demonstrating this Great Principle, and educating men in conformity therewith, that Freemasonry was instituted amongst men by Masters who had already "gone the way before". They thus demonstrated the validity and beneficence of this great Principle in their own lives and in their evolution to self-mastery.

This is the one great Truth [after the recognition of the spiritual nature of man as a great Light] around which the whole ritual, symbols and ceremony of the Lodge cluster, like molecules around a nucleus in forming a perfect crystal.

The conscientious and intelligent Mason who clearly apprehends these great truths, who acts upon them and weaves them into the fabric of his life, can never be in doubt or uncertainty as to the real purpose and meaning of either Masonry or his own life. He may literally "read as he runs". Both Masonry and his own life will thereafter be to him an open book.

Now at this point comes the "Great Work" so designated, and explained in all ages by the real Initiates, Illuminati, or Masters of Mankind.

The Great Work consists in utilizing and demonstrating these "self-evident truths"; in living them, and in passing them on in the manner in which they have been received. It is impossible to pass them on in their full significance in any

other way. This is the meaning of the listening ear, the instructive tongue and the faithful breast. This is the "*preparation*" so often referred to and symbolized in so many ways.

So we have the *Great Light* in Masonry, viz., the essential Spiritual Nature of Man. The *Great Truth* in Masonry, viz., the Freedom of Choice, necessity of Self-Control and Personal Responsibility, expressed as – "*by being a man*", [and not a slave].

Then comes the *Great Work* of utilizing these great principles and building Character, symbolized everywhere in the ritual as the "*Building of the Temple*".

There is no other Institution or organization known to man that so embodies, defines, illustrates, symbolizes and diffuses these great *Constructive* principles of human life and in individual evolution.

Masonry stands for these and these alone. It has provided for their preservation and use *without change*. Every candidate is obligated not to *attempt* to change them.

They are the result of the progress of man from the dawn of human history and they condense and epitomize the wisdom of the ages.

For illustration and demonstration, read carefully the fourth Chapter of "*The Great Work*", designated as "The Lineal Key", and learn from this the *Philosophy of History* from the beginning of Time, the rise and fall of Empires, no less than the elevation or degradation of individuals. No such exact measure of values can elsewhere be found. It is this, and this alone that sets man free. This is the meaning of Freemasonry; *Free* to build the Temple of the human Soul—individual Character—without outside interference.

In direct and definite opposition to all this, at every point, stand Popery. Cardinals, [the large majority of whom are Italians], elect a Pope. They use him very largely as a figure-

head, but to establish his authority among men they designate him as "God's Vicegerent". The prime motive is then "for the glory of God", viz: the *Vicegerent.* This end is said to justify all means; and hence to question any act or policy even of oppression, is held to be "blasphemy" against God—that is, the Pope.

Appeal is thus made to the masses. The Pope, standing in the place of God, is "*Infallible*". Blind, unquestioning *obedience*, annulling all personal choice, or right of conscience and private judgment, is enforced by the fear of "excommunication" here, and the tortures of hell hereafter; the Pope claiming the power to "bind or loose on earth or in heaven".

This binds the postulants of the church, through ignorance, superstition and fear, to *blind obedience.* Penance is then instituted as a stupendous system of collecting tribute through fear.

Widows and orphans are robbed of their last penny for *penance* to relieve the souls of the departed from the pains and penalties of purgatory and save them from a deeper hell.

From this source very largely the revenues and resources of the Catholic Church constitute it the wealthiest Institution known on earth today. This might seem to be enough, but it is not even so much as a fair beginning. It is only the "ways and means". To protect, preserve and perpetuate this institution it is necessary to keep the people in ignorance of these great truths for which Masonry stands, and which our Declaration of Independence proclaims as "self-evident".

To accomplish this they must begin with the children, and this [which has well been named "organized ignorance"] they call "*Religious Education*". They begin by anathematizing our Free Schools as "Godless", in that they fail to deify the Pope. To meet this condition they are at the present moment, night and day, rushing the building of Parochial

Schools in order to educate the children of all good Catholics in this "organized ignorance"; and they are planning to demand of the state a division of the school fund to support these church schools at the expense of non-Catholics.

In Cincinnati today these church schools have 22,000 pupils while the Free Public Schools have 43,000. This might again seem deplorable enough, but it is not all.

Parents who ignore the Parochial Schools and send their children to the Public Schools, are threatened with *excommunication.* But where the parents are wealthy and persist in disobedience, it is invariably overlooked, through fear of the Church that it could not enforce its demands and of the example this would set for the independence of others less wealthy.

The ground seems now fairly well covered, and the "wheel of Ixion" secure. But the Church is still unsatisfied. The church laws of marriage, and its dogma against divorce, [except for the rich, by "special clemency" and for a *sufficient consideration*] make it the first duty of married people to beget children. Numbers are insisted on, quality utterly ignored and poverty and destitution no excuse.

This helps Catholics to outnumber all others, for the Glory of Mother Church; that is, as political assets or prospective voters. With this multiplication of recruits at home and the immigration of the ignorant hordes of Europe from abroad our population is being increased by over a million a year.

Arch-Bishop Ireland, chaplain of our Grand Army of the Republic, as we facetiously call it, echoes the Pope's dogmatic injunction to "*make America Catholic*". Another decade or two, with the present supineness and indifference of the average American Citizen, and there will be no doubt as to the "Truths to be self-evident". That beneficent Declaration will be in tatters and under foot.

And where will Freemasonry be then? Benign prophet,

I will answer from History. Just where the builders of the wisdom and civilization of Egypt were when Egyptian Paganism usurped their place—*retired*—'till some wiser "future generation", recovered the "Lost Word" of Civilization and Progress.

In the "Lineal Key" of "*The Great Work*" and in the section "to Masons" in "*The Great Psychological Crime*"—referred to, Popery is shown to be a complete reinstitution of Egyptian Paganism.

If we should read all this in some newly discovered records of Ancient Gobi or the lost Atlantis, we would be amazed at the ignorance and folly of man, and in our complaisant pride of intelligence and boasted civilization remark—"They invoked and deserved their fate."

Ah, my Brothers, Masonry is no joke and no farce,—make of it what you will. It is the Wisdom of the Ages, discovered, tested, demonstrated, preserved and put forth by the Masters of Wisdom of all time. In the face of the activities and progress of Popery, an effort is now being made by the Great Masters, as not before for thousands of years, to induce every true Mason to discern the signs of the times, the real meaning and Living Truths of Freemasonry, as the only Institution known to man, possessed of the Royal Secret, competent to challenge at every point this "menace to civilization" and stay her progress in America.

With the public press everywhere "muzzled", with our Free Schools well undermined by Catholic School-Boards, and Catholic teachers; with the children of Rome by hundreds in Army and Navy, in U. S. Postoffices and in every department of our government; with often as high as 75 per cent of Catholic teachers in our free schools, under obedience to Rome; with an army of Jesuits operating as secret spies everywhere; and with Teddy, the Lion Hunter, helping them with his slogan of "Race Suicide", one is led to inquire, where will it all end?

Surely "there is a tide in the affairs of men" and he who ventures without chart or compass can hardly be sure of his landing. But he who, possessing both chart and compass, sleeps at the wheel and lets his ship drift, will soon or late find the rocks.

There is but one remedy for this critical condition now existing and that is Publicity, Education and Enlightenment.

Here lies the Great Opportunity of every Free-Mason.

If Masonry is merely a variety show or a bunch of riddles, no wonder it grows tiresome and Masons indifferent after a few exhibitions, except when a banquet is on the program.

But if Masonry embodies the condensed wisdom of all ages, the noblest achievements of the intellectual and moral giants of all times, then it has indeed a mission and the noblest and most beneficent that can be imagined by man.

This mission is the real Work of the Lodge. First, to educate its own members. Second: To induce every member to take due notice and understand the real meaning and purpose of the Work. Third: To study carefully the signs of the times in order to understand the real issues of the day, and all that the great enemy of freedom is seeking to accomplish here in America.

Masonry, as an Institution, should never enter politics; but every true Mason, as a Man, should stand as a beacon light for Liberty, Enlightenment and Progress. His Masonic education should give him everywhere influence as a man.

Suppose every one of the 2,000,000 Masons in America should follow the pathway of Masonic principles as I have tried to outline it; wakeful; took notice; became well posted; and then *acted* accordingly; what would happen? In a single decade they could do what 30,000 Masons among 40,000,000 people have done for France, according to Catholic admissions, viz., loosen the hold of this Italian Pope and College of Italian Cardinals now slowly strangling the life of the Nation.

Would this not be good work and fit for inspection?

As there is a superficial side of Masonry, turned into a Vaudeville Show in the Shrine, so is there a still deeper and more sublime body of knowledge which Sir Albert Pike, whom we all honor, often declared it was never intended the average, careless and indifferent Mason should know.

These deeper secrets pertain to the capacities and powers of the human soul.

There is no mystification or occultism about it. They are matters of profound and exact science. They are all embodied and symbolized in the work of the Lodge, placed there by "those who know", demonstrated and preserved for ages; transmitted generation after generation by the instructive tongue, to the listening ear and safely recorded in the faithful breast.

He who imagines that these oft-repeated phrases are a mere play upon words and fine dramatic utterances, would better think again, and then read "*The Great Work*", written by a brother Mason. If he does not then awake and desire to know more he is surely ready to become a camel driver and explore the burning sands. Nay, even there he will find the scarab or sacred Beetle, or perhaps uncover a swastica or winged globe, and the same old problem of Immortality will again stare him in the face, while the old Pyramid stands after twenty millenniums, and the Sphinx and the Zodiac hold converse with the constellations.

Of all the treasures of man, Knowledge, Wisdom and Understanding constitute the triple Jeweled Crown.

This is the lawful heritage of every true Mason and he may possess it and wear it if he will, or he may cast it in the rubbish of the temple if he prefer. But let him not forget that the day the enemy fulfil their openly declared purpose to "make America Catholic", that day is sounded the death knell of Freemasonry and every principle for which it stands today in this country.

Catholics Quoted to Prove the Case



EST some of those who have not followed the subject carefully, may feel that we are not entirely free from prejudice, we desire to present for their consideration the attitude and position of Roman Catholicism in its own words.

To that end, and to prove our own position beyond question, we call the attention of our readers to the following extracts from recent authoritative Catholic utterances.

Is a "Good" Catholic a Loyal Citizen?

In "*The Church Bulletin*" [Catholic], for June, 1910, the following question is asked and answered: "*In case Papal and American laws conflict, which would Catholics obey?*"

Here is the answer of the Church, from its own *Bulletin*. In this case, therefore, the Church cannot set up the defense of "misquotation" nor prove an *alibi*.

"*Answer.* —Papal laws may be divided into three categories: 1. Those that declare or explain the law of God; 2. Those that deal with purely secular matters; 3. Those that are concerned with the dim, hazy borderland which lies between Church and State.

"In a state of conflict between Papal and American law, the obedience of a Catholic would be determined by the issue involved.

"Let us take a case under the first category. We premise that the Pope, as Vicar of Christ and Head of the Church, promulgates a law as binding on the conscience of the faithful

with the authority of Divine law. We suppose likewise the American Government passes a law in open and clear conflict with the decree of the Holy See.

"The Catholic, in this instance, must say with Peter and the Apostles: '*We ought to obey God rather than man*'."

In this instance "*to obey God*" means merely "*to obey the Church*".

The law of the Church and that of the State on the subject of Marriage are cited as an illustration. They are in direct conflict. In all such instances the *Bulletin* holds that a Catholic is irrevocably bound to disregard the law of the State or Nation and obey the law of the Church.

Does not this prove that a "good" Catholic, namely, a *Roman* Catholic—that is, a Catholic who acknowledges allegiance to a foreign prince, potentate, or power, such as the Pope of Rome—cannot be a loyal A*merican* citizen—only part of the time.

The same principle was followed in France recently when the clerics refused to obey the authority of the Government, and obeyed the order of Pius X, a foreign sovereign power.

The result has answered the question for every loyal Frenchman. He knows from actual experience that no Catholic who acknowledges allegiance to the "Holy See" can be a loyal citizen of France. The same is just as true of America and every other Nation.

And yet, these are the men—*Roman* Catholics—who revile the name of Freemasonry because they say Freemasons are *not loyal American citizens.* And that is what they are teaching the youth of our country in the Catholic press, and in their Parochial Schools which they are asking the Government to support.

Priestly Presumption. Can You Beat This?

The following is part of a sermon preached by Father Martin M. Gregory, a Roman Catholic priest, in one of the Catholic Churches of Chicago recently, and reported in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*. The subject of the sermon was "*The Priesthood of Christ*".

"The priest of today, rightly ordained in the church, is as truly a priest as were the apostles or even Christ himself. In his elevation to the sacerdotal order the priest receives a spiritual character and he participates in the divine power of our Savior. He is not merely like Aaron and Melchizedek, he is like Christ himself. He is another Christ. He not merely represents Christ; he is one with Him. Christ is in him by the divine power he has received in ordination and through the mystic words of consecration he really and truly offers up to God his own Divine Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

"*I cannot exaggerate the power and dignity of the priest of God. His power is greater than that of an angel. His dignity is greater than that of Mary, the queen of angels. At the altar his power is not inferior to that of God Himself.* In the most adorable sacrifice of the mass the priest in taking bread and wine and pronouncing the several words of consecration draws aside the veil of heaven and calls Christ down upon our altar. *At the voice of the priest the substances of bread and wine are immediately changed into the body and blood of Christ.* No power of man is equal to this sublime action. It must be the power of God.

"*Besides the sacrificial power which the priest receives there is also given him, in his ordination, the power to forgive sins.* These are the words of Christ:

" 'Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whose sins you shall forgive shall be forgiven them.'

"*This power of forgiving sins he shares with Christ himself, so that if Christ were to descend upon earth and hear confessions in one confessional, while the priest would in another, the penitents in both cases would be forgiven in the same degree.*

"Behold, then, the power and dignity of the priest! What can we find in this world comparable to it? St. Ignatius calls it 'the apex of dignities.' 'The Sacerdotal dignity surpasses the dignity of the angels,' says St. Gregory. St. Ephraim tells us that the gift of the sacerdotal dignity surpasses all understanding. The dignity of the priesthood is a mystery and we cannot form a just conception of it. It suffices that we attend to the words of Christ when he says: 'He that heareth you heareth Me, and he that despiseth you despiseth Me.' "

"Nationalities must be subordinated to religion, and we *must learn that we are Catholics first and citizens next.*

"God is above man, and *the Church is above the State.*"

———Bishop Gilman, of Cleveland, O.

"There you have the Roman Catholic doctrine. *It is at* deadly war with republican institutions, for we say in our fundamental law that the Church shall have nothing to do with the State. They must forever be kept separate.

"Roman Catholicism contends that they must not only come together, but that the relation between them must be that of master and servant. What the Catholics are aiming to do is to give us Presidents and Cabinets that will look to Rome for orders.

"In case there should be a conflict between the law of our land and the laws of the Church, the Catholic must obey his Church. Here is a clause from their Canon law: 'No oaths are to be kept if they are against the interests of the Church.' "

——Watson.

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Who asks not, receives not and gives not,
Were better drowned in the sea.
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Is the soul of the life that we live.
All the beauty and sweetness of living
Is to ask, to receive and to give."