This was in the year of the world one, or 4003 years before the birth of Christ. But though by sin Adam fell from his original and happy state, and was expelled from the Garden of Eden, he still retained great knowledge, especially in "Geometry."

Adam, when expelled, resided in places where he could be best protected from the varying influences of the seasons until his sons grew up to form a Lodge. He then taught them Geometry, and the uses it was put to in Architecture.

Thus Cain when expelled, in A.M. 130, from Adam's presence, went forth and built a strong city, and called it Enoch, after his eldest son, whose race followed the example; for Tubal-Cain worked in metals. Jubal invented practical music and the psaltery and the harp; and Jabal built cities. Nor was Cain's brother Seth, the Patriarch of the other half of mankind, less instructed, for he transmitted Geometry, or Masonry, to his late posterity, and these were the better instructed, by reason of Adam's residing among them until his death, in A.M. 930.

The successors of Adam, in the direction of the craft, were Seth, Enoch, Cainan, Mahalaleel, and Jared, whose son, godly Enoch, died not, but was translated alive, soul and body, into heaven, at the age of 365 (A.M. 987). Enoch was expert and bright, both in Science and the Art, and being a prophet, foretold the destruction of the earth for sin: first by water, and afterwards by fire. He built two large pillars, one of stone, and the other of brick, on which he inseribed the discoveries of the Arts and Sciences, particularly "Geometry" or Masonry—formerly synonymous terms—that in ease the pillar of brick should be destroyed by the flood, the pillar of stone might remain, to exhibit these discoveries to the future ages of mankind.

Josephus mentions in Book I. chap. ii., that the pillar of stone remained in the land of Syriad in his day.

Jared lived after his son Enoch 435 years, and died A.M. 1422, aged 962. Methuselah, the son of Enoch, succeeded Jared, and with his son Lamech, and grand-son Noah, retired from the corruptions of the world, the inhabitants of which had become very wicked. In their own families they preserved the good old religion of the promised Messiah pure—and also the secrets of the Royal Art—until the Flood.

Lamech died only five years before the flood, and Methuselah died a few days before it, aged 969 years, and so he could well communicate the traditions of his experienced progenitors to Noah's three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, who had lived with him respectively 100, 98, and 96 years.

At last, when the world's destruction drew nigh, God commanded Noah to build an ark, or floating eastle, and his three sons assisted as Deputy Master and his two Wardens in its construction. The ark, though built of wood only, was fashioned by the rules of Geometry, as nicely as any stone building (like true ship building in the present day), and finished when Noah