

The history of Freemasonry is a strange and eventful one, full of singular vicissitudes and wonderful achievements. It has flourished through many ages, and grew as luxuriantly under a Monarchy as a Republic. For a long period it was purely an operative science, though involving truths and principles of the very last importance. Then it became entirely a moral work, teaching lessons of goodness, purity, and benevolence; linking man to man in bonds of Fraternity, and binding to God with chords of enduring love. Its history is yet to be written; its character yet to be portrayed.

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