

Harodin, Princes or Rulers.....	300
Master Masons.....	3,300
Onshy Chotzib, or Sculptors, or Hewers of Stone.....	80,000
The Levy out of Israel, who worked one month in three, at 10,000 a month.....	30,000
Total number employed.....	113,600

not including the men of burden, amounting to 70,000. The old Canaanites were not reckoned, being literally slaves to the workmen. They were engaged three years in preparing the materials in the quarries, and were 750 lodges, amounting together to 60,000 men, including Masters and Wardens.

In the forest of Lebanon were 420 lodges, amounting to 33,600; thus the entire number constantly employed was 93,600. There were always 20,000 at rest. Everything was prepared with the greatest nicety, conveyed on rafts to Joppa, thence to Jerusalem, and then fitted together, according to the plan of the architect, in the 4th year of the reign of King Solomon, who, about the end of April, in the year of 1012, B. C., laid the foundation of the Temple on Mount Moriah. There was not a tool of iron used in its construction, there being a peculiar objection to the use of metal tools on the occasion.

In the year 1015, B. C. the Temple was finished,—about the end of October, on the day of the new year according to the Jewish Calendar. About September, in the next year, the people assembled at one of the most solemn religious meetings that ever took place, it being the dedication of the first Temple erected in honor of the true and living God. It was then that the third grand offering took place on the same spot already hallowed by the offerings of Abraham and David, before alluded to, and which are all commemorated by Freemasons of the present day.

The history of the building, completion, and dedication of the Temple has been explained, without interruption, and without reference to a circumstance of the deepest interest to Freemasons; which happened previous to the capstone of the building being celebrated. To this event no more than allusion can be made; it produced at the time an expression of the deepest sorrow upon the brethren, and which must ever be indelibly impressed on the mind of every Master Mason.