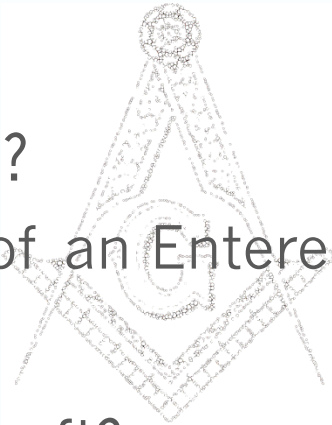


Fellow Craft Lecture I

M.W.P.H.G.L. Virgin Islands & Its Jurisdiction
F. & A.M.

F.C. Lecture I

- Will you be off or from?
 - From.
- From what to what?
 - From the degree of an Entered Apprentice to that of a Fellow Craft.
- Are you a Fellow Craft?
 - I am; try me.
- How will you be tried?
 - By the square.



F.C. Lecture I

- Why by the square?
 - Because it is an emblem of morality and one of the working tools of a Fellow Craft.
- What is a square?
 - An angle of ninety degrees, or the fourth part of a circle.
- Where were you made a Fellow Craft?
 - In a just and lawfully constituted Lodge of Fellow Crafts.



F.C. Lecture I

- How were you prepared?
 - By being divested of all metals, neither naked nor clothed, barefoot nor shod, hoodwinked, and a cable-tow twice about my naked right arm; in which situation I was conducted to the door of the Lodge by a Brother.
- Why had you a cable-tow twice about your naked right arm?
 - It was to signify that as a Fellow Craft I was under a double tie to the fraternity.
- How gained you admission?
 - By three distinct knocks.

F.C. Lecture I

- To what do those knocks allude?
 - To the three jewels of a Fellow Craft: the attentive ear, the instructive tongue and the faithful breast.
- What was said to you from within?
 - Who comes here?
- Your answer?
 - A brother who has been regularly initiated as an Entered Apprentice, and now wishes to receive more light in Masonry by being passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft.

F.C. Lecture I

- What were you then asked?
 - If it was of my own free will and accord; if I was duly and truly prepared; worthy and well qualified; if I had made suitable proficiency in the preceding degree; all of which being answered in the affirmative, I was asked by what further right or benefit I expected to gain admission.
- Your answer?
 - By the benefit of the pass.
- Did you give the pass?
 - I gave it not; my guide gave it for me.

F.C. Lecture I

- What followed?
 - I was directed to wait with patience until the Worshipful Master was informed of my request and his answer returned.
- What answer did he return?
 - Let him enter and be received in due form.
- How were you received?
 - On the angle of the square at my naked right breast, which was to teach me that the square of virtue should be a rule and guide to my conduct in all my future action with mankind.

F.C. Lecture I

- How were you then disposed of?
 - I was conducted twice about the altar to the Junior Warden in the South, where the same questions were asked and like answers returned as at the door.
- How did the Junior Warden dispose of you?
 - He directed me to pass on to the Senior Warden in the West, where the same questions were asked and like answers returned as before.

F.C. Lecture I

- How did the Senior Warden dispose of you?
 - He directed me to the Worshipful Master in the East, where the same questions were asked and like answers returned as before.
- How did the Worshipful Master dispose of you?
 - He ordered me to be reconducted to the Senior Warden in the West, who taught me to approach to the East, advancing by two upright, regular steps, my feet forming the right angle of an oblong square, my body erect to the Worshipful Master in the East.

F.C. Lecture I

- What did the Worshipful Master then do with you?
 - He made me a Fellow Craft.
- How?
 - In due form.
- What is the due form?
 - Kneeling on my naked right knee, my left forming a square, my body erect, my naked right hand resting on the Holy Bible, square and compasses, my left elbow forming a right angle, supported by the square; in which due form I took the obligation of a Fellow Craft.



F.C. Lecture I

- What was the obligation?
 - I, A. B., of my own free will and accord, in the presence, etc.
- After taking the obligation, what were you then asked?
 - What I most desired?
- Your answer?
 - More light in Masonry.
- Did you receive it?
 - I did.



F.C. Lecture I

- How?
 - By order of the Worshipful Master and assistance of the brethren.
- On being brought to light, what did you first discover more than you had heretofore discovered?
 - One point of the compasses bare, the other being hidden; which was to teach me that as yet I had received light in Masonry but partially.

F.C. Lecture I

- What did you then discover?
 - The Worshipful Master approaching me from the East, under the due guard and sign of a Fellow Craft; who, in token of the continuance of his brotherly love and favor, presented me with his right hand, and with it the pass, token of the pass, grip and word of a Fellow Craft, and bade me arise and salute the Wardens as such.
- After saluting the Wardens, what did you then discover?
 - The Worshipful Master, who ordered me to the Senior Warden, who taught me how to wear my apron as a Fellow Craft.

f.c. Lecture I

- After being taught how to wear your apron as a Fellow Craft, how were you then disposed of?
 - I was conducted to the right hand of the Worshipful Master in the East, who presented me with the working tools of a Fellow Craft and taught me their uses.
- What are the working tools of a Fellow Craft?
 - The plumb, square and level.
- What are their uses?
 - The plumb is an instrument, etc. ----- from whose bourne no traveler return.

f.c. Lecture I

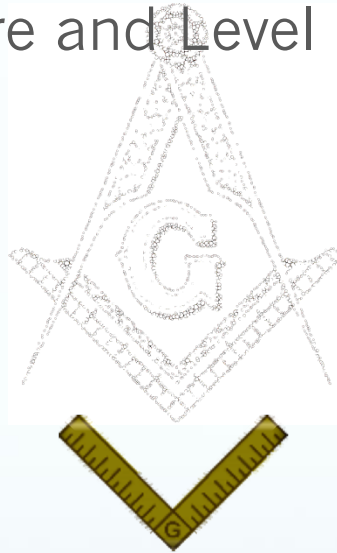
- How were you then disposed of?
 - I was ordered to be reconducted to the place from whence I came, there be reinvested of what I had been divested, and informed that agreeable to an ancient custom in all regular and well-governed Lodges of Fellow Crafts, it was then necessary that I should make a regular ascent up a flight of winding stairs, consisting of three, five and seven steps, into a place representing the middle chamber of King Solomon's Temple, there to receive further instruction relative to the wages of a Fellow Craft, which are corn, wine and oil, emblematical of peace, unity and plenty.

F.C. Lecture I

- What are the working tools of a Fellow Craft:
 - the Plumb, Square and Level (click on tools)



Plumb



Square



Level

Plumb, Square, & Level

- The Plumb is an instrument made use of by operative masons to raise perpendiculars; the Square to square their work; and the Level to lay horizontals, but we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to make use of them for more noble and glorious purposes. The Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, squaring our actions by the square of Virtue, and remembering that we are traveling upon the Level of Time to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.