

Masonic Constitutions or Charges.

most worthy that findeth all others. How this worthy science was first begun I shall tell you; before Noes flood was a man called Lameth as it is written in ye 4 Chaptr of Gene and this Lameth had two wives, ye one was called Adar, ye other Sella; and by the first wife Adar hee begott 2 sonnes. The one was called Jabell ye other Juball. And by ye other wife he had a sonne & a daughter, and these foure children found ye begininge of all Crafts in ye world. This Jabell was ye elder sonne; and hee found ye Craft of Geometry, and he deputed flockes of Sheepes & lambs in ye field, and he first wrought house of stone & tree, and it is notes in ye chapt aforesaide yt his brother Juball found musicke of songe harpe & organes; the 3 brother Tuball found out Smiths Crafts of iron & steele; and their sister found weavinge; and these children did know that God would take vengeance for sinne eather by fire or water; wherefore they writ ye sciences wch weare found on 2 pillars of stone; yt ye might be found after ye flood; The one stone was called marble that cannot burne with fire; The other was called Letera that cannot drowne with water; our intent is to tell you truly how and in what manner these stones were found, where these Crafts weare written in Greek. Hermines that was sonne to Cus; and Cus was sonne to Shem, wch was ye sonne to Noath; The same Hermines was afterwards Herms; the father of wise men and he found out ye 2 pillars of stone where ye sciences weare written and taught ym forth; And at ye makeinge of ye towre of Babilon there was the craft of Masonrie first found and made much of, ye Kinge of Babilon wch was called Hembroth or Membroth hee was a mason and loved well ye craft, as it is saide with ye maistr of yr stories; and when ye cities of Ninivie and other cities of East Azia should bee made. The Kinge of Babilon sent thither sixe at ye desire of ye King of Ninive his couzin; and they went forth, and hee gave hm a charge on this maner, That ye should be true and live truly together; that they should serve there lord truly for their paym.nt; for that hee might have worpp for sendinge ym and other charges hee gave them; and this was the first yt any Mason had any charge of his craft; moreovr when Abraham & Sara his wife went into Egypt there weare taught the seaven sciences unto ye Egyptians; And hee had a worthy schollar called Euchild and hee learned right well and was maistr of all the 7 sciences; and it befell in his daies that ye lords and states of ye Realme; had soe many sonnes yt ye had begotten: some by there wives, and some by ladies of ye Realme; for yt land is a holy land and plenished generacon; And ye had no competent liveinge for there children; wherefore ye made much sorrowe; and ye King of ye land made greate counsell, and a pliaint to know how ye might find their children meanes; & the could find noe goode wayes; and caused a cry to bee made throughout ye Realme; yt if there weare any man that could informe him; yt hee should come to him and bee well rewarded; and hold himselfe well assaide; and after this cry was made came this worthy Clarke Euchild and saide to ye kinge and all his great Lords if you will have yor children gouvned and taught honestly as gentlemen should bee; under condicon that you will grant ym & mee a comission; yt I may have power to rule them honestly as these sciences ought to bee ruled; and ye kinge with his councill granted them; and sealed yt comission; and then yt worthy doctor tooke the Lordes sonnes and taught ym this science of Geometry in practice to worke Masonrie all manner of worthie workes; yt belongeth to buildinge of castles all manner of corts temples and churches;