

**Illinois
Masonic
Education
Themes
*October***

**Grand Lodge Committee
on Masonic Education**

October-EA Charge Paragraph 1

Review the first paragraph of the Charge to the Entered Apprentice.

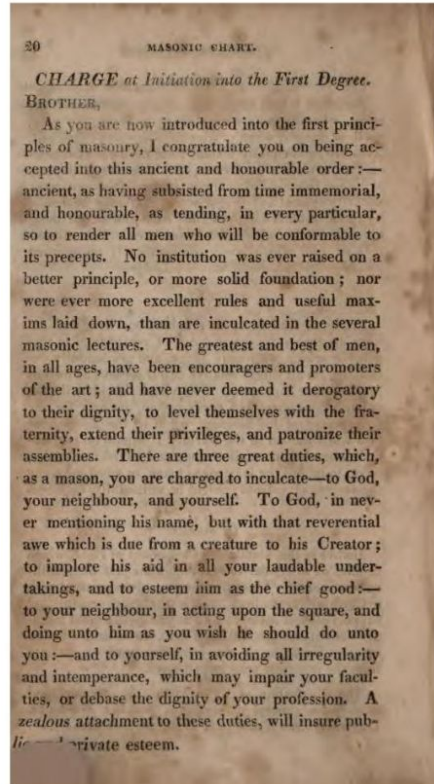
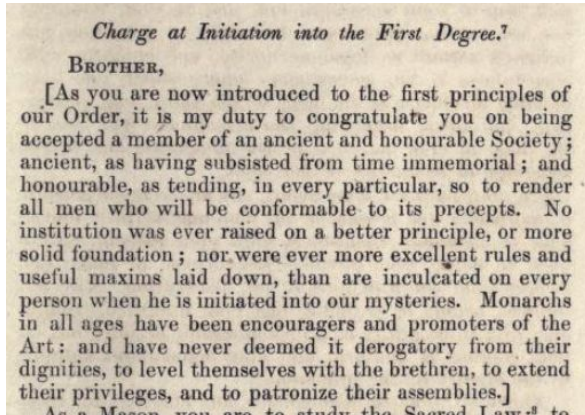
Discussion Questions

1. Why is Masonry considered “honorable”?
2. What does it mean to exchange “the scepter for trowel”?
3. What are the 3 degrees and what stages in life do they represent?
4. The beginning of the charge mentions that all Masons must be obedient to the precepts of Masonry. What are these precepts and why is it important that all Masons agree to honor them?
5. What is Moral Science and how is it different from religious belief? How is it similar?
6. Why is it important to “encourage the moral and intellectual attainments” of the brethren? What is a well-educated Mason? What knowledge/wisdom should he possess?

Notes and Guided Answers

1. Because it makes all men who strictly adhere to its teachings “honorable”.
2. The phrase means that even Kings have sought membership in order that they may be taught Masonic Lessons.
3. Birth, Manhood, Age.
4. Precepts-general rules. In Masonry these are the very basic requirements. Most importantly, a belief in Deity.
5. For consideration and discussion.
6. For consideration and discussion.

October Supplements



On the left you have an excerpt from the 1867 edition of William Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry* (which was nearly 100 years after the original printing). On the right you have an 1826 edition of Jeremy Ladd Cross's version of the charge. Both are available via archive.org. Note that while the version of JLC has an earlier print date, Prestons is older.

Compare these versions to the one found in your Blue book. Note the similarities and differences.