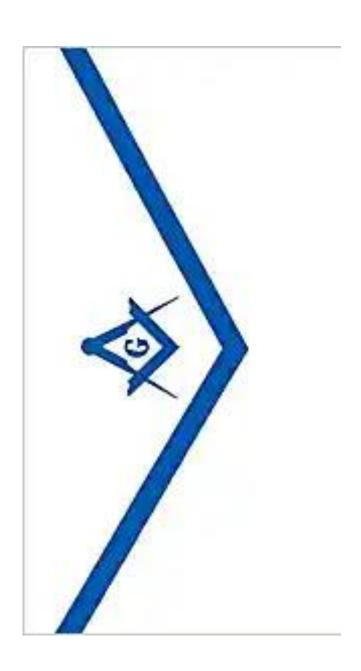


# Entered Apprentice Trestle Board

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North Central District's Winter Workshop



## Prelude

- Symbolism is the life-blood of the Craft.
- We've been learning through pictorial symbols for centuries.
- Symbols have many meanings to different
- As masons, we are lost if we don't understand the symbolism of the order.



## Tracing Board and Trestle Board

- Many words and phrases in Masonic rituals were misspelled, mispronounced, and misunderstood.
- Trestle board symbols were first drawn with chalk on the wooden floors of the taverns where lodges met and later erased with Mop & Pail by the youngest Entered Apprentice.
- Kenneth Mackenzie defines the tracing board as a representation of the emblems of the degrees.
- George Oliver defines tracing board as being for the masters to draw design upon.
- Robert Macoy defines the trestle-board symbolically as consisting of designs for a spiritual building.
- Albert Mackey defines the trestle-board as the symbol of the natural and moral law, VSL.



## Ornaments

- Mosaic Pavement
- Indented Tessel
- Blazing Star



### Mosaic Pavement

- Derivative of Moses using a pavement of colored stone in the tabernacle
- Masonic tradition dictates the floor Solomon's Temple being decorated with black and white stones
- Symbolic of symmetry, harmony, the duality of opposing forces, as well as good and evil in human life.



### Tessellated Boarder

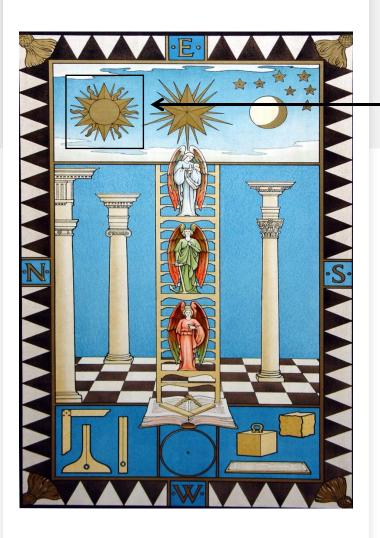
- Misspelling, mispronunciation, and misunderstanding is also seen here with the Indented Tessel or Tarsel or Tassel or the Tesselated Boarder or Tasselated Boarder or Tasserated Boarder.
- Tooth like indentation like a white & black fringe
- Tesselated is derived from tessera, a small square or cubical stone used as a token or amulet.
- The French & Germans mistook the word tessel for tassel. This distortion carries on in modern trestle boards through the image of knotted cords with tassel ends.
- Those tassels are said represent the perfect points of entrance.



## Four Cardinal Virtues

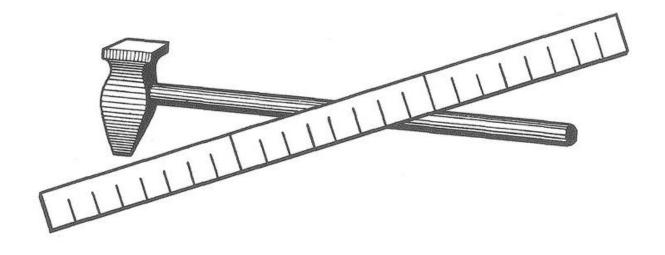
Also said to be represented by the cornered tassels.

- Fortitude (Pectoral)
- Prudence (Manual)
- Temperance (Guttural)
- Justice (Pedal)



## Blazing Star

- One of the most important symbols of masonry
- Not to be confused with the 5-Point Star
- Derived from older systems
- Emblematic of Divine Providence, Star of Bethlehem, Prudence, Beauty, & the Sun
- Symbolic of truth, direction, guidance, & governance



## Entered Apprentice Working Tools

24 Inch Gauge

Common Gavel

## 24 Inch Gauge



- This working tool does not appear in ancient records or the exposed rituals of the early 18<sup>th</sup> century.
- Symbolic of time management and balance.
- Teaches us lessons of ability, preparedness, and readiness

## Common Gavel

- Referenced as the stonemason's hammer, however operative masons actually used stone axes.
- Differs from the setting maul of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- Symbol of order and decorum
- Name derives from the shape of the tool and its similarity to the gable end of a house
- Teaches us lessons of ridding our minds of vices



### Chisel

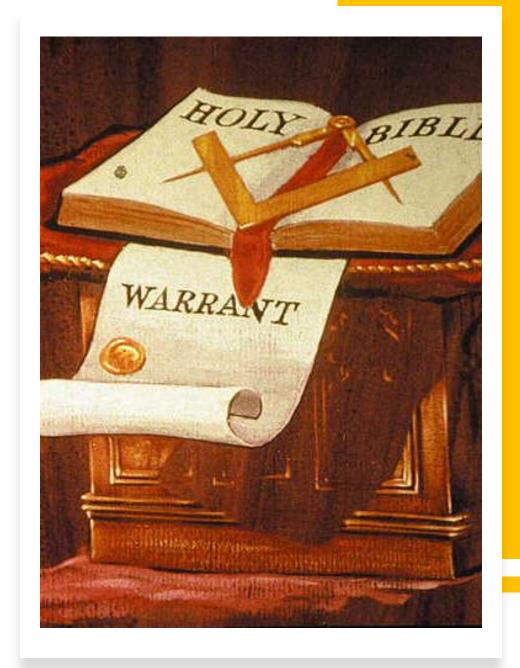
 A working tool of a further degree (in the US)

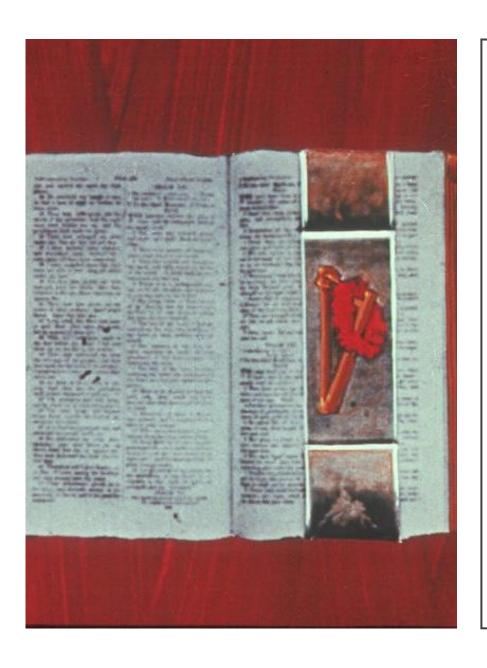
 Consult with any Royal Arch Mason to inquire about membership to learn more

 Considered an EA working tool in England

## Furniture

- Holy Bible
- Square
- Compasses
- Charter





## Volume of Sacred Law

- Torah (Jews)
- Holy Bible (Christians)
- Qur'an (Muslims)
- Zend Avesta (Zoroastrians)
- Tripitaka (Buddhists)
- Rigveda (Brahmin)
- Bhagavad-Gita (Hindu)
- Tao Te Ching (Taoists)

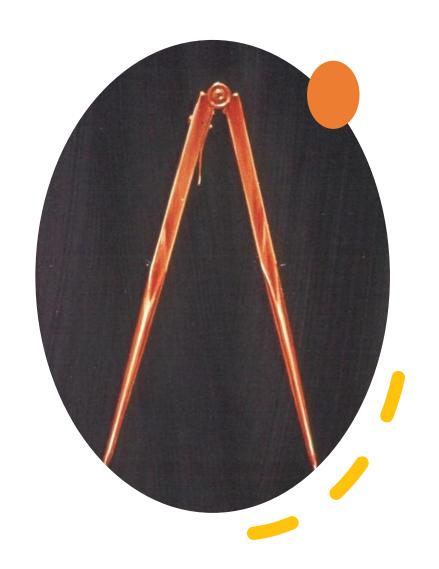


### Square

- Right angle, angle of 90 degrees
- Tool of trigonometry & geometry
- Used to square work
- Emblematic of morality
- Symbolic of the material realm, earth or the body
- Jewel assigned to the Worshipful Master

## Compasses

- Inscribes circles
- Tool of geometry
- Symbolic of the spiritual realm, heavens and the soul
- Emblematic of circumscribing desire and keep our passions in due bounds.
- One of the working tools of a MM under the UGLE, along with the skirret, and pencil



## Charter

- Robert Macoy defines a charter as "a document issued by a Grand Lodge ... to a certain number of members, empowering them to organize a lodge ... and confer degrees."
- Warrant & Charter are used interchangeably.
- Grand Lodge of Ireland issued the first Lodge warrant to the First Lodge of Ireland in 1731.
- Thomas Howard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Effingham (acting Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England) issued the warrant for African Lodge No. 459 on September 29, 1784. It was signed by DGM Rowland Holt Esq and witnessed by William White (Grand Secretary).

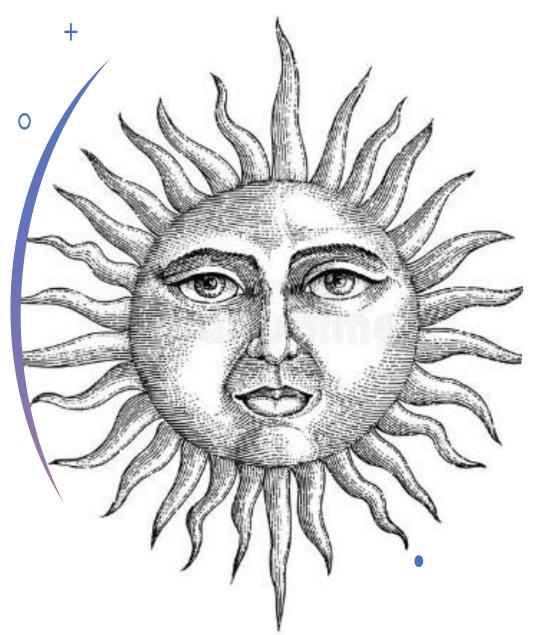
By the Right Worshipful, and Right Honoural RONE of on Grand Master of all the associations in the Kingdom of IRELAND, the Right Brenan M.D. Deputer Inipful Cornelius Callagion of Putland Esq. Grand Ward

IEREAS our Trufty and Well-belived Bro have belought Us, that We would be leased to e fuch Persons, who by their Knowledge and Sill in Ma s the Well-Being and Advancement thereof. We theref Premisses and having nothing more at Heart, than the I and Well-beloved Brothers, the faid 10 to Portoer 1 hollyman Wahn ava Ward Do, by these the faid Tom Ponder Sames Hollyman -- to be Master and Warde and Accepted Matons, to be held by them and their Succe in the fait Lodge for ever AND We do herely Give a and their buccelsors, full Power and lawful Authority from ceed to Dection of a new Matter and Wardens to make Orders, as they from Time to Time thall think Proper Well-Being and Ordering of the faid Lodge; receiving to accessor, Grand Masters or Grand Wardens of IRELA iding all Differences which shall be brought by Appeal Pors, Grand Mafters or Grand Wardens of IRELAN reof, We have hereunto fet Our Hands and Seal of C V December in the Year of our Lord God, Maloury, 5737

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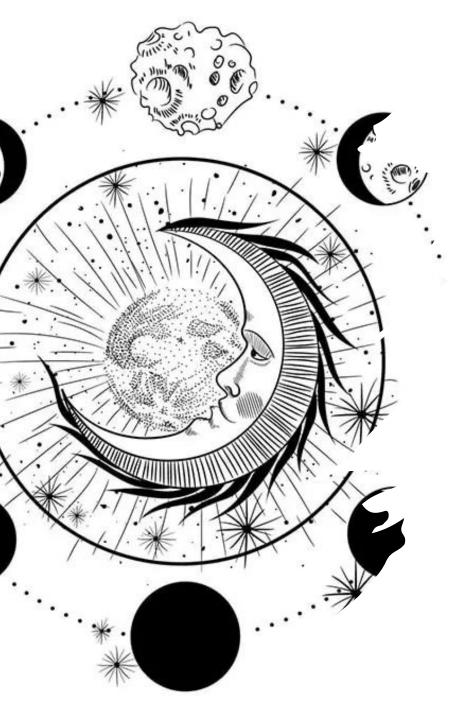


- Sun
- Moon
- Master of the Lodge



## Sun

- Source of material light
- Emblematic of life, intellectual light, Divine Truth, and generative power of deity.
- Symbolizes sovereign authority, and royalty
- 3 Manifestations of the Sun
  - Rising East
  - Meridian South
  - Setting West



## Moon

- Emblematic of feminine energy and qualities, nature's capacity to produce, and virginity
- Also, associated with death
- Signifies the attainment of knowledge through conscious reasoning vs intuition



## Master of the Lodge

- The 3 Lesser Lights are used to light us to, at, and from labor.
- They are situated East, South, and West.
   Symbolic of the perceived path of the Sun across the sky.
- Synonymous with Worshipful Master.
- Sits in the East of the Lodge, symbolizes the Rising Sun
- Most important office in a masonic lodge

## Six Jewels

#### 3 movable jewels

- Rough Ashlar
- Perfect Ashlar
- Trestle-board

#### 3 immovable jewels

- Square
- Level
- Plumb





## 3 Movable Jewels

#### **Rough Ashlar**

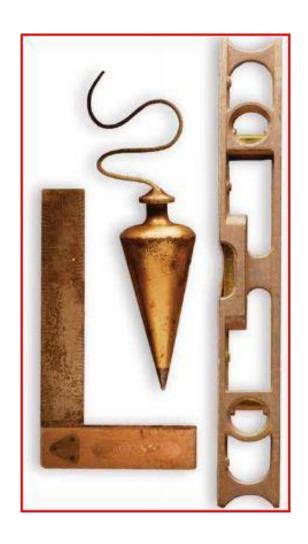
- Symbolic of man in his rude, natural state.
- Imperfect
- Material man

#### **Perfect Ashlar**

- Symbolic of man educated, disciplined, and cultured
- Perfection
- Spiritual Man

#### **Trestle-board**

See Tracing Board and Trestle Board slide



## 3 Immovable Jewels

#### Square

See Square slide

#### Level

- Used to prove horizontals
- Emblematic of equality
- Jewel assigned the Senior Warden

#### **Plumb**

- Used to try perpendiculars
- Emblematic of rectitude of conduct
- Jewel assigned to the Junior Warden

## Derrick, Lewis, & Windlass



#### Derrick

Tripod

#### Lewis (Lewisson)

- An iron cramp inserted in the cavity of a large stone to enable attachment to a pulley and hook
- Used in English rituals as a symbol of strength
- Term designated to the son of a Mason in England.

#### Windlass

A type of lifting device



- Wisdom
- Strength
- Beauty

### Wisdom, Strength, & Beauty Grand Architects 3 Principal Officers



#### Wisdom

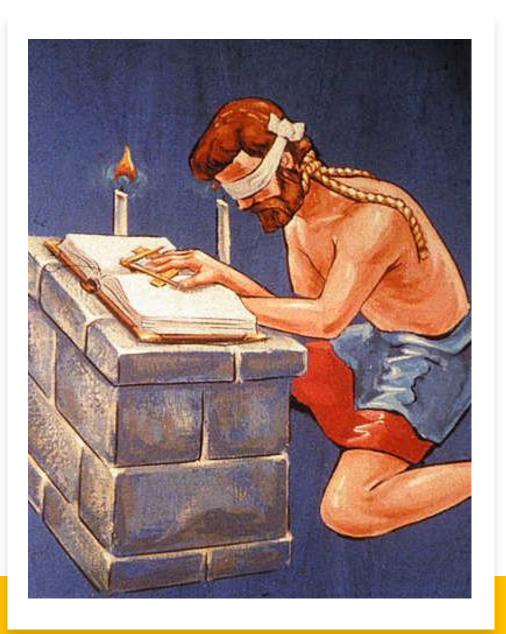
- Represented by the Worshipful Master
- Often symbolized by the Ionic
- Situated in the East
- Wisdom to contrive

#### Strength

- Represented by the Senior Warden
- Often symbolized by the Doric
- Situated in the West
- Strength to support

#### **Beauty**

- Represented by the Junior Warden
- Often symbolized by the Corinthian
- Situated in the South
- Beauty to adorn



#### Altar

- Ritualistic origins, purposed for burning incense or sacrifices to gain favor with deity
- A place of refuge
- As a temple symbolizes the presence of Deity, the altar symbolizes the point of contact

## Point within a Circle

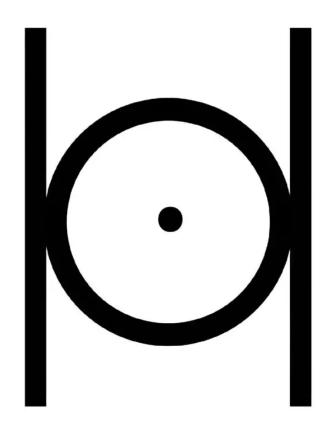
Point = The individual brother.

Circle = The boundary line of his duty to God and to man, beyond which a man should not allow his passions, prejudices, or interests to betray him.

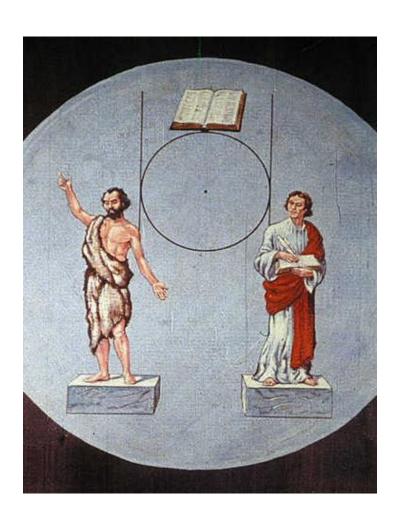
Robert Macoy defines the point as representing God; the circle as representing the Sun's annual circuit; and the parallel lines as representing the solstices to the circuit is limited.

#### **Parallel lines**

- In England, represents the receiving & giving of God's Law to man. Moses, receiving the 10 Commandment & Solomon dispensing the divine law to mankind.
- In the US, represents the patron saints of our fraternity.



## Holy Saints John



#### John the Baptist

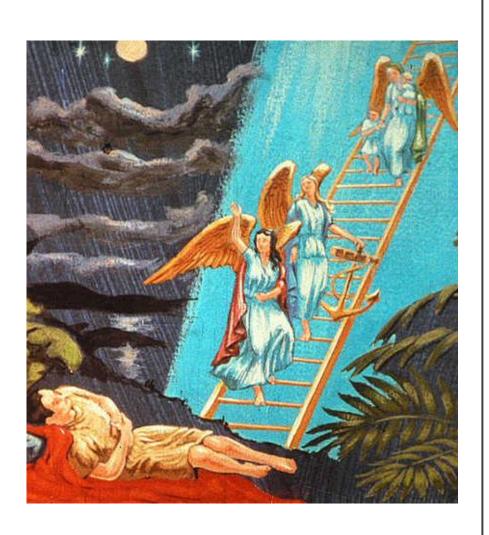
- Celebrated on June 24<sup>th</sup>
- Baptized Jesus the Christ
- Stern and a zealous judge of morality

#### John the Evangelist

- Celebrated on December 27<sup>th</sup>
- Jesus loved him for his gentleness and humility
- Teacher of knowledge

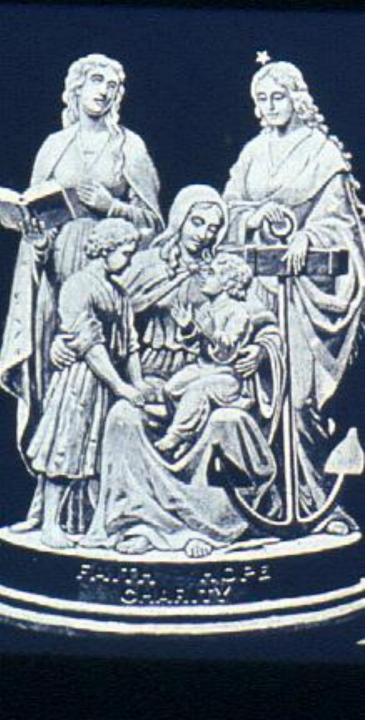


- Jacob's Ladder
- Faith, Hope, & Charity
- 7 Stars
- Cable-tow
- Principal Tenets
- Chalk, Charcoal, Clay



## Jacob's Ladder

- Represents progress upward, ascension
- Found in other initiations like Mysteries of Mithras and Brahma
- 3 principal rounds in masonry are the 3 theological virtues



## Theological Virtues 3 Principal Rounds

- Denominated Faith, Hope, & Charity, which admonish us to have faith in God, hope for immortality, and charity for all mankind.
- The greatest of these is Charity; for our Faith may be lost in sight, Hope end in fruition, but Charity extends beyond the grave, through the boundless realms of eternity.
- Women on the ladder hold a symbol that represents one of the 3 theological virtues
  - Woman on the bottom round holds a bible or crucifix representing Faith
  - Woman on the middle round holds an anchor representing Hope
  - Woman on the top round holds orphan children representing Charity

## 7 Stars

- Represent the 7 Classical Planets: Sun, Moon, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, and Saturn.
- Days of the week are named after these luminaries
- Pythagoreans called 7 the perfect number because it is the sum of 4 (square) & 3 (triangle).
- We see the same associated with the 7 liberal arts & sciences. The quadrivium and trivium.
- Symbolic of great intellectuality
- Alludes to the starry decked heavens



#### Cable-Tow

- The distance one could travel by water for an hour, approximately 3 miles long
- Represent a spiritual umbilicus between a lodge and the brother (like mother & newborn child)
- Mystical tie that binds the initiate to the social and moral order, holding him to his duty
- Alludes to the scope of a man's reasonable ability



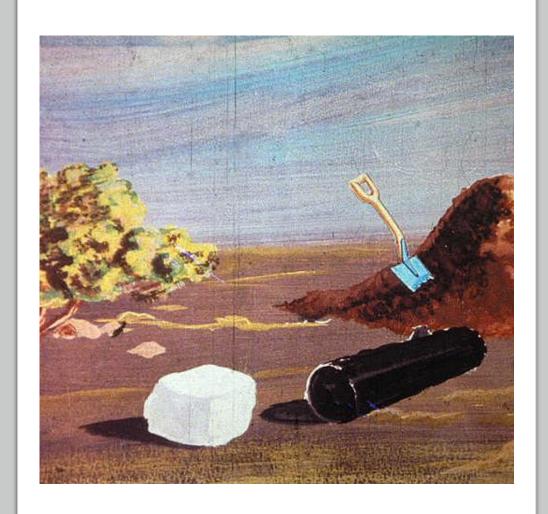
# Principal Tenets of Freemasonry

- Brotherly Love
- Relief
- Truth



## Chalk, Charcoal, & Clay

- Chalk symbolizes freedom
- Charcoal symbolizes fervency
- Clay symbolizes zeal



## Works Cited

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