



Scientia Coronati Research Lodge No. 4 F&AM

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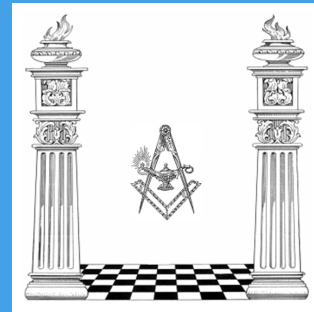
Essays, Papers & Articles

Masonic Topics

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And the Earth was without

form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, and God said, 'Let there be light'



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"Writing's (from the mid-1800s to present) Its Effect and Influence On the non-Mason's Perception of Freemasonry"

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Presented to Scientia Coranoti Research Lodge #4

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This is a review over a wide-ranging spectrum of almost 150 years of literature suggesting a non-Mason's perception of Freemasonry. This examination and assessment of non-fiction and fiction works focuses on how Freemasonry is correctly or incorrectly depicted, distorted or perceived.

As you read this paper keep in mind how a non-Mason would interpret these statements in a negative or positive light. One of the messages I wish to convey is the impact of this subject matter. Why has Freemasonry, as a Fraternity; a Craft, mattered so much or so little, in varied degrees, over such a tremendously extended period of time to so many socio-economic classes of people?

To make this presentation, I have reviewed close to **200** periodicals, newspaper accounts, pamphlets, newsletters, books & documentaries. I will refer to a great number of these publications.

In the Southern California Research Lodge F & A M, dated: **1 October '08**, No. 1008 there is a paragraph from the New Jersey Freemason, **Summer, '08** which states the following:

"Restoring the public identity of the Masonic Lodge through community involvement and membership growth is the goal of the New Jersey 'Masonic Awareness Committee'. An energetic grass roots marketing plan to enhance the image of Masonry by utilizing new technologies"

I wonder if "restoring" is the acceptable word or should it be "correcting"? Many of my comments will confirm that "correcting" is the more viable term.

On Page 5 of Arizona Masonry the **August/September, '08** issue an article "Twentieth Century Freemasonry" by Paul Weathers, PM, Oasis Lodge #52 stated the following: *"With so much about Freemasonry being provided to the public in recent years through publications, movies and on television..., we are starting to get petitions for the degrees of Masonry from young men, some as young as 18 years of age."* My thought is perhaps: Writing's Effect and Influence on Man's Perception of Freemasonry" is not so dreadful after all. Perhaps it is working to a positive extent of which we are not aware. A positive influence?

Most everything written these days, seems to be non-dimensional. So, what a person reads is what they actually perceive as there is usually not much serious depth in the writing. This is so different than what is written in "The Man of Mount Moriah" by Boutelle, **1898** in the "Introductory". It is written "*Entire pages, from time to time, are openly and avowedly given to it, and the work shows the result of wide reading and careful study...Masons of course will find more of interest... but the story will appeal to all lovers of pure and vigorous fiction. The Mason will frequently find himself led up to something that only his Masonry will enable him to fully interpret.*" So really, the non – Mason is at a disadvantage and will never perceive the true meaning of this work or other works.

In the **Spring, '08** issue of Plumbline there is a book review entitled "The Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide" by Arturo de Hoyos, 33rd degree. There is a comment that "*with the publication of this impressive volume, the earnest student of Scottish Rite ritual no longer has to labor so intensely to get a comprehensive view of the work*". Thus, would not the reverse be true? The quotes from my numerous selections are most certainly not comprehensive but rather simple or stupid in a very succinct nature. Therefore, do these serve the same purpose of raising interest and influencing non-Masons to varied degrees of perception? Yes.

In the **August, '08** issue of the Southern California Research Lodge newsletter, Norm Leeper, Editor makes a statement that "*Sadly, there are very few lodges that undertake candidate education*". If the perception from the modern day written word as it currently influences the mass public is true then it falls upon every Lodge to acknowledge what is being currently absorbed and then either reinforced, changed or taught anew.

One other point which I must make. MW Rex R. Hutchens wrote a paper entitled "Problems in Masonic Research & Writing". Number Seven of his Twelve point analysis is "Source Reliability". His example: "*Another problem in the research process has to do with sources that are themselves in some way suspect*". We may take as an example, the following passage from Knight and Lomas' The Hiram Key, **1996**

"Careful study of the Bible had found no mention of any middle chamber to Solomon's Temple".

One wonders in this case what "careful study" actually means. The important point is to avoid accepting such statements at face value. Yet there are statements such as on Page xviii of Born in Blood by John J. Robinson, **1989** which states "...*Freemasonry has been the target of more angry papal bulls and encyclicals than any other secular organization in Christian history.*"

The public can become aware of Masonry in various forms. For example: In the book Freemasonry in the Holy Land by Rob Morris **1870** on his dedication "to His Excellency Mohammed Raschid, Pasha General of Syria" the following: "Since my return home, I have spoken in more than six hundred lodges, and reported to them the results of my oriental study and labor....may it please your Excellency: our earthly lot differs most widely...our form of faith are diverse. In language, customs, and modes of thought, we are cast in different moulds; but in Masonic UNITY we are one, and one in Masonic FAITH".

A nice summary from Brother Morris's Preface states: "I offer this book to the Masonic public, in redemption of my pledges to the generous friends who furnished me the means both for my expedition of **1868**, and for publishing the book itself." "This book is adapted to the plainest reader; on that the owner will take home ... yet no effort has been spared to compress the information."

Information is available for objective researchers. Though unlikely, a non-Mason could get hold of the "Book of the Commandery" which John W. Simons, Past Grand Master of Templars of New York wrote in his Preface in **1864** had already been presented to the Order and every Templar will be glad to possess a copy..." Right up front it states "Burial Service....what is it with these Masons? Well, they are not Masons, they are Knights Templar." In the mind of the non-Mason is there a difference? The non-Masons to whom I've mentioned this all believe either a) they are the same or b) Knights Templar were the precursors of Freemasons. So what is this about burial services? Is this truly a life long commitment? Positive perception? In fact, as depicted in Page 113 "Fortitude", "Justice" and "Mercy" are the hallmarks of a "true and courteous Knight". But how many non-Masons or Templars are exposed to this depth of knowledge? Relatively few, if any.

So, what is the perception of those reading these written words?

For example:

The Traditions, Origin and Early History of Freemasonry by A.T.C. Pierson, Past Grand Master, Past Grand High Priest, Grand Captain of the Grand Encampment of the U.S. of A., Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd degree
1865

Preface

"It is recorded of an ancient author, that while apologizing for the imperfections of one of his books, he was interrupted by the inquiry, "who asked you to write it?" A similar question might be propounded with reference to the following pages; as also, where was the material obtained? And why is it published?"

“It is claimed for Freemasonry that it is the most ancient society in existence; the proof is necessarily traditional. The archives of the English government furnish evidence of the existence of a society of Masons in the third century; documents still in existence prove that the institution of Free Masons was well known in **1440**, and none can question that since the year **1717** the society of free and accepted Masons has attracted considerable attention throughout the world.

The Book of Fate by Brad Meltzer
2006

Page 74 “All the Masons did was sell raffle tickets to raise money for the hospital. Like the Shriners.”

Page 74 “The Masons craftwork had built some of the most holy and famous places in the world – from King Solomon’s Temple to the Washington Monument – but the secrets the Masons protected were more than just inside tips for how to build archways and monuments. The night before Martin Luther King Jr. was killed, he was in a Masonic Temple in Memphis. “I might not get there with you,” King said that night to his followers. Like he knew that bullet was coming the next day. And the fact he was in a Masonic Temple...it was no coincidence. Fate. Always fate. At their highest levels, the Masons ancient goal had never changed.”

Page 109 “The compass and a square-the most sacred of all Masonic symbols. Tools of the trade for an architect...tools to build their doorway...plus a G for the Great Architect of the Universe.”

Page 110 Regarding the Masons: “From Voltaire to Napoleon to Winston Churchill, the Freemasons spent centuries cultivating the most powerful members of society. In the arts they had Mozart, Beethoven and Bach. In literature, Arthur Conan Doyle, Rudyard Kipling, and Oscar Wilde. In business, they grew with funding by Henry Ford, Frederick Maytag and J. C. Penny. In the United States, they built their power to new heights. From Benjamin Franklin to John Hancock, eight signers of the Declaration of Independence were Masons. Nine signers of the U.S. Constitution. Thirty-one generals in Washington’s army. Five Supreme Court justices, from John Marshall to Earl Warren. Year by year, century by century, the Masons collected those with the greatest influence on society: Paul Revere, Benedict Arnold, Mark Twain, John Wayne, Roy Rogers, Cecil B. DeMille, Douglas Fairbanks, Clark Gable , even Harry Houdini. Was it any coincidence that Douglas MacArthur became General of the Army? Or that Joseph Smith founded an entire religion? Or that J. Edgar Hoover was given the FBI? Or even that Buzz Aldrin was on the first rocket to the moon? All of those landmarks. All of them by Masons. And that didn’t even consider the sixteen times they took the White House: Presidents George Washington, James Monroe, Teddy Roosevelt, FDR, Truman, Gerald Ford”.

Page 120 “That physical structures have always been the source of inexplicable power. The Druids and Stonehenge...the Egyptian pyramids...even Solomon’s First and Second Temple in Jerusalem. The Freemasons spent centuries studying them all-each one an architectural marvel that’s served as a doorway to a greater miracle. Centuries later, that knowledge was passed to Freemason James Hoban, who designed the White House, and Freemason Gutzon Borghum, who did Mount Rushmore.”

Page 190 “Washington was a Freemason....Jefferson was rumored to be one too. D’you really believe they didn’t know what they were doing? This wasn’t something they unearthed. This is something they were *taught*. Five points on the star, right? In ancient Greece, five was the number of man. And the number of elements: fire, water, air, earth and psyche. Even the church used to embrace the pentagram-just look at it-the five wounds of Jesus”. (take a quick glance of the rosary on the rearview) “but when the symbol is inverted-turned upside down- it becomes the opposite of that. A sign embraced by witches, by the occult and by the *Freemasons*.” “They’ve been invoking they symbol for centuries-placing it on their buildings...above their archways...even here” ...”stabbing the most well known block of Pennsylvania Avenue” “*The White House?*” “They tried it for centuries all over the world. Fortresses in Spain, castles in Ireland, even in the old stone churches in Chicago.”

Page 191 “But for the doorway to open, they needed more than just the right symbols and incantations...*they needed power*. Supreme power...to this day the Freemasons still call Solomon the first grand master! That is why they collected all of history’s leaders! The access to power! *But ...how could no one in the White House notice there was a door with a pentagram on it?* Doors can be removed and replaced.” No, for this the Masons marked something far more permanent.” “One-Dupont Circle...two-Logan Square...three-Washington Circle...four-Mount Vernon Square...and five-1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. The building is the door”.

Page 192 “Start at the Capital and run your finger down Pennsylvania Avenue, all the way to the White House...Now do the same from the Capitol down Maryland Avenue-follow it all the way to the Jefferson Memorial-his own shrine! Now go to Union Station and draw a line down Louisiana Avenue, then on the south side of the Capitol, draw another down Washington Avenue. The lines will connect in front of the Capitol...”

Page 193 “The Compass and the Square. The most sacred Masonic symbol *pointing right to the doorway of the white house...all that power in one place*. What’re they doing, trying to take over the world? ...They did this in plain view! On October 13, **1792**, Maryland’s Masonic Lodge number 9 laid the cornerstone of the White House in a ceremony filled with Freemason rituals...The inscription on the brass plate of that cornerstone says it was laid on the twelfth, but every reputable history book in existence says it was laid on the *thirteenth!* *Thirteen. The number of the Beast.*

What negative perception.

Page 194 “Thirteen blocks north from the White House is where they built the House of the Temple, national headquarters of the Freemasons!” *Thirteen Again!* Now you understand their treachery. They’ve been waiting for centuries.

Page 509 Author’s Note “History has always been filled with exaggerations-and so, a few words about the Freemasons. In this book, the historical details about Freemasonry are based on three years of research. All the historical figures identified as Masons-such as Voltaire, Winston Churchill, Mozart, and certain U.S. Presidents-have been documented as Masons. Throughout history, Thomas Jefferson has been rumored to be a Mason...Nevertheless, Jefferson, Washington, and architect Pierre Charles L’Enfant, while designing the city of Washington D.C. did build the most famous Masonic symbol (the compass and square) and the five pointed pentagram into the city grid. There are disagreements over who had the most influence over the final street plan, but I believe the grid speaks for itself. For over two hundred years, those symbols have been hidden in plain sight. It is also true that on October 13, **1792**, Maryland’s Masonic Lodge Number 9 did lay the cornerstone of the White House in a Freemason ceremony. The same was true during the laying of the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol Building, where George Washington himself presided over the Masonic ceremony. Washington’s Masonic trowel was also used at the cornerstone laying of the Washington Monument, the U.S. Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, the National Cathedral, and the Smithsonian. ..Yet, these facts in no way mean that the Masons are trying to overthrow the world’s governments, open the devil’s door, or unleash secret satanic plots.”

Positive perception?

Page 510 “So why truth from fantasy-especially in a work of fiction? Well, in this world where fact so easily dances with fiction-and where for six novels, I have prided myself on my research-it is important to me, as both author and armchair historian, to make sure I don’t add even more misinformation to whatever small section of the public consciousness I am thankful to touch. So I encourage you to read the historical documents yourself. Any secret fraternity that had John Wayne, Winston Churchill, Benjamin Franklin, Harry Houdini, five Supreme Court Chief Justices, fifteen U. S. Presidents, ...as members just has to be worth checking out. Plus, you should see what symbols they built into the street plan of Sandusky, Ohio. “

What would the non-Mason think of these words probably taken as truth since it is in print?

Secrets of the Code by Dan Burnstein
2004

Page 168 quotes Lynn Pickett and Clive Prince in their book “The Templar Revelation” the following: “The Priory of Sion came to the attention of the English-speaking world as late as 1982, through the best selling *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail* by Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh and Henry Lincoln although in its homeland of France reports of its existence gradually becomes public from the early 1960s.

Page 175 “Freemasonry has undergone so many ... evolutions, and reinventions that it’s not really correct to talk of “the Freemasons” – there is no such thing, there are many variations. But we do think that the link between the Templars and the origins of Freemasonry – among Templars who went underground after the Order was suppressed – is as conclusively proven as anything in this field. The network of Orders behind the Priory of Sion is closely entwined with certain forms of Freemasonry, such as the rectified Scottish Rite.

“What is the main goal or purpose of Freemasons? Today it depends on which Masonic Order you’re talking about. Most would claim it is nothing more than charitable, philosophical, and ethical organizations; while their critics say they’re only about mutual commercial and social advancement.”

Page 187 “There is Guillaume de Gisors, for instance, who in **1306** is said to have organized the Priore de Sion into an “Hermetic Freemasonry”.

Page 204 “My interest in secret societies sparks from growing up in New England, surrounded by the clandestine clubs of Ivy League universities, the Masonic lodges of our Founding Fathers and the hidden hallways of early government power”.

Page 357 “Scottish Rite Masonic Groups have been seen as some of the heirs to the Templar tradition.”

Page 359 “Links have been drawn among Saumiere, the Priory of Sion, the Masons, and the Knights Templar.”

Checkmate by Karma Small Bodman
2007

Page 76 “It was important to spend time in the district, talking to the people at the Chamber of Commerce, the labor unions, the Masons, the Rotary Clubs, the universities, and even the folks at the local diners.” Here the Masons are mentioned as a peer group with other organizations.

Holy Blood, Holy Grail by Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh & Henry Lincoln
1982

Page 79 & 80 “Many Freemasons of the period appropriated the Templars as their own antecedents. Certain Masonic ‘rites’ or ‘observances’ claimed direct lineal descent from the order as well as authorized custody of its arcane secrets. Some of these claims were patently preposterous. Others – resting, for example, on the order’s possible survival in Scotland – may well have a core of validity, even if the attendant trappings are spurious.”

Page 80 “Knights Templar were regarded as occult adepts, illuminated alchemists, magi and sages, master masons, and high initiates – veritable supermen endowed with an awesome arsenal of arcane power and knowledge.” “Certain Masonic lodges have adopted the grade of Templar as well as rituals and appellations supposedly descended from the original order.”

Page 144 “During Cromwell’s Protectorate these dynamic minds, both English and European, formed what (Robert) Boyle ...called ... the Royal Society – with the Stuart ruler Charles II as its patron and sponsor. Virtually all of the Royal Society’s founding members were Freemasons. One could reasonably argue that the Royal Society itself, at least in its inception, was a Masonic institution...”

Page 184 “In 1738 Pope Clement XII issued a papal bull condemning and excommunicating all Freemasons, whom he pronounced ‘enemies of the Roman Church’. In 1962 a letter was released and published for the first time which had been written by Pope Clement XII. Addressed to an unknown correspondent, in its text the Pope declare that Masonic thought rests on a heresy ... - the denial of Jesus’ divinity”...further asserting that the guiding spirits, “the masterminds behind Freemasonry are the same as those who provoked the Lutheran Reformation.” Bad perception?

Page 197 “...in short, it did not, like many rites of Freemasonry consist primarily of freethinkers and atheists. On the contrary, it seems to have been deeply religious and magically oriented – emphasizing a sacred social and political hierarchy, a divine order, an underlying cosmic plan.”

The Arizona Republic, Friday, July 6, 2007

Page A5 “Time Capsule found in Kansas tornado wreck”.....”Among other things, the capsule contained membership lists for the 1937 school board, an American Legion post, the Masonic Lodge, the Methodist Church and a band that played at that year’s Kansas State Fair”. Does the layman consider Freemasonry with more credibility?

Mein Kampf by Adolf Hitler Translated by Ralph Manheim
October 16, 1924 First Marian Books Edition 1999

Page 320 “The general pacifistic paralysis of the national instinct of self-preservation begun by Freemasonry in the circles of the so called intelligentsia is transmitted to the broad masses and above all to the bourgeoisie by the activity of the big papers which today are always Jewish.”

The Man Who Would Be King by Rudyard Kipling
Kiplings Selected Works, Volume 111 1933

As is generally known, “The Man who would be King” has Masonic influence. For example on Page 142: “Where do you come from said I. From the East said he and I am hoping that you will give him the message on the Square-for the sake of my Mother as well as your own.”

Page 158

“By virtue of the authority vested in me by my own right hand and the help of Peachy, I declare myself Grandmaster of all Freemasonry in Kafiristan in this the Mother Lodge’ the country, and King of Kafiristan equally with Peachey! At that he puts on his crown and I put on mine-I was doing Senior Warden-and we opens the Lodge in most ample form. It was an amazing miracle! The priests moved in Lodge through the first two degrees almost without telling, as if the memory was coming back to them.”.....”It was not in any way according to ritual, but it served our turn. We didn’t raise more than ten of the biggest men because we didn’t want to make the Degree common. And they was clamoring to be raised. In another six months we’ll hold another Communication and see how we are working.”

Page 162 “I wished then we had explained about the loss of the genuine secrets of a Master-Mason.”

Confusing to the non-Mason....totally so!

The American Jewish Album 1654 to the Present by Allon Schoner
Page 96

A photo of a Master Mason Certificate, **1858**: “The Masons have been one of the few traditional American organizations to readily accept Jewish members. Isaac Adler became a member in Cairo, Ill. *Credit:* Harriet Bush”

A photo of a Master Mason about **1875**: “Master Mason in full regalia, Georgia. *Credit:* Louis Schmier

The Jesus Family Tomb by Simcha Jacobovici and Charles Pellegrino
2007

Between Pages 109 – 111 A Photo “After the first Crusade, the large circle and chevron symbol from the tomb’s antechamber was replicated in Templar books about the Kingdom of Heaven. About AD 1500, Carucci’s *Supper of Emmaus* recreated Luke 24’s post-resurrection supper in a village near Jerusalem. In Florence, this Renaissance period painting appeared to capture a Crusader-period symbol’s evolution from an orb in a triangle to the all-seeing eye of God.”

From Dawn to Decadence by Jacques Barzun
2000

Page 196

“There was besides an occult tradition comprising the Jewish Cabbala, works on magic highly esteemed by those called Rosicrucians (still an active sect), and ideas that Facino among others attributed to Egyptian wisdom. Some of these ideas also entered into the doctrine of the nascent Freemasons, whose later political included is recorded on the back of the U. S. one-dollar bill in the green pyramid and mottoes.”

Page 419

“Harmoniousness precludes the sublime which, as Burke made clear, requires roughness and magnitude. But at moments, in *Don Giovanni* and in the last of the operas *The Magic Flute*, Mozart reaches it in his way. It is hard to keep from speculating about the effect the artistic fervor of Romanticism he did not live to see would have had on his style. Certainly one only has to read his letters to find a robust nature, sometimes heartily vulgar, and always prompt to rebel. The Freemason’s creed, which he celebrated in *The Magic Flute*, would have prepared him to welcome the revolution of Reason.”

Page 421

“A man calling himself Count Cagliostro was performing miraculous cures....people in high society relied on his services, courted him, assured their friends that he was a supernatural being....” (due to a plot & fraud) “...was condemned to death as a Freemason, but the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.”

Page 433

“What part of this worship was inspired by Freemasonry it is hard to say. What is clear is that this fraternal society flourished during the Enlightenment and created a strong bond among thinkers and politicians alike. Freemasons were a particular kind of Deist, fond of ritual and of myths that they took for history. They revered the Great Architect of the cosmos and followed practices they believed inherited from builders-masons- as far back as Egypt. Hayden and Mozart were Masons who composed great music for their order. Many of the American Founding Fathers were Freemasons...” “On this account some historians have attributed the revolution in France and later upheavals to Freemasons acting as a body of conspirators. More likely, the connection works in reverse: men who broke away from the church in France and who fought for a republic would join the order. It offered a substitute religion that was secular and a politics that was liberal.”

Negative perception?

Napoleon’s Pyramids by William Dietrich
2007

Page 5

“I also hoped for respectability...and by following up on Franklin’s curiosity about Masonic mysteries. He hinted they might have practical application. Indeed, some claimed the United States itself had been founded by Masons for some secret, as yet unrevealed, purpose, and that ours was a Nation with a mission in mind. Alas, Masonic lore required tedious steps toward degree advancement.

Page 21

It helped that Josiah Gage had served in the Continental Army as a Major and, more importantly, was a third-degree Mason. Franklin, a long time Freemason in Philadelphia, had been elected to the Paris Lodge of the Nine Muses in 1777, and the following year was instrumental in getting Voltaire initiated into the same august gathering.” Franklin went on to say “in electricity is the secret force that animates the universe...in Freemasonry is a code of rational behavior and thought that, if followed by all, would do much to cure the world of its ills.”

Positive perception?

Page 22

“Freemasonry dated itself ... finding its roots in the Knights Templar of the Crusades who had their headquarters t Jerusalem’s Temple Mount and later became the bankers and warlords of Europe....Like many Groups, Masons took a certain pride in past persecution. Masonry traces its ancestry to the wise men of the ancient world, and to the stone workers and carpenters who built Solomon’s temple.” Freemasonry’s “emphasis on moral probity and charity instead of dogma and superstition makes its commonsense teachings suspect to religious conservatives. Its exclusivity makes it a subject of jealousy and rumor.

The Holy Kabbalah by A.E. Waite
1960

Page 549

“To establish my point I must refer to the fact that since Masonry appeared on the historical plane, occultists and even mysteries have tended towards it, that it has received them all amiably.”

Bloodline of the Holy Grail by Laurence Gardner
2003

Page 29

“More precisely it defined him (Joseph) as a man of skills – a learned man and a master of his occupation or a Master of the Craft – a term still used in modern Freemasonry.”

Page 115

“Joseph was, after all, a well known metal merchant and artificer in metals: a Master Craftsman as was his father and the Old Testament characters Tubalcain and Hiram Abiff – both remembered in modern Freemasonry.”

Page 199

“The Guild of Masons, who built Chartres and other French cathedrals, were called the Children of Solomon. Hiram Abiff, the architect of King Solomon’s Temple was a Hermetic alchemist – described as an artificer in metals. His ancient forerunner was Tubalcain, the son of Lamech and the teacher of all who followed. In Freemasonry, Hiram Abiff is identified as the Son of the Widow, and in Grail lore the constant epithet of Perceval is precisely the same. The original Widow of the Grail bloodline was Ruth the Moabite, who married Boaz to become the great grand mother of David. Her descendants were called Sons of the Widow.

This quite interesting to Freemasons....but to non-Masons? Now what will they be thinking?

Page 220

“St. Bernard had translated the secret geometry of King Solomon’s masons who, under their own master, Hiram Abiff, were denoted by degrees of knowledge and proficiency. Solomon had specifically approached King Hiram of Tyre for assistance of Hiram Abiff, an architect and metalworker, skilled in sacred geometry. Even though Tyre was a renowned centre of Goddess worship, Hiram Abiff became the chief designer and Master Mason from the Temple of Jehovah. By virtue of this, he was destined to become a key symbolic figure in later Freemasonry.”

Page 221

“Although modern Freemasonry is said to derive from the medieval guilds of Europe, the Craft had far more distant origins. Carvings on the Egyptian obelisk in Central Park, New York, have been identified as Masonic symbols from the time of Pharaoh Tuthmosis (c. 1468-1436 BC).”

John Wayne: American by Randy Richards & James S. Olson
1995

Photograph

“In 1972 he (John Wayne) was inducted as a Master Mason

Tolstoy by Henri Troyat
1965

Page 307

“Every morning he went to the Library of the Rumyantsev Museum where he dug into the manuscripts on Freemasonry which had been outlawed in Russia after the Decembrists’ aborted coup in 1825 and became fascinated by them. His hero, Pierre Bezukhov would become a Freemason.”

Page 308

“the sad thing about these Masons” he wrote “is that they are all imbeciles”. He wanted to know every detail of this characters daily lives to get a cleaner picture of the world they lived in.

“Imbeciles” – rather poor perception.

The Snake Dance of the Moquis of Arizona by John Gregory Bourkee
March 1, 1884 Whipple Barracks, Arizona Territory

Page 184

“Remarks from two uneducated Indians” “Neither was a Mason or member of any secret society; and speaking for myself, I must admit I had accepted as final conclusions of Thomas de Quincy that Masonry, the oldest of the secret orders of our day, was nothing but an offshoot from the Society of the Illuminati which sprang up shortly after the Reformation in Germany, from which country it was brought by Roger Ashmole in the early years of the seventeenth century

The Power and the Glory (Inside the dark heart of John Paul11’s Vatican) by
David Yallop
2007

Page 33

“...the Vatican appeared to be bulging at the seams with Masons. Freemasonry had been strictly forbidden by a succession of popes reaching back many hundreds of years. Luciani (Pope John Paul 1) had been given a secret list of 121 alleged Masons, many working close to him in the Vatican. In his meeting with (Cardinal Jean) Villot on 28 September, he advised his Secretary of State of various changes and transfers. Each of them involved removing a man who was on the list of Vatican Freemasons.”

Lives of the Popes by Richard P. McBrien
1997

Page 321

“...Clement XI...also published in **1738** the first papal condemnation of Freemasonry, forbidding Catholics to belong to Masonic Lodges under pain of excommunication, because of their secret oaths, religious indifferentism and naturalistic morality.”

Page 323

“...Benedict XIV...although he renewed Clement XII’s condemnation of Freemasonry and condemned various writings...”

Page 336

“...Pius VIII...blamed the breakdown of religion and the social order on indifferentism, the activities of Protestant Bible societies, attacks on Catholic dogma and the sacredness of marriage, and the existence of secret societies. The next year he condemned Freemasonry’s influence on education and in the declining moral standards of young people.”

Terrible perception?

Page 349

“...Leo XIII...Although the new Pope was much more of a moderate than his predecessor, Leo XIII continued many of Pius IX’s policies regarding, for example, socialism, Communism, and Freemasonry.”

Genesis of the Grail Kings by Laurence Gardner
2004

Page 132

“In the alchemical tradition he was indeed a *q’ayin* – an artificer of metals of the highest order, as were his descendants, particular Tubal-cain (Genesis: 4:22) who is revered in scientific Freemasonry. Tubal-cain was the great Vulcan of the era – the holder of Plutonic theory (knowledge of the actions of internal heat) and he was, therefore, a prominent alchemist.”

Page 161

“In the hermetic lore of the ancient Egyptian mystery schools, this process of achieving enlightened consciousness was of express importance, with spiritual regeneration taking place by degrees through the thirty-three vertebrae of the spinal column until reaching the pituitary gland which invokes the pineal body. The source of this regeneration is one of the Lost Keys of Freemasonry, and it is the reason why ancient Freemasonry was founded upon thirty-three degrees.”

Page 201

“But the English Masonic system, which was extensively revised in the 18th century Georgian times, adopted an exclusively Western doctrine wherein Thoth, the traditionally styled Great Architect, was figuratively supplanted by the Judeo-Christian God. By virtue of this adjustment, it is claimed that the original secrets of Freemasonry have been lost.”

Page 272

“The revered Emerald Table contains the most ancient of all alchemical formulae, which were of great significance to the early mystery schools. But the secret have long been withheld from the brethren of modern Freemasonry whose leaders, for the past two centuries or more, have elected to pursue a spurious and strategically contrived allegorical ritual which teaches nothing of the true art of the original Master Craftsmen.”

Fateful Choices The Decisions that Changed the World by Ian Kershaw
2007

Page 387

“During the 1920s Hitler’s image of America (apart from its peculiarly vehement anti-semitic content and additional heavy focus on Freemasonry) had largely matched widespread stereotypes in right-wing circles in Germany. Unsurprisingly, in the early years of his political ‘career’ America’s role in the First World War – which he saw as dictated by the interests of Jewish Finance Capital and Freemasonry – was the point of reference.”

The Goldwater’s of Arizona by Dean Smith
1986

Page 68

“Goldwater’s new Prescott store building, which had been attracting attention of the populace during nearly a year of construction was not ready in time for Christmas 1879. On December 4, the Miner reported the project was nearly finished. The Masonic Hall in the upper portion of the building is a perfect gem, being finished in the most elaborate manner. It is worth going to see.” This is close to home and a very nice perception.

Page 102

“Morris Goldwater, with Masonic decorations.” Full page picture.

Malice by Robert K. Tanenbaum
2007

Pages 177/178

“I believe it is an unauthorized edition exposing an organization so secret that they make the Freemasons look like publicity seekers”

Bad perception?

German History 1770-1866 by James J. Sheehan

Pages 192/193

“Perhaps most significant of all, there was a large number of secret societies, many of which had definite political orientations. Soon after it was imported from England to Hamburg in the late 1730s, Freemasonry spread across central Europe, some Lodges were socially elitist and politically conservative. ‘To think freely...is the spirit of our royal arts,’ declared some British Freemasons in 1786. We ‘abhor the intrigues which seek to rob men of their noble rights and bar from our sanctuary the enemies of healthy reason and true enlightenment’. As Mozart so gloriously demonstrated in *The Magic Flute*, Masonic ritual and ideals could be used to celebrate human liberation. “ .

The Catholic Church and Nazi Germany by Gwenter Lewy

1964

Page 6

- “The *Katholikenbund* called for a fight against the three forces of evil which it considered the enemies of Germany as well as of the Church: Marxists, Jews and Freemasons

Page 278

Some Bishops, despite all evidence to the contrary, were unwilling to forego the disparaging argument of Corvin’s Jewish ancestry. Bishop Buchberger in a pastoral letter in February 1937, called Corvin a “half-Jew and Freemason.”

Facts About The Presidents by Joseph Nathan Kane

1993

(There have been so many documents written regarding Freemasons who have become United States Presidents. The following is merely one sample)

Page 337

“Presidents Who Were Masons”

Washington Aug. 4, 1753, Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Fredericksburg, Va.

Monroe 1775, Williamsburg Lodge No. 6, Williamsburg, Va.

Jackson 1800, Harmony Lodge No. 1, Nashville, Tenn.

Polk Sept 4, 1820, Columbia Lodge No. 31, Columbia, Tenn.

Buchanan Jan. 24, 1817, Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pa.

Johnson (A) 1851, Greeneville Lodge No. 119, Greeneville, Tenn.

Garfield Nov. 23, 1864, Magnolia Lodge No. 21, Columbus, Ohio

McKinley May 3, 1865, Hiram Lodge #21, Winchester, VA

Roosevelt (T) Apr. 24, 1901, Matinecock Lodge No 806, Oyster Bay, N. Y.

Taft Feb. 18, 1909, affiliated with Kilwinning Lodge No. 356, Cincinnati, Ohio

Harding Aug. 27, 1920, Marion lodge #70, Marion, Ohio

Roosevelt (F.D.) Nov. 28, 1911, Holland Lodge, No. 8, Hyde Park, N.Y.

Truman Mar. 9, 1909, Belton Lodge No. 450, Belton, Mo.

Johnson (L. B.) Oct. 30, 1937, Johnson City Lodge No. 361, Johnson City, Tex.

Ford May 18, 1931, Malta Lodge No. 465, Grand Rapids, Mich.

American Connections by James Burke
2007

Page 136/137

“The official Masonic organization in America asked Cerneau to cease and desist but he didn’t. His version of New York Freemasonry continued to hold meetings and so whatever Masons did. In 1824, just before he finally left for France in (no surprise) suspicious circumstances Gcerneau managed to induct a new Masonic Grand Commander. None other than the Marquis de Lafayette

Page 208

“Augustus Frederick (asthmatic, weedy, and grand master Freemason) was a nerd, a popular after-dinner speaker, and had a fifty-thousand-book library”.

Not a very flattering perception.

The Oxford Companion to British History edited by John Cannon
1997

Page 394

“Freemasons were originally skilled workers in stone who, in the Middle ages, traveled from site to site and developed secret signs and passwords for private identification. With the decline of cathedral building the guilds began to accept honorary members to bolster declining membership, these being similarly required to help all members as brothers. Soon they ceased to have much resemblance to craft guilds and became prosperous social clubs, which claimed to do much charitable and philanthropic work. Freemasonry revived after the expulsion of James II, influenced by Huguenot immigrants. Lodges were better organized with regular meetings after 1691, and admitted broader social ranks, the first grand lodge was founded in 1717. The movement prospered, with many lodges owning their premises, and in 1802, they established themselves as a national organization, identified with monarchy and Protestantism, although Freemasonry is not actually a Christian institution. Schemes were developed for mutual help in times of distress and aid for dependents – one of their best-known charitable endowments is the Royal Masonic Hospital. The framework created self-help, particularly to meet privations caused by illness, sudden death and unemployment. Largely because of their secrecy, freemasons have attracted much criticism, particularly from the Roman Catholic Church, which believed freemasonry to be a cover for free thinking; others suspected secret political influence or accused members of promoting each other’s interest by stealth.”

Encyclopedia of Religious Freedom by Catharine Cookson, Editor
2003

Page 393

“Approximately every 30 years or so since 1800, there has been an outburst religiously motivated terrorism in America. These outbursts are usually only the most disturbingly viable expressions of deeper upsurges of religious statement that temporarily seize large elements of the public imagination.

While the enemies of the movements naturally change over time – from the Illuminati and Freemasons to Jesuits, to the Hidden Hand, to communist, to Jews, to Negroes, to Satanists, witches and homosexuals – the complaint issued against them essentially remains unaltered. First, they are accused of advocating an evil agenda consisting of secularism, humanism, tolerance of difference, and individual rights. Second, to advance this agenda they are locked in a secret cabal with Satan.

Anti-Semitism – Myth and Hate From Antiquity to the Present by Marvin Perry and Frederick M. Schweitzer
2002

Page 108

“Had not Kaiser William 11 rejoiced at news of the brutal Kishinev pogrom in Ukraine and urged the authorities to throw the pigs out when informed that fleeing Russian Jews were seeking refuge in Germany? And like other ultra conservatives, had he not wanted to reverse civil rights for Jews? Did he not repeat the lie that Jews controlled the economy and the government and were conspiring with Masons and Jesuits to dominate the world?”

Certainly negative perception.

Page 116

“In calling for holy war against Israel, the covenant of Hamas, drawn up in 1998, also employees the language of the *Protocols*.

Our enemies have planned from time immemorial in order to reach the position they’ve obtained now. They strive to collect enormous material riches to be used in the utilization of their dream. With money, they’ve gained control of the international media beginning with news agencies, newspapers and publishing houses, broadcasting stations...With their money they have detonated revolutions in different parts of the world to obtain their interests and reap their fruits. They were behind the French Revolution and the Communist Revolution and were also responsible for most of the revolutions we’ve heard about elsewhere. With their money they have created secret organizations which spread through out the world in order to destroy societies and to achieve Zionist interest such as the Free Masons, the Rotary and the Lions Clubs. All these are destructive espionage organizations.”

The Templar Revelation, Secret Guardians of the True Identity of Christ by Lynn Picknett and Clive Prince
1998

Page 15

“Along the way we had to pause and examine many groups and secret organizations with a totally new and objective eye: The Freemasons, the Knights Templar, the Cathars, the Priory of Sion, the Essenes and the cult of Isis and Osiris.”

Page 40

There did appear to be some shadowy organization behind Leonardo's obsessions: but was it, a some claim, actually the Priory of Sion?

If the Priory's claims are true, then it was already a venerable organization when Leonardo was recruited into its ranks.. But whatever its age, it must have exerted a powerful, perhaps a unique, attraction for the young artist and for several of his equally incredulous Renaissance colleagues. Perhaps like the modern Freemasons, it offered material and social advancement, easing the young man's path through the most influential courts."

Page 111

"The legendary Temple of Solomon was, to the Templars, as to the later Freemasons, the finest hour and exemplar of all sacred geometry."

Page 126

"To many outsiders Freemasonry is simply a quaint old boys' club, an insiders' network that provides lucrative business contacts and influence for its members. Its ritual side is perceived as being ludicrous – with brothers rolling up one trouser leg and uttering archaic and meaningless oaths..."

Page 132

"The idea has been proposed that the Templars effectively hid themselves within the high grades of Freemasonry."

Pages 141

"After 1770...where once there were clear distinctions between Masons, Suddenly all such groups became so intimately entwined as to seem virtually one and the same." This is particularly confusing because it is in many cases impossible to establish which systems were eighteenth-century innovations and which were genuinely older." "Use of the word Templar had become a problem for this school of Masonry. There was friction between its members and mainstream Freemasons, who officially rejected the suggestion of Templar origins – being especially irritated by van Hund's declaration that 'Every Mason is a Templar'.

Page 146

“Before his execution , Jacques de Molay...organized and instituted Occult Masonry. If true, this assertion alone changes the accepted version of history dramatically. It provides the direct and authoritative link between one type of Freemasonry and the old Templars – and therefore it might well follow that these particular Masons could have something to teach us about the Templar knowledge.”

Page 204

“The best analogy is with a Masonic lodge room. To a non-initiate the various symbols employed in such a Temple – the compasses, set-squares and other regalia – simply cannot be decoded to give any coherent picture of what Masons are really about. One has to know the underlying philosophy, history and secrets that they symbolize to understand what they are doing there. Many have discerned the symbols of various occult and secret societies... the Knights Templar and the Freemasons – in the church’s décor.”...”One of the most frequently cited anomalies in the Stations of the Cross is that of the Eighth Station, in which Jesus (effortlessly carrying his cross) meets a woman who is wearing what appears to be a widow’s veil, and who has her arm around a little boy who is swathed in what seems to be some tartan material. This is taken to be a reference to the Freemasons, who call themselves ‘Sons of the Widow’.

Page 281

“Another parallel with the mystery schools – and one which has no parallel with Judaic belief or practice – is the story of the raising of Lazarus. This is clearly an initiatory act: Lazarus is ‘raised’ in the *symbolic* death and rebirth that was a common feature of the mystery schools of the time, and which has echoes in certain rituals of modern Freemasonry.”

Our Sunday Visitor’s Catholic Almanac by Matthew E. Bunson, D. Min.
2006 Edition

Page 142

“Freemasons: A fraternal order that originated in London in 1717 with the formation of the first Grand Lodge of Freemasons...its principles and basic rituals embody a naturalistic religion, active participation in which is incompatible with Christian faith and practice. Grand Orient Freemasonry, developed in Latin countries, is atheistic, irreligious and anticlerical. In some places, Freemasonry has been regarded as subversive of the state; in Catholic quarters, it has been considered hostile to the Church and its doctrine. In the United States, Freemasonry has been widely regarded as a fraternal and philanthropic order.

For serious doctoral and pastoral reasons, Catholics were forbidden to join the Freemasons under penalty of excommunication, according to church law before 1983. Eight different Popes in 17 different pronouncements and at least six different local councils, condemned Freemasonry....Eastern Orthodox and many Protestant bodies have also opposed the order....In the U.S. there was some easing of the ban against Masonic membership by Catholics in view of a letter written in 1974 by Cardinal Franjo Seper, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The letter was interpreted to mean that Catholics might join Masonic Lodges which were not anti-Catholic. This was called erroneous in a declaration issued by the Doctoral Congregation, Feb. 17, 1981. ... The Church's negative position on Masonic associations remains unaltered, since their principles have always been regarded as irreconcilable with the Church's doctrine. Hence joining them remains prohibited by the Church. Catholics enrolled in Masonic associations are involved in serious sin and may not approach Holy Communion"

Page 226

"1738 Freemasonry was condemned by Clement XII and Catholics were forbidden to join, under penalty of excommunication; the prohibition was repeated by Benedict XIV in 1751 and by later Popes."

The Last Secret of the Temple by Paul Sussman
2005

Page 225

"Around a whole thicket of theory and supposition had sprung up. ... one website for instance, which opened to a fanfare of Gregorian chants, some of it relatively innocuous, most downright absurd....there had been plenty more...linking...everything from Freemasons to the Holy Grail, the Knights Templar to the Bermuda Triangle."

The Mephisto Club by Tess Gerritsen
2006

Pages 152/153

"Experts on satanic cults will tell you this is a symbol for Lucifer's all seeing eye....some conspiracy theorists claim it's the same eye printed on U.S. currency....This is also a symbol used by the ancient fraternity of Freemasons. In which case it has a benign meaning. For them, it symbolizes enlightenment, illumination. The seeking of knowledge...It's about learning the secrets of their craft. The poor Freemasons have been the target of so many malicious accusations.."

The Wall Street Journal January 25, 2008
Marketplace Section

Page B1

“Dan Brown’s 2003 novel “The Da Vinci Code was the biggest publishing event in decades, a global best-seller that spawned dozens of literary knockoffs, a cottage industry of explanatory nonfiction titles, and a vast European tourism business focused on sites mentioned in the book.....no book has been as eagerly awaited as Mr. Brown’s next novel, purported to be about freemasonry and the Founding Fathers. ... So where is the new novel? ... Dan Brown has a very specific release date for the publication of his new book and when the book is published his readers will see why. What date will that be? Since some of the leaders of the American Revolution were masons, including George Washington, an obvious reference book would be July Fourth. In addition to it being Independence Day, the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4, 1848 in a ceremony hosted by the Freemasons.

There are other more obscure dates that could be significant, however: On September 18, 1793, President Washington led a Masonic parade down Pennsylvania Avenue to lay the cornerstone of the U. S. Capital. It is considered one of the most important events in Masonic history. A third choice? The cornerstone of the White House was laid on Oct. 13, 1792, during a Masonic celebration. (On that date in 1307, the King of France ordered the arrest of Knights Templar. There has been speculation connecting the Knights and the origins of the Masons, although the matter is in question.)

Mr. Brown’s publisher said several years ago that the next book is tentatively titled “The Solomon’s Key”. In an undated post on his web site, Mr. Brown writes that it is set ‘deep within the oldest fraternity in history...the enigmatic brotherhood of the Masons.’

The Masons are a fraternal society dedicated to self-improvement and charitable works. Membership is open to all religious and political parties.”

The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations

Third Edition

1979

Doyle:14 – The Norwood Builder

“You mentioned your name as If I recognize it, but beyond the obvious facts that you are a bachelor, a solicitor, a Freemason, and an asthmatic, I know nothing about you.”

Standing With Israel by David Brog
2006

Page 206

“We are told that the Illuminati, a Bavarian secret society, launched the conspiracy in the late eighteenth century to gain control of the world’s wealth. The first phase of their plot required establishing strong central governments, who centralized financial institutions, that could extract the wealth of the nations under their control and deliver it to the conspirators. Toward this end, (Robertson writes), the Illuminati and their partners in crime – the Freemasons and certain financial elites – established the Bank of England and engineered the French Revolution and the Russian Revolution.”

Poor perception?

True Holocaust by Martin Gilbert
1982

Page 30

“On March 15, 1931 Nazi Party Officials were told: the natural hostility of the peasant against the Jews, and his hostility against the Freemasons as a servant of the Jew, must be worked up to a frenzy”.

Lenin, Stalin and Hitler by Robert Gellately
2007

Page 109

“The Sickle is the symbol of cruelty, the hammer, the symbol of Freemasonry.”

Kristallnacht by Martin Gilbert
2006

Page 36

“Death to international Judaism and Freemasonry.”

Horrible perception but in fact, if the reader considers this time period and is an objective researcher or thinker perhaps this will be a catalyst towards positive perception?

In God's Name An Investigation into the Murder of Pope John Paul I by David A. Yallop

1984

Page 2, 3

“There was one common denominator, one fact that linked each of the men to be replaced. Villot was aware of it. More important, so was the Pope. It had been one of the factors that had caused him to act, to strip these men of real power and put them into relatively harmless positions. It was Freemasonry.

The evidence that the Pope has acquired indicated that within the Vatican City State there were over one hundred Masons, ranging from Cardinals to Priests. This despite the fact that Canon Law stated that to be a Freemason ensured automatic excommunication. Luciani was further preoccupied with an illegal Masonic Lodge that had penetrated far beyond Italy in its search for wealth and power. It called itself P2.”

Page 115

“Ironically it had been his beloved leader Mussolini who had banned the Freemasons. Mussolini had considered them ‘a state within a state’. Gelli joined a conventional Masonic Lodge in November, 1963. He rapidly rose to third-degree membership, which made him eligible to lead a lodge. The then grand master, Giordano Gamberini, urged Gelli to form a circle of important people, some of whom might eventually become Masons but all of whom could be useful to the growth of legitimate Freemasonry. Gelli leaped at the opportunity. What he in fact conceived was an illegal secret organization. This Group was given the name ‘Raggruppamento Gelli – P2’. The P stood for propaganda.”

Page 117

“It was through such arms deals that Klaus Barbie, an unrepentant member of the SS, and Lucio Gelli became business partners: Barbie, the man who between May, 1940 and April, 1942 was responsible for the liquidation of all known Freemasons in Amsterdam, And Lucio Gelli, the grand master of Masonic Lodge P2.”

“Recall that to be a Mason meant automatic excommunication from the Roman Catholic Church. Before the conclave there had been various murmurings that several of the leading *papabili* were Masons. ... with the view that it was unthinkable for a priest to become a member.

The World Book Dictionary

1967

A – K

Page 790

“A Member of a Class of skilled workers in the 1300s, and later who traveled from place to place and formed a society using a system of secret signs and pass words....The principles, practices and institutions for the Society of Freemasons....A member of a worldwide secret society whose purpose mutual aid of fellowship.”

The Assassins Gallery by David L. Robbins

2006

Pg. 87

“The symbol of the assassins is an offshoot on the Freemasons emblem, sort of a compass and square piercing a heart.”

Secret Societies by Michael Howard

2008

Page 1

“The two major secret societies formed in this period (sixteenth & seventeenth centuries) revealed themselves...were Freemasonry and the Order of the Rosy Cross. The beliefs and practices of these two clandestine fraternities provide an insight into the workings of the occult conspiracy...”

Page 2

“Freemasonry which has been singled out as a potentially corrupting influence in modern society.”

Page 70

“One of the many titles used by the Masonic secret societies...was the Illuminati.”

Page 95

“The secret influence of esoteric societies, both Masonic and Rosicrucian...is illustrated by the occult symbolism in the American flag and the Great Seal.”

Page 111

“In fact, the President (Roosevelt) was eager to have the Masonic symbol of the all seeing eye on American currency...”

Page 160

Hitler said “The Masons have developed an esoteric doctrine, not formulated it, but imparted it through the medium of symbols and mysterious rites...our party must be of this order...we shall form an order, the Brotherhood of the Templar’s around the Holy Grail of the pure blood”.

Page 181

“When the Masonic Lodges began to spread throughout Europe, the (Catholic) Church reacted by conducting a smear camp against them similar to the one used against heretics and witches.”

Page 187

“Any Catholic who was found to be a Mason...could be excommunicated.”

The Life of Johnny Reb by Bell Irvin Riley
1943

Page 168

“The Masonic Order was particularly active among some portions of the Army and its sessions were apparently well attended by soldier members.”

Rodeo Girl by Lisa Eisner
2000

Pictorial Section

Picture of a Shrine Clown with sign which says “I am a Shrine Clown”.

The Holocaust Museum in Washington by Jeshajahu Weinberg and Rina Elieli
1995

Page 159

“Although most of the exhibits refer to the Jewish victims . the exhibition also includes material about the Poles, the Sinti, the Roma, Soviet POWs, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Freemasons and political dissidents.”

The Eight by Katherine Neville
1988

Page 108

“I know the secret is older than the Moors, older than the Basques. Older, indeed, than the Druids. I must ask you...have you ever heard of a secret society of men who sometimes call themselves the Freemasons?”

Why Marines Fight by James Brady
2007

Page 4

“War is a strange country...there is a sort of complicated ritual to it, a freemasonry, a violent priesthood, Only fighting men are qualified to exchange the secret fraternal handshake, the mythic nod and wink of understanding.”

The Gaudi Key by Esteban Martin & Andreu Carranza
2007

Page 40

“This was the end of the nineteenth century, and back then Barcelona, Spain was a thriving city, in full expansion; it was at the center of many social and political trends of the day, a refuge for fringe groups in Europe; anarchists, socialists, communists, carbonari, Masons – each had a huge presence in the city.”

Page 159

“Freemasonry, or Masonry, is an organization defined as a philosophical and philanthropic brotherhood whose aims are the material and moral betterment of human beings and society, and whose structural base is formed by the Lodge. Masonic Lodges are normally recognized administratively into Grand Lodges (sometimes called Orient Lodges)”.

Page 238

“The Supreme Pontiff had used every means he could to combat the expansion of Masonic Lodges...in Europe at the turn of the last century”.

The Keep by F. Paul Wilson
1981

Page 80

“Do you know how many Jews there are in Romania...No one knows for sure...But that’s not the worse of it – the country is absolutely crawling with the Gypsies and Freemasons.”

Glory Days by Janus Adams
1995

Page 5/6

“The year 1787 marked a turning point in the way African-Americans viewed themselves as a free people in America. In Philadelphia, the Free African Society was formed becoming the first secular black organization in the Country and in Boston on May 6, 1787, Prince Hall founded the world’s first Black Masonic Lodge.”

On March 6, 1775, he was one of 15 blacks inducted into a British Masonic Lodge, but the new members were denied access to the Lodge’s full privileges.”

Page 11/16

“Nancy Gardner Prince wrote, I left America, November 16, 1840 in the ship Scion, Captain Mansfield bound for Jamaica, freighted with ice and machinery for the silk factory.” “In short nothing happened on November 16, 1840. This fact has been preserved in book form 160 years later because the writer of the narrative was an African-American woman. She was married to Nero Prince, a co-founder with Prince Hall of the first African-American Order of Freemasons....”

Ghost Soldiers by Hampton Sides
2001

Page 136

“During their free hours, the prisoners at Cabanatuan (The Philippine Islands) did what Americans do instinctively – the formed little groups and clans and held spontaneous meetings. The Knights of Pythias gathered once a week as did the Knights of Columbus, the Masons....”

Freemasons, Inside the World's Oldest Secret Society by H. Paul Jeffers
2005

Page xi

“That Masonry is shrouded in closely held rites and rituals, including an oath of secrecy taken by its members, has created a mystique and a widely held belief that Masons are a group with sinister objectives and that they are anti-Christians.”

Terrible perception?

Page 82

“The first Protestant country to enact restrictive measures against Masonry was Holland in 1735”. Following were Geneva (1738), Zurich (1740) and Berne (1745). “After the papal bull of 1738, Spain, Portugal and Italy attempted to suppress Masonry. Bavaria followed in 1784, Austria in 1795 and Russia in 1822. This was not the case in the British Isles, where Freemasonry flourished with royal approval.”

Page 104

Throughout history many suspicious non Masons have denounced Freemasonry. Freemasons have been called explorers of the occult, a den of Satanism, a threat to civic democracy and obviously anti-religion. During the 1920s there was serious anti-Masonry propaganda. In the 1930s, Page 158 of *Freemason, 2005* states: “in 1931, Nazi party officials were given a Guide & Instructional Letter which said ‘ the natural hostility of the peasant against the Jews and his hostility against the Freemason as a servant of the Jew, must be worked up to a frenzy’. This continued throughout the 1930s.

Nothing changed during the 1940s when Hitler decreed “Freemasons and the ideological enemies of national socialism who are allied with them are the originators of the present war.” During this period Masonic libraries and archives were seized for “scientific research work.”

In 1945, Newsweek reported that “European Freemasons has been persecuted more thoroughly in the last twenty years than ever before in its turbulent history.

The Freemasons by Jasper Ridley
2001

Page 1

“The Masons were different”.

Page 279

“A more threatening and successful attack on the Freemasons was launched in the 1980s by the popular writer Stephen Knight. He claimed he was exposing Freemasonry as a conspiracy by the Freemasons to help each other against the rest of the world. According to Knight, Freemasons in official positions, having sworn to do this by their fearsome Masonic oaths, with the bloodcurdling penalties for breaking their oaths, place their loyalty to their Masonic brothers above their public duties.”

Back Cover

“The Freemasons are a subject of endless fascination.”

Book of the Commandery by John W. Simons
1864

Preface

The Burial Service, by Sir John L. Lewis, has already been presented to the Order and every Templar will be glad to possess a copy...”

French Revolution by Sylvia Neely
2008

Page 27

“Religious devotion seemed to be waning in the late eighteenth century. Bequests made to religious organizations when a person died were declining and so were the number of candidates for the priesthood. Fewer religious books were being published while, at the same time, Freemasonry was spreading.”

Devil Bones by Kathy Reichs
2008

Page 205

“There are so many misconceptions about us. We’re linked to Satanism, Vampirism, Freemasonry. Some say we engage in group sex and human sacrifice. It’s all madness, based on ignorance.”

A Textbook of Masonic Jurisprudence of Freemasonry by Albert G. Mackey, M.D.
1870

Preface

“if I had been consulted on the subject, another edition of the “Principles of Masonic Law”, which was first published in 1856, would never have been given to the world; at least, it should not have been sent forth without a diligent correction of those opinions in it which I now believe to be erroneous....but the control of the book is not in my hands....there is no dishonor in acknowledging a mistake – there is much, in obstinately persisting in it.”

Charleston S.C.
April, 1859

Forbidden Knowledge by Pearson, Hattikudor & Hunt
2005

Pg. 16 “This is the granddaddy of all not-so-secret societies...Freemasonry is split into numerous subgroups and orders, all of which consider God the Grand Geometrician, or Great Architect of the Universe, at their hearts, these groups are all means of exploring ethical and philosophical issues and their rituals and symbols are famous or infamous. Take for instance, the square-and- compass logo often seen on the backs of cadillacs...but perhaps the Mason’s greatest stripes have been made in fast food: KFC’s Colonel Sanders and Wendy’s Dave Thomas knew how to secret shake with the best of ‘em.”

The Fire by Katherine Neville
2008

Page 317

“I thought that George Washington provided the original instructions for the capital city....after all he’s the one who bought the land, who hired the folks who laid out the square, with all those moronic-Masonic trappings...’

The Battle for Spain by Anthony Beevor
2006

Pg. 88

“...Troops were ordered to eliminate left-wing elements, communists, anarchists, union members, Freemasons...”

Pg. 94

“The Carlists on the other hand, were fired by religious fanaticism to avenge the Church by wiping out such modern evils as Freemasonry....”

Pg. 407

“Freemasons....were responsible for the loss of the Spanish Empire...”

The Lost Ark of the Covenant by Tudor Parfitt
2006

Pg. 156

“I may not have finished my Ph.D. but I do like to think of myself as a scholar...he jumbles everything up and drags in every cliché’ from modern rubbish writing from the Freemasons to the Holy Grail....”

The Masada Scroll by Paul Block & Robert Vaughan
2007

Pg. 68

“The symbol of Via Dei – a pyramid and cross capped by a circle – is considered by some to have been influenced by the Freemasons.”

So, I ask you. For so many non-Masons reading fact & fiction what kind of effect do these "Writing's (from the mid-1800s to present) Influence the non-Mason's Perception of Freemasonry? Confusing to say the least.

I have reviewed and acknowledged the quotes from each of the Publications listed below. In writing this research paper for Scientia Coronati Research Lodge #4, Prescott, Arizona, extracts have been freely made from all accessible sources of information, among the books consulted and from which phrases, sentences and paragraphs have been selected from the following:

Quoted Publications

Newspapers

Wall Street Journal - 2008
The Arizona Republic - 2007

Non-Fiction

The Templar Revelation - 1998
Anti-Semitism - 2002
Encyclopedia of Religious Freedom - 2003
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Authors write articles, books, papers, etc. for an assortment of reasons which include ego, profit, education, publications, job requirements and more. But in all cases the subject matter must include curiosity, interest and appeal. "Poetic License" means the truth may be stretched out. Unfortunately, and most especially in fiction writings a well-known recognized name or topic may be used. Since it is in "print" the uneducated or uninformed or ignorant susceptible reader accepts the "print" as truth. Or perhaps what is written is true but may be out of context or in abbreviated form from which then the meaning or definition is only

what the reader wants it to be. Thus, the perception. I have always believed that “yellow journalism” and “sensationalism sells regardless of how deeply the truth is imprecise, distorted or blatant lies. Thus, in this case, Freemasonry suffers.

I thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation to Scientia Coronati Research Lodge #4 brothers and guests with the purpose of using this paper as a catalyst for a meaningful discussion on not only for what is written and stated here; but, if indeed there are areas of concerns...then how do we as Master Masons address these concerns and make “right” the onslaught of offensive and/or vicious rumors which in cycles attacks Freemasonry.

Again, thank you.

Stan Martin