

**IGNORANT LEARNED; OR, RESEARCHES
AFTER "THE LONG LOST" MYSTERIES OF
FREE-MASONRY; ALSO THE
ELEUSINIAN MYSTERIES, AS THEY
RELATE TO ROYAL ARCH-MASONRY**

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HENRY MELVILLE

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BY

HENRY MELVILLE, R.A.C.

"The Bible is the root of earthly, and, as regards mankind, of
Heavenly Wisdom."

"*Quæst.* What artes haueeth the Maçonnes techedde mankynde ?

"*Ans.* The artes agricultura, architectura, astronomia, geometria,
numerus, musica, poësis, kynistrye, governmente, and relygyonne"

Old Masonic Document.

London:

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1863.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

RESEARCHES after the long lost mysteries of Royal Arch Masonry having engaged my ardent and almost exclusive attention for nearly thirty years past, have at length resulted in the rediscovery of the use of the keys of these mysteries and of the laws by which the keys are regulated. The keys are the triple tau and the double triangle, and which when properly applied to any good celestial atlas, will authorise the construction of the simple code of Median and Persian laws, which never alter, and consequently must be as fixed and determined this day as they were when Masonry was first instituted. The double triangle is symbolical of a star of the first magnitude, having six points. In the centre is the sun, and on all correct jewels are depicted the earth and moon, the latter eclipsing the sun. The triple tau or three crosses is formed by the junction of the ecliptic and equatorial circles, then is it equinox, equal night and day. These facts would suggest, even to the uninitiated, that the keys had some connection with astronomy. Royal Arch-companions generally are not aware that their jewel carries two very significant superscriptions. The triple tau has "*Nil nisi clavis deest;*" the double triangle has "*Si talia jungere possis sic tibi scire satis;*" and truly nothing can be known without comprehending the usage of the key; and when both are employed, then truth no longer lies concealed; and those fortunately possessing the knowledge know enough, or as much as mortals can know.

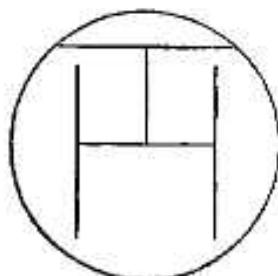
The Masonic mysteries are astounding astronomical truths, and although now lost to the Order, it is nevertheless quite certain that not many ages back these mysteries were known to most educated men, and were considered the nucleus of all classic knowledge—indeed, without understanding them, mythology

is an unmeaning language. Possessing the Median and Persian laws enables any one to read and comprehend all ancient records, whether painted or stained on paper, cut or carved in stone, or stamped or engraved in metal; and it matters not whether the records be of Ancient Egypt or of Central America. As Masonry was universal, so are the Median and Persian laws applicable to the past ages of all civilized nations.

THE RESEARCHES, have moreover, led to the rediscovery of a very simple fixed law whereby the ancient dates of all cities and events are reduced to astronomical time.

The varied and precious knowledge, sacred and profane, derived from the use of the keys and laws has been thoroughly digested into a series of nine concise books in M.S.S. on vellum, illustrated with drawings of mythological figures and ancient coins in evidence of the text, entitled "THE NINE BOOKS OF KNOWLEDGE;" and with a view to their safety and preservation for scholastic reference, I am prepared to dispose of them upon liberal terms, and for that purpose to treat with the representatives of Government, or of National Libraries, or of learned societies, or with wealthy *Savants*; and any communication on the subject, addressed to me, care of the publisher of this volume, will be received confidentially and answered with as little delay as possible.

HENRY MELVILLE.



"SIL NISI CLAVIS DRENT."



"SI TALIA JUNGERE POSSIS SUT
TIBI SUIRE SATIS."

THE IGNORANT LEARNED.

INTRODUCTION.

"If at some future period some one unites to Astronomical science the erudition of antiquity too much separated from it, that man will instruct his age in many things which the vanity of ours has no notion of."

—VOLNEY'S NEW RES., p. 100.

As regards the knowledge of the Classics, the educated of this generation know nothing. Men may study Greek, Latin, and Hebrew, and be masters of other mysterious languages, and yet at the same time be very ignorant. Have the liberal sciences of Grammar, Logic, Rhetoric, Arithmetic, Geometry, or Music, received improvement during the present, said to be en-

lightened, age?* As to Astronomy, the theoretical part of the science is a lost knowledge. Looking through a long tube, and jotting down on paper the various positions of the stars, may be a very interesting

* Masons put forth a document, purporting to be written some 400 years back. It is—

“Certayne Questyons, with Answeres to the same, concerning the Mystery of MAÇONRYE; writtens by the hande of kyng HENRYE, the sixthe of the name, and faithfullye copied by me JOHN LEEKLANDE, Antiquarius, by the commaunde of his Highnesse.”

To the question, where did Masonry begin? the reply is—

“Yet dydd begynne with the ffyrste menne yn the este, whych were before the ffyrste menne of the weste; and comyng westlye, ytt hadde broughte herwythe alle comfortes to the wyldes and comfortlesse.”

Masonry generally begins as described, viz.—As the sun rises in the east, so does, &c., &c., before or in front of the “MENNE” of the west.

“Quesz.—Whatte artes haeth the Maçonnes techedde mankynde?”

“Answe.—The artes agricultura, architectura, astronomia, geometria, numeres, musica, poesie, kymistrye, governmente, and relygyonne.”

If these arts were taught in former ages, why are Masons now-a-days so ignorant of all the liberal sciences? That they had the art of Government, and taught “MUNKYNDE RELIgyONNE” is most certain.

This document has caused considerable interest, and the uninitiated have endeavoured to give the interpretation. Their various opinions afford considerable amusement to the initiated. Peter Gower's journey is well told. Our moderns consider the two names, Peter Gower, mean only one name, i.e., Pythagoras. PYTH, ARGO, ASA! Let Peter remain, and try Gera for Gower, and then the reality will become intelligible.

study to those who may be satisfied therewith, but, after all, it is a mere mechanical occupation. Among the ancients, astronomy veiled a multitude of mysteries. There was a universal language combined with the heavenly constellations, and one class of men claimed exclusively this mystic science. Whatever might be the spoken tongue of the initiated mattered not—for the celestial speech was understood by all enlightened men throughout the whole earth. "The chiefs of enlightened men" were those who initiated aspirants into the mysteries.

The Masons are supposed to possess wonderful secrets, and when aspirants become masters, they receive passports, which serve among all civilized nations. The brethren of the order are sworn to keep sacred and secret all the mysteries entrusted to them, and under such pledges receive their certificates or passports from their leaders, "the Chiefs of enlightened men." These certificates have on the face of them symbols of sciences no longer understood by the Order.

The mysterious zodiac may be termed the principal key of ancient classic knowledge. The zodiac is to be

found among all civilized people, and also among ruins possessed by barbarians. It is found in Asia, Africa, in Europe, and even in Central America. The zodiac of Denderah, of Egypt, is well known to our modern learned, and so are those of the Budhists and Hindoos. These, with very trifling variations, are the same as those found among the ruins of the ancient cities of Mexico; in fact, the zodiac is a mystic belt, which should unite the good and enlightened men of our globe.

Let us see what moderns think of the mystic belt. In the year 1705, a block of marble was discovered at Rome, on which was engraved a zodiac. The discovery was reported to the French Academy, and the eloquent De Fontenelle thus estimated it: "The monument," says he, "of which Bianchini sought explanation, belongs to the history of the folly of mankind, and the Academy has something better to do than to waste its time in researches of this kind." Baron Humboldt observes, that M. De Fontenelle should have remembered that such records "were of service in throwing light on the ancient communications of na-