



FALL 2003

Mostly Masonry

THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS OF NEW BRUNSWICK



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THE GRAND MASTERS MESSAGE



Brethren it is with pleasure that I bring to you my greetings and those of the Grand Lodge. I trust that each of you had a nice and relaxing summer and is now returning to fall schedules with renewed vigor and expectations. The Masonic schedule for this fall has many interesting meetings planed and awaits the participation of the brethren. For our great fraternity to prosper and grow we need to be visible as Masons and we need to spend some time with Masons sharing our knowledge of masonry with each other. Many of our Lodges have had candidates this year and many have candidates this fall, it is

always a good impression on a new Mason to see the Lodge room full and a boost to the Masons doing the degree work.

Brethren, in each district of our jurisdiction there are Masons that are struggling to maintain their Lodges. There are many reasons for this and they vary from lodge to lodge but they need the help of other Masons if they are to survive. The help they need in most cases is support in attracting new members. I am not asking every one to go out and affiliate, I am encouraging you to offer expertise and assistance in putting on events in these areas such as fellowship meetings and other types of things that are more public. For some Lodges this will be one last push to get them on their feet and started towards a solid future.

There is a place in Masonry for all who have joined our fraternity and there is a role in our Lodges for everyone. This role, in many cases, depends on the level of experience that has been attained. Younger Masons are learning leadership skills and officer skills that will be used as they become the leaders in the Lodge. More experienced Masons have a role to mentor the younger members and to assist and council them as they learn to carry more of the load in the daily operation of the Lodge. To fulfill our role we need to be in the Lodge helping and doing our part.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon R. Rattray
Grand Master
Grand Lodge of New Brunswick

There are four chief obstacles in grasping truth, which hinder every man, however learned, and scarcely allow any one to win a clear title to wisdom, namely, submission to faulty and unworthy authority, influence of custom, popular prejudice, and concealment of our own ignorance with a show of seeming wisdom.

-Roger Bacon, "Opus Majus,"

Editorial

No doubt we all remember from our youth, our Mother's admonitions that first impressions were lasting impressions. On page three you will find a true account of a potential candidate and his experiences, both good and bad, in visiting prospective Lodges. This account bears some reflecting upon as to how we treat potential candidates. At a time when many Lodge's are losing members at an unprecedented rate, the overwhelming desire to bring in new candidates can create an almost predatory atmosphere when the smell of fresh blood is detected. There is a rush to get a petition into the prospective members hands and even more importantly to have it signed and returned.

No one can dispute the need for new members in order for our Lodges, to not only survive, but that they may grow and prosper in order to maintain their existence for generations to come. In communicating with the prospective candidate we should conduct ourselves with dignity and treat the prospect with respect. To pressure the prospect into joining reflects poorly on the Lodge and will often result in the new member disappearing from our ranks. Remember that a man convinced against his own will, is of the same opinion still.

If the opportunity avails itself invite the prospect to a Masonic event. If an event is not up coming a round of golf or some other activity will give the prospect an opportunity to meet a number of the brethren and ask questions. It also allows for the brethren to ask the prospect questions as well. In short the candidate begins to develop friendships and experience the fraternalism of our craft first hand.

Fraternally,
Stuart MacDonald, PM
Editor

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The Official Newsletter of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE EDITORS OR THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

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Queens Jubilee Medal



Over the last several issues we have been highlighting a number of our New Brunswick Brethren who have been awarded the Queens Jubilee Medal. Since the last issue I have been informed of three other Brethren who have had this honor conferred upon them. It is with pleasure that I now list those recipients.

RWB Harvie McWhirter Sussex Lodge No. 4
Bro. Clarence Kingston Lodge St. Andrew No. 16
Bro. Douglas Dougherty Victoria Lodge No. 26



R:W:B: McWhirter (L) receiving the Queen's Jubilee Medal from the Licutenant-Governor, Marilyn Trenholm-Counsel (C) and the Grand Master, M:W:B: Gordon (R).

Congratulations to each of these members on this achievement. If there are any other recipients that have not been listed, please advise the Editor.

MASONIC QUIZ

1. Who was the first District Deputy Grand Master to be appointed in New Brunswick?
2. How many Lodges in New Brunswick were warranted by the grand lodge of Ireland?
3. How many members of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick currently serve on the Board of General Purposes?
4. Who was the longest serving Grand Master in New Brunswick?

(for answers see page 8)

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

(The following was posted on the internet to a Masonic discussion group. Editor)

So I've been looking at the lodges in my area. Thanks to everyone for the advice. You're right, they do vary in culture and they do love to talk about Masonry. The first lodge (or two, they meet in the same building and I met members of both) I visited was a very positive experience. I went to a cornerstone laying with them and spent about 4 hours meeting several of the brothers. It was a very diverse group of men. Everyone had something to say on a different aspect of FM or tell me about someone else in the lodge who would. I had to resist asking someone to take my petition then and there.

The second was very different. I'm sad to say that if I had gone to that lodge first, I may have ended my search there and run away from FM. The first thing that put me off was when race came up in conversation while discussing my wife's uncle being a Mason. She's from South Africa. One of the men I met with said "there are lodges that 'can' accept colored men" referring to Prince Hall lodges. He's 80 some years old and spent a great deal of his time discussing the melting pot of the mining community, so I really can't fault him for using what someone in today's age considers an "politically incorrect" label such as "colored". But the phrase "can accept" really bothered me. It really seemed to imply that if I was a black man approaching the lodge I would have been referred to the Prince Hall FM. I wasn't able to get a direct answer to clarify.

I also felt very pressured to put in a petition. They were perturbed that I didn't know any Masons for 6 months or more to sign it for me. They were discussing checking the constitution to see if it was a full requirement. I interjected, "With all due respect, gentlemen, I would like to check out some of the other lodges before making a decision to petition." They then talked about wanting to get my petition "while the iron's hot". It struck me as odd that they didn't feel it would benefit them to have a man who could hold interest for a couple of weeks, or at least until after I read the "What is Freemasonry?" pamphlet I was handed and visibly set aside for later reading.

At some point without segue, I was asked, "Do you believe in the one true and everlasting God?" I have to admit I was caught off guard considering the question is on the petition. I replied, "Of course, I wouldn't be here otherwise." He replied to my answer with, "What religion are you?" "If you don't mind me asking" followed after a beat.

I was asked if my wife had any objection to my joining. I responded that she didn't and stated that she was actually courting the idea of looking for an OES chapter to join. Shortly thereafter, I was counseled on counterpoints for an objecting wife. Considering her plans and my stated admiration of hers for her uncle and FM, I really didn't feel listened to. One of the men spent most of his time handling a "Response to Critics of [Freemasonry]" pamphlet, as though eager to hand it to me if I voiced any thought of negativity on the organization.

The first lodge also very easily spoke about what made their lodge unique. I spent my time speaking "with" the men I was introduced to. The men from the second lodge seemed almost at a loss when I asked them if they could tell me what made their lodge different. Actually, little of the time seemed to stray from a virtual recruitment seminar. I was told the meeting was to report back what my "likes and dislikes" were to report back to the board (which I was taken aback at since I thought that was the intent of the investigation committee "after" I petition). But no one really seemed interested in asking me much about myself. It struck me as incongruous. I did say early on that I wanted to see which lodge I'd best fit in. I had a lot of difficulty getting a word in when attempting to speak socially, in truth. I left wondering if they were interested in "me" or a new member of young blood and fresh meat.

WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

Founded on Law Divine;
A science of morality,
Illustrated, as all many see,
By symbols most sublime.

The builders of this ancient art
Laid the foundation sure;
Which shows they were prepared in heart,
To build what would endure.

The Bible is a perfect code
Of ethics that will stand
When other systems will explode,
Strengthless as ropes of sand.

Freemasonry regards that Book
A perfect rule and guide;
We to its changeless pages look
For morals that abide.

Hence the great precepts of our art
Will stand while time shall last;
But if the Craft from them depart,
Freemasonry will blast.

The perfect law of liberty
Is that which changes not;
It came from heaven in purity,
Stainless, without a blot.

Its two great pillars we accept-
True love to God and man;
On these hangs each just percept,
Which perfects our whole plan.

So long as on these truths sublime
We build our edifice;
It will endure the tests of time,
Then end in higher bliss;

That higher bliss for which we sigh
When all our labours end;
A mansion in that house on high,
Prepared by our Best Friend.

-Rev. Z.D. Scobey, West Union, Iowa.
The Canadian Craftsman, April 1891.

NEWS FROM LODGES AROUND THE PROVINCE

New Brunswick Lodge No. 22



Past Grand Master R. Wayne Hitchcock addressing the brethren at a dinner prior to making his last official visit to The New Brunswick Lodge No. 22 on the eve of the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

WOODSTOCK LODGE # 11

On June 5th the members of Woodstock Lodge # 11 were out in force to honor a member whose service to the lodges of which he is a member, and the District, have been tireless. Originally a member of Hartland Lodge he served a Master of that Lodge in 1973 and as District Deputy in



R:W:B: Sherman

1978/79. For a number of years he served as secretary of the Lodge before affiliating with Woodstock Lodge where he was appointed chaplain in 1985. To mark the occasion R:W:B: Hannah was made an honorary Past Master of Woodstock Lodge and presented with a certificate and gavel as mementos of the occasion.

CAMPBELLTON LODGE # 32

LODGE ST. JOHN # 27

On June 9th, 2003 the Grand Master was in Bathurst for an official visit to Lodge St. John No. 27. He is shown here placing the gold officers collar on the shoulders of Worshipful Master, WB Terrence Spence. The gold regalia was a gift from Restigouche Lodge which went dark earlier this year.



W:B: Parlee and Bro. Blake

Wor. Master Robert Parlee of Campbellton Lodge No. 32 presented a 50 year certificate to Bro. William Blake at his home in Black Point on August 12th. Bro. Blake had recently affiliated with Campbellton Lodge from Restigouche Lodge. Bro. Blake was presented his 50 year

pin by W:B Howard MacLean. Also attending the ceremony were Rt. Wor. Bro. James Davis, Secretary; Wor. Bro. Ralph Bain, Treasurer, Bro. Ambrose Whalen, Sick and Visiting Committee.

CARLETON LODGE



Bro: Josh Tompkins (center) poses with his father, R:W:Bro: Wilmot Tompkins (L) and his great-uncle, Bro: Bud Reid. Bro Josh Tompkins is wearing his grandfather's (Bro Perley Reid) apron.

On July 9, 2003 Carleton Lodge held an unusual event, an outdoor Lodge meeting "outbacka" Juniper on the NW branch of the SW Miramichi. The meeting saw a third generation of the Tompkins family don the blue and white apron of a Master Mason.

Held under a 25X40 ft. tent which shielded everyone from the rays of the hot sun. The meeting was followed by a steak B-B- Que prepared by members of the Woodstock Preceptory.

ZETLAND LODGE

August 16th saw a large turnout at Zetland lodge for the annual "Lobsterfest"

Not one but two lobsters with all the fixings proved to satiate the appetites of all that attended. Fifty-year pins and certificates were presented to RWB Bateman and WB Shearer while Bro. Beed received his twenty-five year pin. A number of visitors from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were on hand for the festivities.



L-R M:W:B: MacFarlane (Nova Scotia), M:W:B: Rattray (New Brunswick) and M:W:B: Newson (Prince Edward Island)

NEWS FROM LODGES AROUND THE PROVINCE



The Grand Master talking with Judy Whalen.

CAMP GOODTIME 2003

Once again a sizable group of Masons and their ladies attended Sponsor's Day at the New Brunswick Masons Camp Goodtime held annually at the Rotary Camp on Grand Lake near Minto, NB.

Each year the Masons of New Brunswick raise in excess of thirty thousand

dollars so that 50 children, ages 8-13 years, can attend this week long camp under the supervision of the Canadian Cancer Society. To date the Masonic Housing and Charities has contributed in excess of \$175,000.00 to support this worthwhile cause.

HIRAM LODGE NO. 6

W:Bro: Stephen Hemming, Master of Hiram Lodge No 6, Fredericton, is shown presenting W:Bro: Douglas MacDougall with his 60-year jewel at his residence in Oromocto on September 23, 2003. Also, W:Bro: MacDougall was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in Hiram Lodge in recognition of his many years of active contribution to Masonry.



SCOTS WHA HAE!

The Nova Scotia International Tattoo (Black Watch Association) Pipes and Drums were formed in 2001, as the house Pipe-Band of the Nova Scotia Tattoo. Supported by The Atlantic Branch of The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada Association, it is composed of members from several communities in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with one member from each of Winnipeg and Versailles, Kentucky. Two of the members from New Brunswick



L-R: W:B: Curtis and W:B: Kerwin

are W:B: William Kerwin, Grand Piper and W:B: Winston Curtis. W:B: Kerwin is a member of the New Brunswick Lodge No. 22 and W:B: Curtis a member of Northumberland Lodge No. 17.

LODGE ST. JOHN NO. 27

In May a visit was made by members of Lodge St. John No. 27 to the Robert Knowles Veterans Wing to present Bro. Clifford Rodgers with his Fifty-Year Certificate and Pin. Making the presentation to Bro. Knowles

were the Worshipful Master, W:B: Terrance Spence accompanied by Bro. Ernest Brooks and W:B: Geoffrey Holland



L-R: Bro. Brooks, W:B: Holland, W:B: Spence with Bro. Rodgers sitting.



DISTRICT ONE GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 26th, 2003 saw golfers from around the Province gather at the Hampton Golf and Country Club in support of the 8th annual District One Ron Hodgkin/Camp Goodtime Golf Tournament. Cherry Mountain Lodge, Harvey, entered two teams, one of which took the Masonic Team Trophy with a score of 69. The winning team members are: Errol McCullough, George Fletcher, Larry Brown and Don Skinner. Bro: Skinner (a newly made Mason) also won the "closest to the hole" prize; a pretty impressive feat for a Brother who is 81 years young.

The longest drive prize went to Russell Bennett. His team from Benjamin News also won the overall prize with a score of 64. Every golfer received a prize for their efforts. While the final tally is not available, the organizers are hoping to match or exceed last year's total of \$3850.

Members of the organization committee were W:B: Stewart Brenton, W:B: Lloyd Hodgkin, R:W:B: Robert Johnson and W:B: Bill Blatchford supported by a myriad of local business's who contributed prizes for the event.

BITS & BYTES

By W.C. (Bill) Boone



Masons are familiar with the tools and implements of architecture that have been a part of Masonry since the beginning. In the days of operative masons, they were a necessary part of the work; now, largely symbolic, they have little practical use for speculative masonry but are used as symbols to teach wise and serious truths. The modern Mason can add one more tool to his arsenal: the computer. It can be both symbolic and practical.

By computer, a brother gains admission to the internet, an intricate web connecting all parts of the world. In doing so, Masons are more connected to each other today than they ever have been in the past, thus the universality of Freemasonry becomes a tangible reality.

But though each may see symbolism in what a computer may accomplish, right now the practical advantages for Masonry is almost unlimited. Consider this scenario: My Lodge No 1001 has just completed the MM Degree on two candidates, re-instated a delinquent brother and granted a demit. In the past, all of this information would be forwarded to the Grand Secretary when the Lodge Secretary did the annual return sometime between January and March. Now each Lodge is part of a computerized network. The Lodge Secretary simply enters the information into the computer database for an instant update. The Grand Secretary, or indeed any Lodge in the jurisdiction, may access the network at anytime to get the latest information on a member, potential member, lodge events, directives, and so on. Time and distance mean little in network world.

A network such as mentioned above is simply a number of computers hooked together, one of them serving as the main computer where everything is stored. Think of a wagon wheel with the hub as the central computer, the spokes are the links to the circle of computers in each lodge. The lodge computer has the capacity to store local files and information, but when it needs information not available within its own environment, it then goes to the central computer, or server, as it's known in the industry.

It is not difficult to set up a network system, nor is it that expensive. Many Lodges already have access to a computer and even if they were to buy a new one, \$1500 - \$2000 would get a computer more than adequate. Networks are secure in that only those who are part of the network can access the information therein. All major companies have their own networks, in-house and world wide.

Would a network be an advantage to the Grand Lodge jurisdiction of New Brunswick? We think the answer is a resounding yes. Accuracy, speed and time far out-weigh the traditional methods of communication and trading information. We have the people who can install a network, and we have people who can make it work. The only thing needed is the will to make it happen.

What do you think of the idea?

The Master's Apron by Robert Burns, 1786



Ther's mony a badge that's unco brow:
Wi ribbon, lace and tape on ;
Let kings an' princes wear them a' ,
Gie me the masters apron!

The honest craftsman's apron,
The jolly freemason's apron,
Be he at hame or roam afar,
Before his touch fa's bolt and bar,
The gates of fortune fly ajar,
Gin he but wears the apron!

For wealth and honour, pride and power
Are crumbling stanes to base on;
Fraternity suld rule the hour,
And ilka worthy mason!
Each free accepted mason,
Each ancient crafted mason!

Then brithers let a halsome sang
Arise your friendly ranks alang .
Guid wives and bairnies blithely sing
To the ancient badge wi' the apron string
That is worn by the master mason!

Robert Burns was born near the town of Ayr on January 25, 1759, the son of a peasant-farmer. On July 4, 1781, at the age of twenty-three, he was initiated in St. David's Lodge No. 174 at Tarbolton. He received his second and third degrees in the month of October, 1781. In December of the same year St. David's Lodge was divided and the old St. James Lodge revived. Burn's became a member of this Lodge and served as Depute Master in 1784 and would hold this office until 1788

Grand Chaplain's Chatter



Once again it is a privilege and honour to be writing the Grand Chaplains Column!! We have had many changes in our personal lives over the past year with the moving to a new Parish and settling in to different but challenging routines. As fall approaches we see the seasonal changes that strike a core in each one of us reminding us that winter is near at hand!!

With the coming of fall the routine of programs and meetings comes into being once again. It is sometimes difficult getting back into motion after a break over the summer and attendance often seems to be down at our lodge meetings. Like my own personal life, the fall reminds us we are in a world of changes. Though many changes are wonderful and bring about exciting new challenges it is important to remember our traditions and the foundation of our beliefs and faith that keep us steadfast in the journey called life!!

The fraternity of Masons is built on a foundation of tradition, which accentuates truth, honesty and brotherhood making a good man better!!! It is important to support our fraternity and in the tradition of our noble past, rise up and meet the ongoing challenges of change in our modern world. In all the changes and challenges what we truly stand for will come shining through and we can be proud of our belief in this fraternity.

I hope and pray that each and every member will strive to attend their home lodges and visit others in support as much as possible. As we stand together in this changing world we will be strengthened by our unity and continue to grow strong. May each and everyone be blessed in their endeavours.

Fraternally
Rev'd Dana Dean
Grand Chaplain

Nothing is so intolerable to man as being fully at rest, without passion, without business, without entertainment, without care. It is then that he recognizes that he is empty, insufficient, dependent, ineffectual. From the depths of his soul now comes at once boredom, gloom, sorrow, chagrin, resentment, and despair.

-Blaise Pascal

From the Book Shelf



By RWB Leon Zeldis

Reviewed by Bro. Lee Fraser

New books on any subject related to Masonry are rare and one that deals with Masonry's arcanum of symbols is even rarer. Brother Zeldis, in the latest of a series of books, stories and poetry speaks about a number of common Masonic symbols such as the Ladder, Colours, the Stone and the Labyrinth as well as a number of what he calls Signposts. These include his thoughts on a wide range of subjects from an esoteric view of the Rose Croix degree to a brief history of a selection of Sephardic Jews in Freemasonry.

Leon Zeldis is Past Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council AASR of Israel and is the founder and past master of La Fraternidad Lodge in Tel Aviv. His many Masonic distinctions include Fellow of the Philaethes Society, member of the Blue Friars as well as membership in several Masonic research bodies. He has published over 150 articles and several books on the history and symbolism of Freemasonry and is an international lecturer on these subjects.

This is a private printing that is not currently available at Amazon.com but it is available through Masonic sources.¹ There is a copy available through the Grand Lodge Library.

All texts regardless of their flaws provide some food for thought. Zeldis' chapter on Campanella's book "The City of the Sun" written in Italian in 1602 is a case in point. This work has been referenced by a number of other authors particularly in connection with Rosicrucian philosophies. Zeldis speculates that these Hermetic and Cabalistic ideas were integrated with operative Masonic lodges that, as he points out, had started to accept non-operative members and that: "The hermetic philosophers found in Masonic Lodges the protection of secret and silence that enabled them to continue their research."

While much of the book treats symbols found in Blue Lodges a significant portion is given over to the symbols associated with the Scottish Rite. Much of the discussion on the symbology of colour is related to the trapping used in the various degrees of the AASR.

(continued on page 8)

¹ Anchor Communications, Lancaster, VA 22503, USA [or http://www.goanchor.com](http://www.goanchor.com)

(From the Book Shelf continued from page 7)

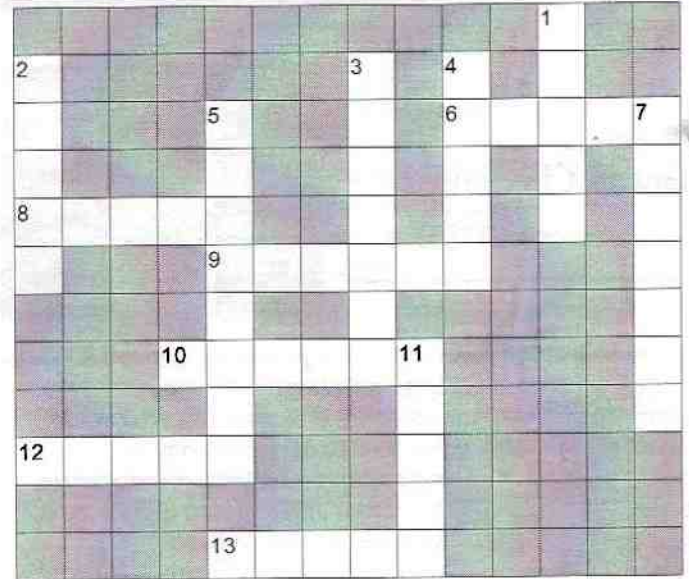
Brother Zeldis appears to be "of the old school" in that he alludes to ideas or things Masonic even though these things are today common knowledge and readily available to anyone curious enough to seek them out.

Masonic symbols and Signposts is a relatively short book. It contains a number of typographical and technical errors that detract only slightly from the obviously rich knowledge of Masonry Brother Zeldis possesses. If I had a single complaint regarding content it would be the inclusion of topics that really have nothing to do with symbology or signposts but more properly must be considered history or philosophy. In any event it is worth the few hours it takes to read it but the most thought proving ideas taken away may have nothing to do with symbols or signposts.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 2

1. The first District Deputy Grand Master appointed in New Brunswick was Benjamin Lester Peters. He was appointed to the office in 1826. If the name sounds familiar it is because he was the father of our first Grand Master.
2. In all there were five lodges warranted by the grand lodge of Ireland. Hibernian # 318 (1830) in St. Andrews; Hibernia # 301 (1837) at Saint John; Portland Union # 324 (1842) at Saint John; Sussex # 327 at St. Stephen and Leinster # 347 in Saint John. Of the five two remain in operation today, Hibernia # 3 and Sussex # 7.
3. The Board of General Purposes has a membership of forty, of which eighteen are appointed.
4. The longest serving Grand Master was Thomas Walker, MD. He served a total of eight years in this high office.

On June 21st, 1764; Canada's first newspaper, the *Quebec Gazette* made its first appearance and was published in English and French. An advertisement though, in English only read: 'Notice is hereby given that on Sunday, the 24th being the Festival of St. John, such strange Brethren who may have a desire of joining the Merchants Lodge No.1, Quebec, may obtain Liberty, by applying to Myles Prentice, at the Sun, in St. John Street, who has tickets. Price Five Shillings for that Day.'



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MASONIC PUZZLE

CLUES DOWN

1. 24 INCH
2. DIVINE ATTRIBUTE
3. STANDARD OR BOUNDARY OF RIGHT
4. PROPER ATTIRE
5. DULY AND TRULY _____
7. EMBLEM OF INDUSTRY
11. WE MEET ON THE _____

CLUES ACROSS

6. JUNIOR WARDENS EMBLEM
8. NO OF TIMES HIRAM ABIFF BURIED
9. TYPE OF MARBLE FOR THE TEMPLE PILLARS
10. TOOL
12. TYLERS IMPLEMENT
13. USED BY THE MASTER

About AD 298 Emperor Diocletian ordered five highly skilled sculptors to fashion a statue of a heathen god. When they refused, the five were buried alive in leaden coffins and cast into the River Tiber. Other masons completed the statue and at its dedication four Christian soldiers refused to offer incense. They were scourged to death and their bodies thrown to the dogs. In 1313 Pope Melchisedes built a Basilica and dedicated it to the 'Four Crowned Ones and the Five Sculptor Martyrs.' Since then the nine have become four and are today honored as the "Four Crowned Martyrs." These martyrs were honored in the *Regius Poem* as well as by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No.2076, London, England.