



We become better educators realizing his gifts, what he passed on to us; we are very excited to share portions of his work at MCME 2024.

<Citing: Grand Lodges of Maryland, Massachusetts and Ohio, & Philosophical Society.org>

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MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

JANUARY 17, 1706, BOSTON – APRIL 17, 1790, PHILADELPHIA

FRANKLIN'S METHODOLOGY AND ATTITUDES ON ADULT EDUCATION

- ❖ DO ALL YOU CAN IN SCIENCES... AND THEN GO A LITTLE FURTHER. KEEP COPIOUS NOTES. REFINE AND REPEAT. WHAT ONE SCIENTIST CAN DO ANOTHER SCIENTIST CAN DO.
- ❖ NOT ONLY MASTER, BUT LEAVE SCIENCES FURTHER DEVELOPED THAN YOU FOUND THEM, WHERE POSSIBLE.
- ❖ EACH ACCORDING TO HIS GIFTS, GOD'S GIFTS IMPARTED UNIQUELY UPON US. WHAT ARE YOUR STRONGEST TALENTS? HOW ARE YOU APPLYING THEM? WHAT SCIENCES MAY BE ON THE BUCKET LIST FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT?
- ❖ APPLY YOURSELF AND THE SCIENCES THOROUGHLY AND EXPANSIVELY. WE SHALL SHOW BEN APPLYING HIMSELF AND THE SCIENCES EXPANSIVELY, ALWAYS BUILDING UP. HE GREW MANY SCIENCES IN WHICH HE WAS INTIMATELY INVOLVED, LIKE RHETORIC, LIKE MUSICK AND MANY OTHERS INCLUDING THE NOVEL, LIKE ELECTRICITY...
- MORALITY AND SOCIETAL LOVE IS A MOST DIVINE DRIVING INFLUENCE IMPROVING INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES. BE CONTENTED NOT BY MAKING MONEY, NOR BE TEMPTED BY PERSONAL EMOLUMENT. THE HIGHEST CALLING IN LIFE IS REALIZED IN EDUCATING, GROWING AND IMPROVING THE LIVES AND LIBERTIES OF ORDINARY PEOPLE.

"THE OLD GOTHIC CONSTITUTIONS" PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC BOOK CLUB 1985

(CITE: ROBERTS 1722, BRISCO 1724, COLE 1729, DODD 1739)

THIS ART WAS FIRST INVENTED BY JABAL THE SON OF LAMECH AND ADAH, BY WHOM THE FIRST HOUSE WITH STONES AND TREES WAS BUILT.

JABAL WAS THE FIRST TO WRITE ON THESE SUBJECTS, WITH HIS BRETHREN JUBAL, TUBAL CAIN, AND NAAMAH, WHO TOGETHER WROTE THESE ARTS, WHICH WERE FOUND BY [HERMARINES] "HERMES THE FATHER OF WISDOM" WHO TAUGHT SCIENCE.



Grand Commandery
of Knights Templar
of Minnesota

11501 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437

KT Education: August 2023

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* GRAMMAR: Teacheth a Man to Speak and Write truly.

* RHETORICK: Teacheth a Man to Speak Fair and in Subtle Terms.

* LOGICK: Teacheth to discern Truth from Falsehood.

* ARITHMETICK: Teacheth to Reckon and Count all Manner of Numbers.

* MUSICK: Teacheth the Voice, as Harp and Organ.

* ASTRONOMY: Teacheth to know the Course of the Sun and Moon, and other Ornaments of the Heavens.

* GEOMETRY: Teacheth to Meter and Measure the Earth, and the Things of the same of which SCIENCE is MASONRY.

THE OLD GOTHIC
CONSTITUTIONS

Facsimile reprints of
four early printed texts of
the Masonic Old Charges:
the pamphlets issued by
Roberts (1722), Briscoe (1724),
Cole (1729), and Dodd (1739)

With an introduction by
Wallace McLeod

VOLUME SIXTEEN
of the publications of
The Masonic Book Club

Published by
The Masonic Book Club
A Not-for-Profit Corporation of Illinois
Bloomington, Illinois
1985

Mail in the American Colonies

Mail delivery in the British-ruled American colonies was established very soon after the founding of the colonies themselves. The first post office in the colonies was established in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1639, when the city was only nine years old, and other local post offices soon sprang up in other American cities. Initially, most of the mail that was sent from these post offices traveled between the colonies and Great Britain rather than within one colony or between the colonies. The reason for this was simple: sending mail was very expensive. As a result, typically only the most important messages, often those between Great Britain and governmental bodies in the colonies, were thought to be worth the cost of mailing a letter.

only were thought to be worth the cost of mailing a letter between Great Britain and governmental bodies in the colonies only the most important messages, often those between Great Britain and governmental bodies in the colonies

Courtesy of the The Elks Magazine,
Tom Scudder



Benjamin Franklin, who sat for this portrait in 1767, became postmaster of the city of Philadelphia in 1737 and copostmaster general of the American colonies in 1753. In these roles, he made great improvements to the efficiency, speed, and reliability of the continent's postal system.

APPLIED PARCEL POST SCIENCE

...ones, were thought to be worth the cost of mailing a letter.

For several decades after mail delivery was established in the colonies, the system by which deliveries were made differed significantly from city to city. This began to change in 1691, when the British government ordered the creation of a central postal service to serve all the colonies. For this purpose, British politician Thomas Neale was appointed to create "an office or offices for receiving and dispatching letters and packets" and was given a twenty-one-year monopoly over such deliveries. The various colonies soon established local postmasters' offices in accordance with

the British government's order. In 1711 after Neale's



Thomas Neale, a British member of parliament, was appointed by the British government in 1691 to create a postal service in the American colonies, and he oversaw this new colonial postal system until 1711.

50 YEARS LATER



*GRAMMAR: *RHETORICK: *LOGICK: *ARITHMETICK: *GEOMETRY:



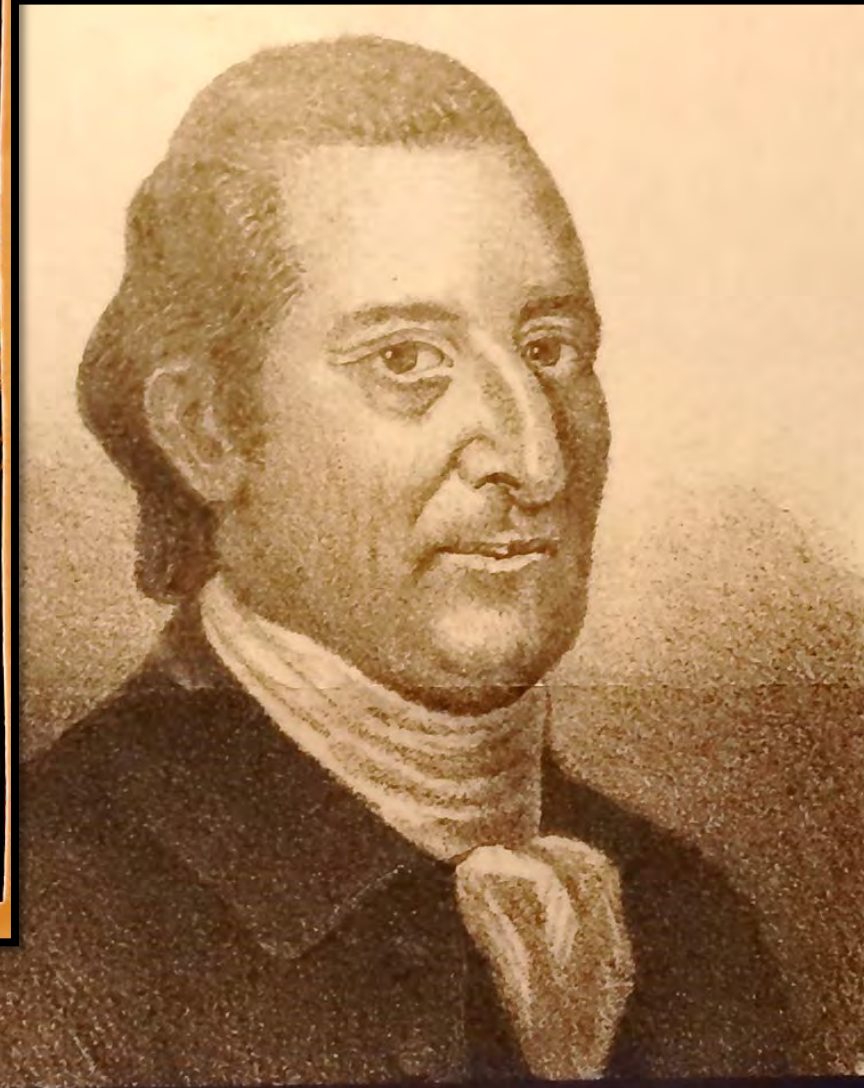
This illustration depicts a 1763 postal inspection trip during which Benjamin Franklin traveled 1,600 miles by wagon throughout the American colonies. Sometimes, Franklin was accompanied by his daughter Sally, who rode alongside him on horseback.

Courtesy of the The Elks
Magazine, Tom Scudder

PHOTO: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRIN



This nineteenth-century engraving depicts Benjamin Franklin, at center left, being called before the British Privy Council in January 1774 and publicly berated for being too sympathetic to the colonies and spreading sedition. The following day, he was stripped of his title of copostmaster general of the American colonies.



William Goddard, a publisher and former postmaster, organized the Constitutional Post in 1774 to provide an alternative postal system to the one controlled by the British government in the American colonies.

Courtesy of the The Elks Magazine,
Tom Scudder

*GRAMMAR: *RHETORICK: *LOGICK: *ARITHMETICK: *GEOMETRY:

Editorial Note on the Founding of the Post Office, 26 July 1775

One of the first institutions to suffer from the colonists' rising hostility to Britain was the royal Post Office....

A system independent of the crown was becoming imperative. The colonists need to communicate without fear of interception...

On May 29, nineteen days after they convened, delegates appointed a committee of six, including Franklin, "to consider the best means of establishing posts for conveying letters and intelligence through this continent."...

The form in which it was adopted became the charter of the new Post Office.

The head of the organization was the Postmaster General. His office was to be in Philadelphia and his annual salary \$1,000; he was authorized to appoint a secretary and comptroller at a salary of \$340, and as many deputies as he thought necessary...

The Postmaster General was to account annually with the continental treasurers (who, if proceeds were less than outlay, were to make good the difference), and was to establish postal routes from Falmouth (now Portland, Maine) to Savannah, with as many side routes as he thought fit...

There the record ends. The crucial report from Franklin's committee has disappeared; neither his correspondence nor that of other delegates says anything about how the report was compiled or about the ensuing debate on it; all that remains is the bare outline of the actions Congress took. The same silence covers Franklin's activities during his term of office. Almost no evidence about them survives, and the little that does is trivial. The question of whether the new system was primarily Franklin's creation, or his subordinates seems to be unanswerable.

The Post Office was one of the solid achievements of the period, and the one about which the least is known.

FRANKING PRIVILEGES

POSTMASTERS IN COLONIAL AMERICA had access to what were called franking privileges, which allowed them to send mail free of charge. Instead of paying a fee to receive their letters, postmasters' correspondents could receive them for free. Beginning in 1737, when he became postmaster for the city of Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin used these privileges to distribute copies of his biweekly newspaper, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, and to correspond extensively with scholars and scientists in Europe. Thanks in part to this subsidized correspondence, Franklin was able to share the news of his scientific discoveries and inventions, and by the late eighteenth century was perhaps the most famous American in the world.

To signify that a letter was to be sent using franking privileges, postmasters customarily signed their letters "Free" followed by their name. Following this convention, Franklin used the signature "Free B. Franklin" on most of his earlier correspondence. However, starting in the mid-1760s, to protest British policies that he saw as oppressing the colonies, Franklin began to change his signature. Most of his letters from that period and later were instead signed "B. Free Franklin" — a subtle exhortation to his correspondents to be free.

Courtesy of the The Elks Magazine,

Tom Scudder



The Pennsylvania Gazette

Poor Richard's Almanac

1727: Organized The "Junto"

1730: Named Pennsylvania Assembly's official printer

1736: Elected to a seat in the Pennsylvania Assembly

1737: Named Postmaster for Philadelphia



BEN DONATED HIS POST MASTER GENERAL SALARY TO AID WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

<https://founders.archives.gov/about/Franklin>

ABOUT THE WORKS CITED IN THIS PRESENTATION ABOUT THE PAPERS OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Franklin/01-22-02-0074>

*GRAMMAR: *RHETORICK: *LOGICK: *ARITHMETICK: *GEOMETRY:

The Papers of Benjamin Franklin was established in 1954 under the joint auspices of Yale University and the American Philosophical Society. It is housed in Yale's Franklin Collection, the world's finest collection of printed, manuscript, and visual materials dedicated to the study of Franklin and his times, which was assembled by Yale alumnus William Smith Mason.

Forty volumes have been published to date, bringing the edition to September 1783, when Franklin and his colleagues signed the Treaty of Paris that ended the American Revolution and established the United States of America.



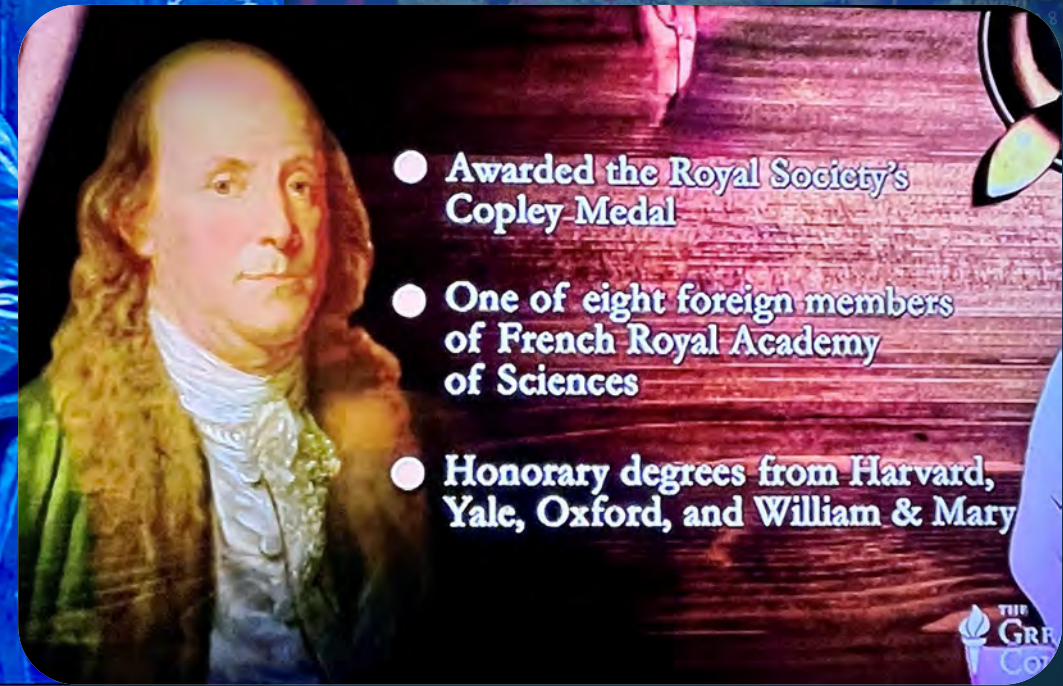
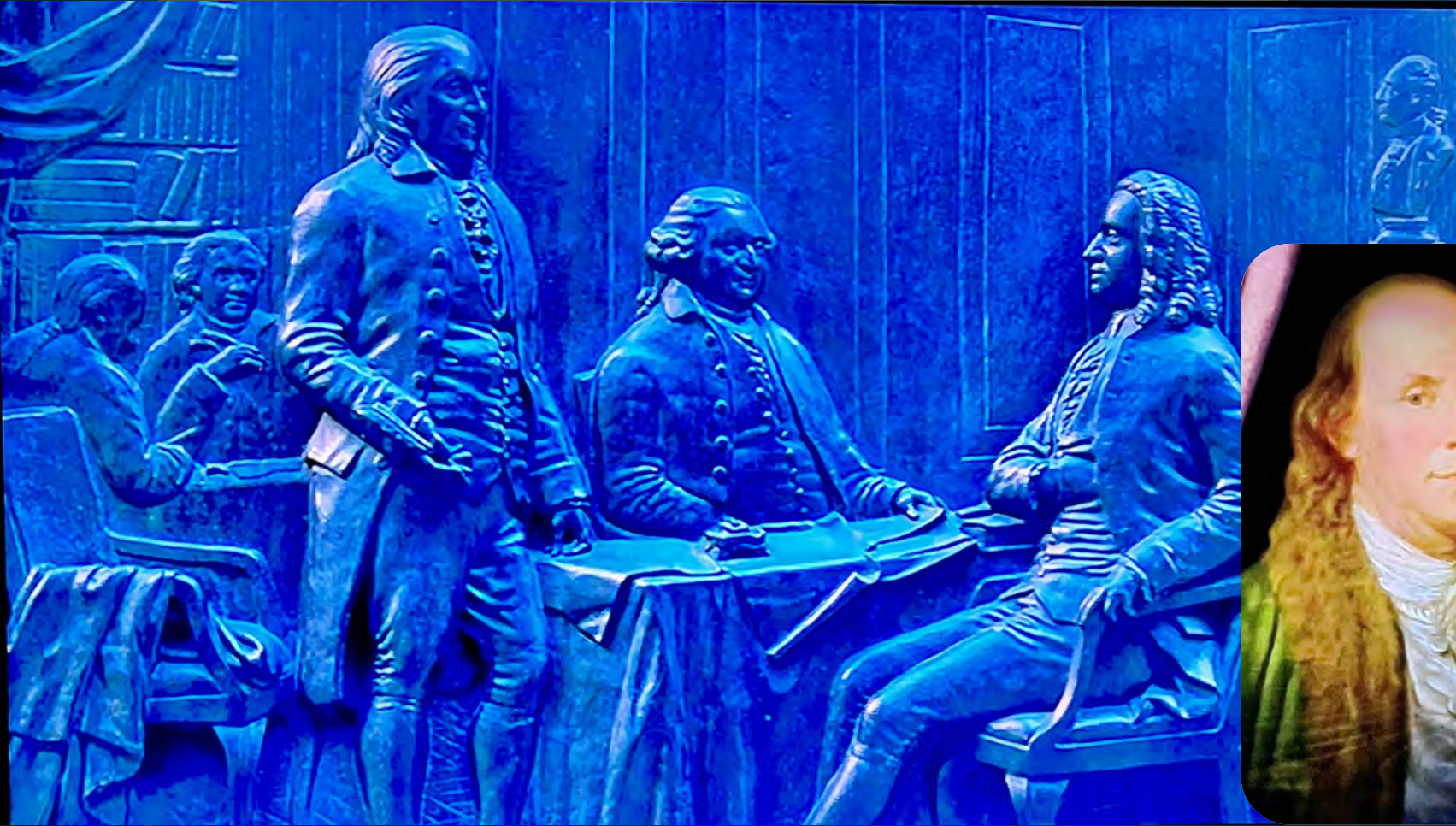
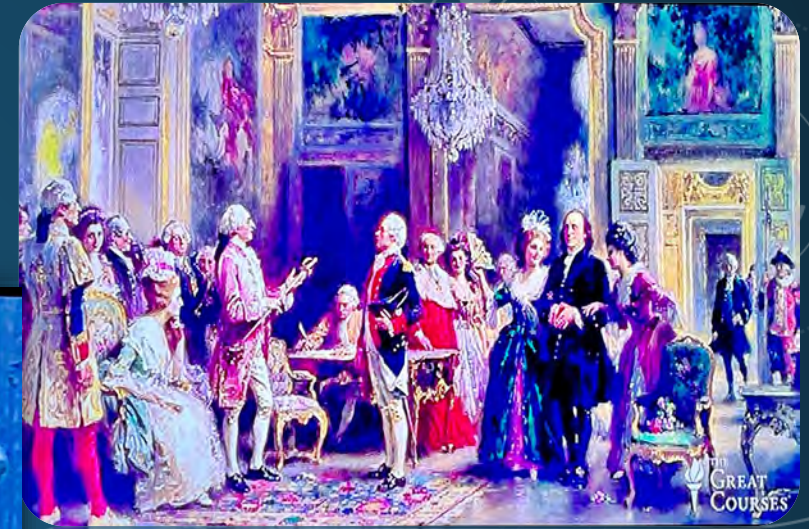
The entire edition is projected to reach 47 volumes and will encompass approximately 30,000 extant papers.

FRANKLIN IN PARIS

- In October 1776, the Continental Congress dispatched Franklin to the court of Louis XVI of France to recruit French support and recognition for the new republic. Set aside now were all the pretensions to gentleman's status, and Franklin transformed himself yet again into the very model of Poor Richard, the wise but simple, untutored but intelligent, purely American nobleman.



- The transformation was popular in France, and in 1778, Franklin was able to jockey the French into signing an alliance with the United States that turned the tide of the Revolution against Britain. Five years later, he signed the peace treaty that ended the Revolution and guaranteed an independent American Republic.



- Awarded the Royal Society's Copley Medal
- One of eight foreign members of French Royal Academy of Sciences
- Honorary degrees from Harvard, Yale, Oxford, and William & Mary

Benjamin Franklin's Glass Armonica

APPLIED MUSICK SCIENCE



In the mid-1700s, Benjamin Franklin served as a delegate for colonial America and spent a great deal of time traveling to London and Paris. During this period, it was quite popular and entertaining for amateur musicians to perform on sets of "singing" or musical glasses.

Ben Franklin completed his glass armonica in 1761. (Its name is derived from the Italian word for harmony.)

The glass armonica was one of the most celebrated instruments of the 18th century. Franklin began to take his beloved armonica with him when he traveled and played popular Scottish tunes or original compositions for his audiences. Later, composers such as Beethoven, Mozart, and Donizetti would write music for the armonica.

At the time of his death in 1790, when more than 5,000 of them had been built, Ben Franklin had collected no money from his glass armonica. He refused to patent any of his inventions, saying: *"As we enjoy great Advantages from the Inventions of others, we should be glad of an Opportunity to serve others by any Invention of ours, and this we should do freely and generously."*



Secrets of the Speaking Trumpet

An Ode to an Instrument of the Order of Malta

By Eric J. Erfourth



Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Minnesota

Education, @ the Stated Mtg. on 02 March 2019
11501 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437



The table at which these Knights are seated has depicted upon it a large Maltese Cross, on the center of which is a circle, divided into four equal quartering's by two transverse bars crossing each other at right angles in the center. Each of the four quarters of the circle has a figure upon it: A ship or ancient galley; a ladder with five rounds or steps with the letters B, L, D, R, A, one on each step, and a Speaking Trumpet. A hand and a serpent; a human skull cleaven with twine at the top with a double-edge sword, and a spear beneath it."

The lecture continues, describing the relevance of said items on the table, except, the speaking trumpet; and in part also exempting detail about the ladder, (aside from the letters on the steps.)

A Speaking Trumpet is a smart and useful tool. Its low voice can carry for miles.

This is what my speaking trumpet looks like:



- Key: A
- Length: 78"
- Bell: 5.25"
- Mouthpiece: Bubinga, Purpleheart



PREFACE

Order of the Knights of Malta - This is the first of the Christian Orders contained in the Chivalric system and relates the story of St. Paul's arrival on the island of Malita which we know today as Malta. The order touches on the history of the Knights of St. John (Knights of Malta) and periods of history paralleled with the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ.

THIS TOPIC

Coincides with the 1-Day to Templary and the Order of Malta that will be hosted by Zion Commandery No. 2, two weeks from today at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite Center.

SECRETS of the SPEAKING TRUMPET

Let us review a portion of the Malta Table Lecture: "There are eight Knights seated at the table in the West. According to the European Ceremonial, these Knights are officers of the Priory. They represent the eight languages into which the Order was formerly divided, which were: Provence, Auvergne, France, Italy, Aragon, Germany, Castile, and Anglo-Bavaria.



Secrets of the Speaking Trumpet

An Ode to an Instrument of the Order of Malta

By Eric J. Erfourth



Let's discuss three uses on the Isle of Malta:

i.) A Fog Horn, but with intelligence

I am convinced that certain sounds, durations, rhythms and intonations formed a basis for a basic language, where in the know you might hear meaning, shore-to-ship and ship-to-shore, something like, "Do you come in peace?" "We come in peace." "Then, come in peace."

ii.) Communication across the island

Sound moves at 650 miles per hour. By the time you dial your cell phone, wait for the ring to advance and for a person to answer and say "hello", two people with speaking trumpets would probably have already finished their conversation. No batteries to go dead. No electronics to fail. No screen to crack. No monthly bill. Always at the ready.

iii.) Activating the Oracle Room

The Oracle Room under Malta is very ancient. It is the room with the most peculiar acoustic properties. Within the genius of the design is an acoustic result that yields a natural resonance, and amplification in and around the Key of Low-A (110 Hz).

This "specification," that is a function of the shape and volume of the resonance chamber, chiseled from solid stone, is even more ancient than the Knights of Malta, perhaps dating back 5,000 years.

A Biophysical Therapy Chamber



When an acoustic chamber's natural resonance around 110 Hz, meets an instrument producing a standing wave around 110 Hz, means, if you are in the room at that time, your cells most likely will be excited by the amplified Sound Pressure Level.

The 110 Hz Phenomena

Author: Robert Traynor

Robert M. Traynor, Ed.D., MBA is the CEO and practicing audiologist at Audiology Associates, Inc., in Greeley, Colorado. Dr. Traynor holds degrees from the University of Northern Colorado (BA, 1972, MA 1973, Ed.D., 1975), the University of Phoenix (MBA, 2006) as well as Post-Doctoral Study at Northwestern University (1984).

110 Hz is known to represent the human pitch. Buddhist and Hindu chant their mantras in the same frequency. Archeologists indicate that these chambers was used for rituals and chanting. In the structure 110 Hz resonance would then allow enhanced right brain activity.



This might be a good spot to place a ladder with five steps to get up and down with a Speaking Trumpet



Secrets of the Speaking Trumpet

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The right brain is the center for art, poetry, sensuality, spirituality, feelings, imagination. Studies have been found that once able to excess the right brain a person becomes more problem solving and less conflicting in nature. Something so sacred to our ancients that they build these structures to symbolize it.

It's not just in Malta, but Ireland as well ...a structure about the same age as the Maltese one called, Newgrange is a Stone Age (Neolithic) monument in the Boyne Valley, County Meath, it is the jewel in the crown of Ireland's Ancient East. Newgrange was constructed about 5,200 years ago (3,200 B.C.) which makes it older than Stonehenge and the Great Pyramids of Giza. It's also a 110 Hz signal structure.....and there are others.

Here's a link to a guy we know, just in case you are interested in getting a speaking trumpet of your own someday

<https://bestinghealthmatters.org/bestingphenomena/2018/the-110-hz-phenomena/>



If you are traveling to either of the discussed acoustic locations, don't forget to bring your ways and means of activating brain therapy!

Kyle Bert, owner and creator of Desert Mountain Didgeridoos

I'm an artist, musician, and craftsman from Tucson, AZ. I put my heart into each of my creations because my greatest hope is that they provide their new owner with a transformative experience, bringing joy into their life.

They've changed my life for the better; I truly believe that they can do the same for you.

Since childhood I've been captivated by didgeridoos. I first heard them at the Fourth Avenue Street Fair in Tucson. I was 13 at the time and the deep, rhythmic music impacted me profoundly. I simply knew it was my calling.



Letter from Benjamin Franklin to Peter Collison dated October 19, 1752

Description of the electric kite experiment from a letter to Peter Collison dated October 19, 1752

Sir,

As frequent Mention is made in the News Papers from Europe, of the Success of the Philadelphia Experiment for drawing the Electric Fire from Clouds by Means of pointed Rods of Iron erected on high Buildings, &c. it may be agreeable to the Curious to be inform'd, that the same Experiment has succeeded in Philadelphia, tho' made in a different and more easy Manner, which anyone may try, as follows.

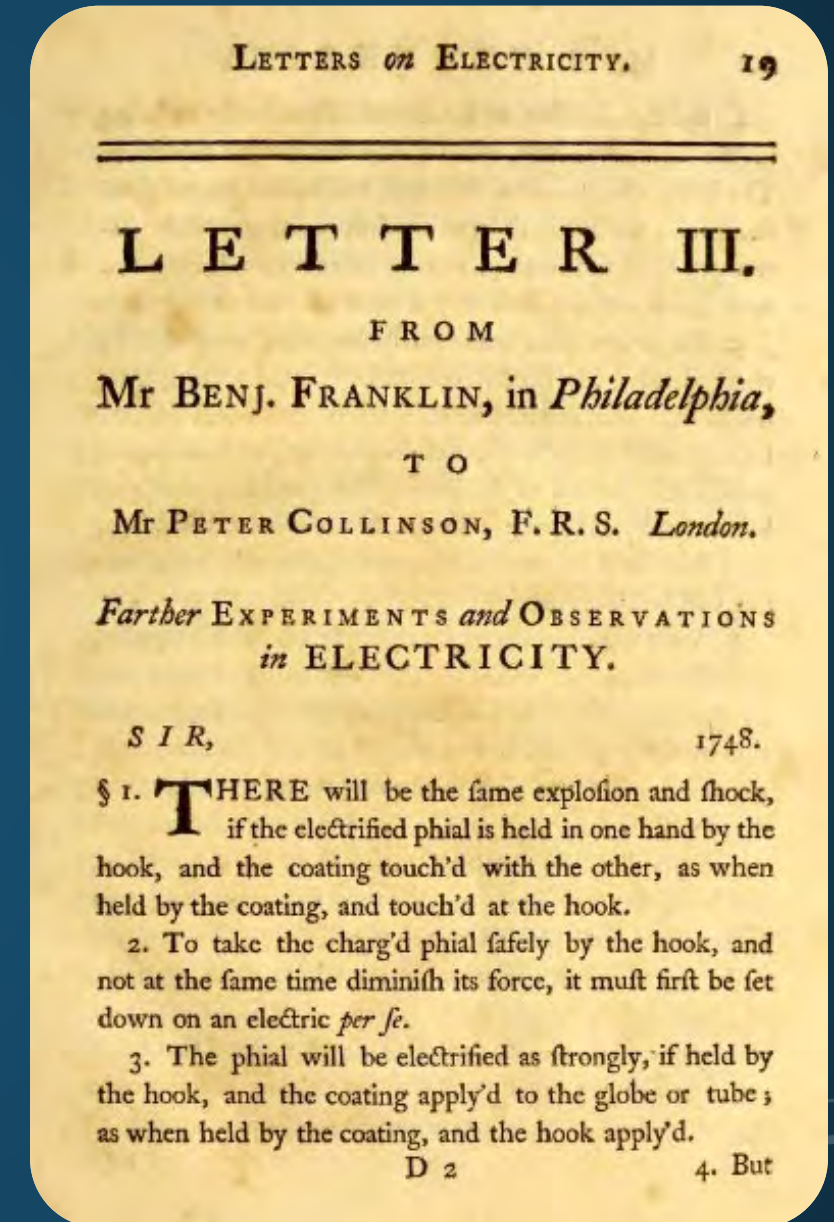
Make a small Cross of two light Strips of Cedar, the Arms so long as to reach to the four Corners of a large thin Silk Handkerchief when extended; tie the Corners of the Handkerchief to the Extremities of the Cross, so you have the Body of a Kite; which being properly accommodated with a Tail, Loop and String...

This Kite is to be raised when a Thunder Gust appears to be coming on, and the Person who holds the String must stand within a Door, or Window, or under some Cover, so that the Silk Ribbon may not be wet; and Care must be taken that the Twine does not touch the Frame of the Door or Window. As soon as any of the Thunder Clouds come over the Kite, the pointed Wire will draw the Electric Fire from them, and the Kite, with all the Twine, will be electrified, and the loose Filaments of the Twine will stand out every Way, and be attracted by an approaching Finger.

And when the Rain has wet the Kite and Twine, so that it can conduct the Electric Fire freely, you will find it stream out plentifully from the Key on the Approach of your Knuckle. At this Key the Phial may be charg'd; and from Electric Fire thus obtain'd, Spirits may be kindled, and all the other Electric Experiments be perform'd, which are usually done by the Help of a rubbed Glass Globe or Tube; and thereby the Sameness of the Electric Matter [or "Fire"] with that of Lightning completely demonstrated.

THE KITE

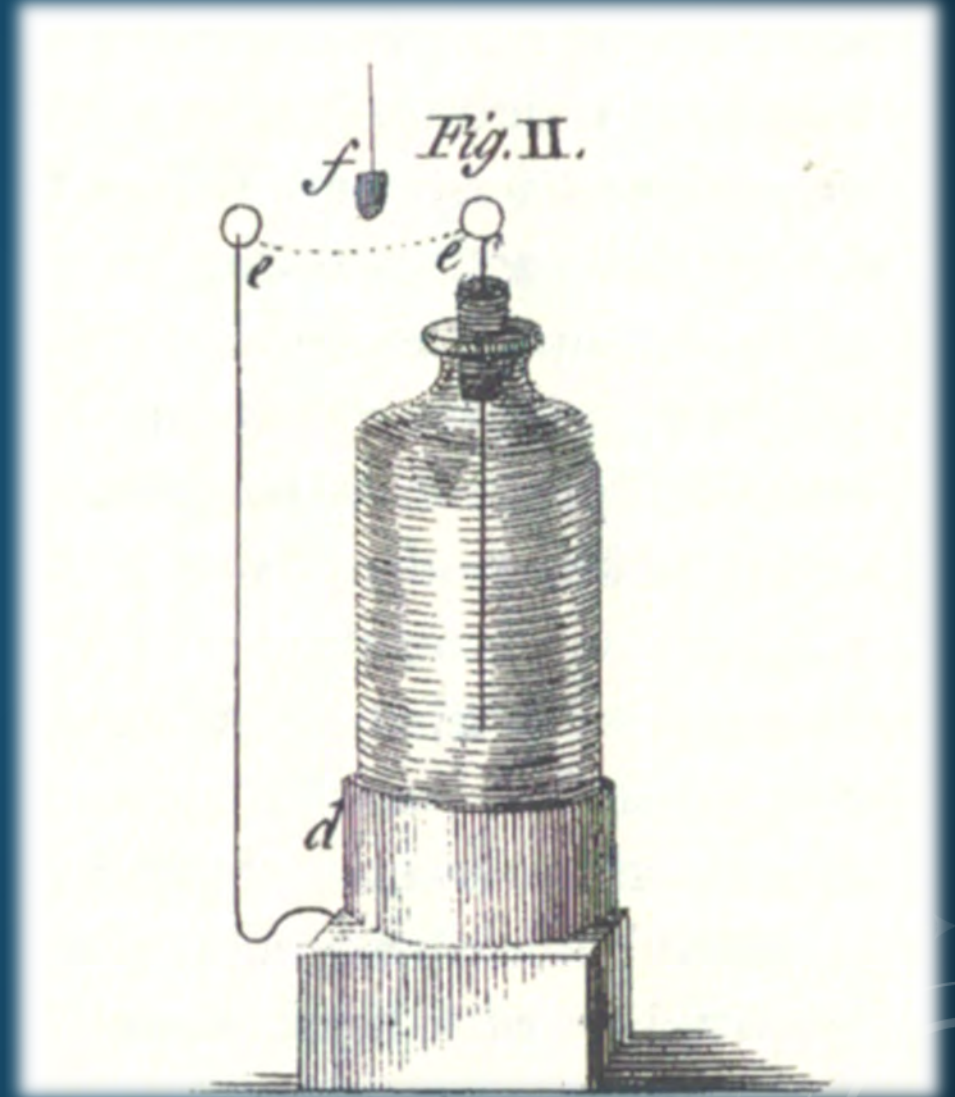
*ELECTRICITY



Electric Phial or Tube
[Electric Capacitor]



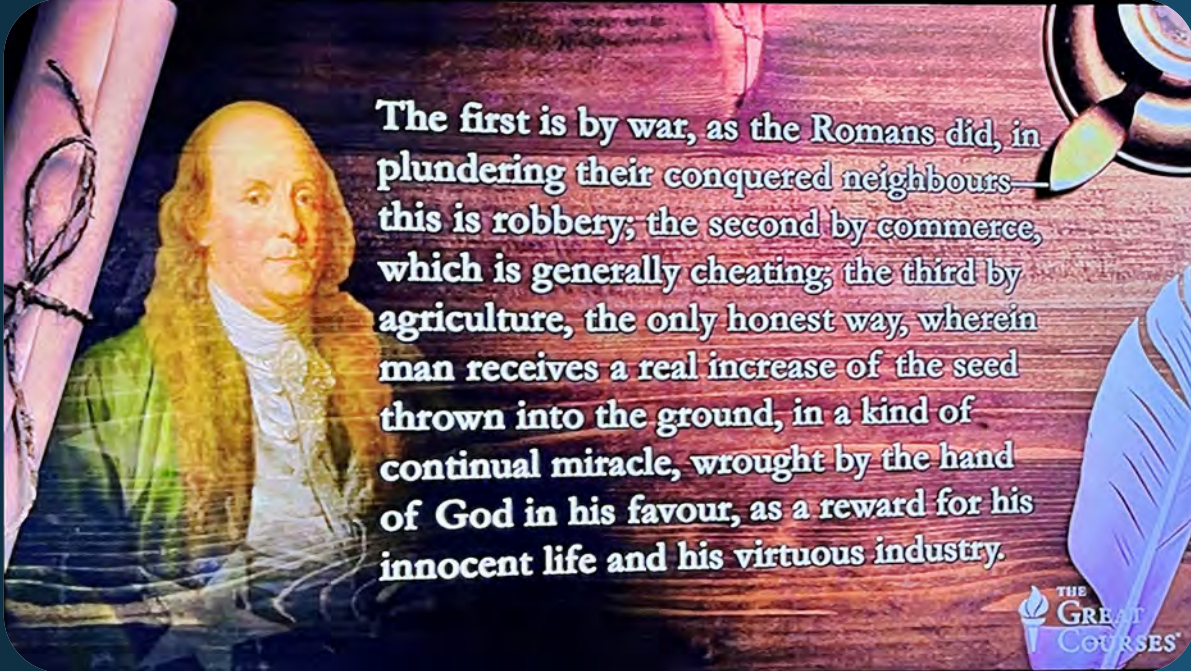
Courtesy of the Smithsonian





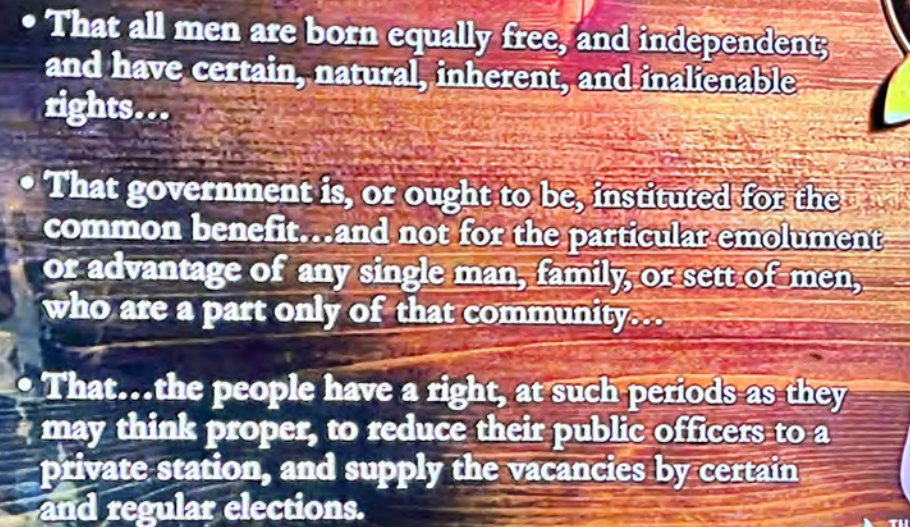
Franklin's Positions on:

- ✓ Three Enablers of Great Societies, bolstering their rise...
- ✓ And what Government of the People ought to promise...



The first is by war, as the Romans did, in plundering their conquered neighbours—this is robbery; the second by commerce, which is generally cheating; the third by agriculture, the only honest way, wherein man receives a real increase of the seed thrown into the ground, in a kind of continual miracle, wrought by the hand of God in his favour, as a reward for his innocent life and his virtuous industry.

THE GREAT COURSES

- 
- That all men are born equally free, and independent; and have certain, natural, inherent, and inalienable rights...
 - That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit...and not for the particular emolument or advantage of any single man, family, or sett of men, who are a part only of that community...
 - That...the people have a right, at such periods as they may think proper, to reduce their public officers to a private station, and supply the vacancies by certain and regular elections.

THE GREAT COURSES

FAMOUS QUOTES

*GRAMMAR: *RHETORICK: *LOGICK

“Lose no time, be always employed in something useful.”

Related Proverb: “The idle mind is the devil’s workshop.”

“No limit to the good a person may do or the things they may accomplish, if not concerned about who gets the credits, the larger objective is getting something done with internal satisfaction.”

“Selflessness, moderation, and modesty as qualities of power.”

“To be worthy means to be worthy of trust.”

“The greatest benefit to be derived from being honest is a clear conscience.”

“Acquisition of wealth, convinced its possession will bring them happiness, there are those willing to sacrifice family, friends, health, reputation, independence and even their lives to the golden calf.”

“Life is like a river.”

“Humility; Imitate Jesus and Socrates; method of self-improvement.”

“The whole of a man’s existence consists of more than this life alone, and who have lived virtuously, the prospect of dying holds no fear.”

“God governs; HE is Good; I pray HIM to direct you.”

“There are two ways to teach, by precept, by example.”

Franklin valued usefulness over complexity: "Choose practicality over academic rigor."

"Incentive is everything when trying to improve oneself."

"Habit of humility is 2nd only to my habit of personal integrity."

James 2:15-16; "Those who tell naked and hungry people to be "warmed and filled" but do nothing to help them find clothes or food..." are not effectively helping.

Old English Proverb: "He that would thrive must ask his wife."

"Sell not virtue to purchase wealth, nor liberty to purchase power."

"A false friend and a shadow, attend only while the sun shines."

"In success be moderate."

"Fools make feasts and wise men eat them."

Promoted education in all including women. ("best way to take care of herself is to be educated")

"Think of these things, whence you come, where are you going, and to whom you must account."

THE SEVEN LIBERAL SCIENCES ARE ALL BUT ONE SCIENCE, THAT IS TO SAY, GEOMETRY.

THUS, A MAN MAY PROVE THAT ALL THE SCIENCES IN THE WORLD BE FOUND IN GEOMETRY;

FOR IT TEACHETH METER, MEASURE, PONDERATION, AND WEIGHT OF ALL KINDS OF EARTH;

AND THERE IS NO MAN WORKETH BY ANY CRAFT, BUT HE WORKETH BY SOME MEASURE; AND NO MAN BUYETH AND SELLETH BUT BY MEASURE AND WEIGHT;

AND ALL GEOMETRICIANS, CRAFTSMEN, AND MERCHANTS, FIND OUT THE SEVEN SCIENCES; ESPECIALLY PLOUGHMEN, AND TILLERS OF ALL MANNER OF GRAIN, BOTH CORN, SEEDS, VINES, PLANTS, TILLERS OF ALL OTHER FRUITS;

FOR NEITHER GRAMMAR NOR ASTRONOMY, OR ANY OF ALL THESE CAN FIND A MAN TO MEASURE OR METER WITHOUT GEOMETRY.

GEOMETRY IS BOTH SPECULATIVE AND PRACTICAL; THE FORMER DEMONSTRATES THE PROPERTIES OF LINES, ANGLES AND FIGURES;

THE LATTER TEACHES HOW TO APPLY THEM TO PRACTICE IN ARCHITECTURE, TRIGONOMETRY, MEASURATION, SURVEYING, MECHANICKS, PERSPECTIVE, DIALLING, ASTRONOMY, NAVIGATION, FORTIFICATION ETC.



JABAL was also the first that wrote on this Subject, and which he performed, with his Brethren, JUBAL, TUBAL CAIN, and NAAMAH, who together wrote on two Columns the Arts of *Geometry*, *Musick*, *working in Brass and Weaving*, which were found (after the Flood of NOAH) by HERMARINES, a descendant from Noah, who was afterwards called HERMES the Father of Wisdom, and who taught those Sciences to other Men. So that in a short time the Science of *Geometry* became known to many, and even to those of the highest Rank, for the mighty NIMROD King of *Babylon* understood *Geometry*, and was not only a Mason himself, but caused others to be taught *Masonry*, many of whom he sent to build the City of *Nimive* and other Cities in the *East*. ABRAHAM was also a Geometer, and when he went into *Egypt*, he taught EUCLID, the then most worthy Geometrician in the World, the Science of *Geometry*, to whom the whole World is now largely indebted for his unparalleled Elements of *Geometry*. HIRAM, the chief Condueter of the Temple of *Solomon*, was also an excellent Geometer, as was GRECUS, a curious Mason who worked at the Temple, and who afterwards taught the Science of *Masonry* in *France*.

Midwest Conference on Masonic Education
Friday Afternoon May 3rd, 2024 at the Marriott SW, Minnetonka, MN.
Sir Knights Eric Erfourth and Daniel Sherry Present on

Most Worshipful Grand Master Benjamin Franklin

Born January 17, 1706, Boston, Massachusetts—died April 17, 1790, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

His genius is so overwhelming, and manifest in so many different disciplines, that no short biography can begin to list his achievements; the American Philosophical Society requires twenty large books merely to catalog his inventions, discoveries, accomplishments and the events in which he was intimately concerned. Printer, author, editor, inventor, scientist, diplomat; founder of schools, postal systems, government; ambassador, wit, speaker; philosopher, politician and Freemason, he was not only an amazing intellect, and a champion of Colonial America, but one of the most complex and gifted men of all times.

One of the foremost of the Founding Fathers, he helped draft the Declaration of Independence and was one of its signers, and represented the United States in France during the American Revolution. Franklin explored nearly every aspect of his world, and he corresponded with an astonishing range of men and women of all social classes and professions in America, Great Britain, and Europe.

Franklin was a devoted Freemason occupying places of official prominence. He was intensely interested in his Craft, willing to give his enormous powers for its welfare, and leaving an indelible impression on its history in America. He was initiated into Masonry in 1731; probably at the February meeting of St. John's Lodge in Philadelphia. The esteem in which he was held is evidenced by the fact that he was elected Grand Master just a few short years later in 1735. According to Old Masonic and family traditions, the cornerstone of the Statehouse in Philadelphia (Independence Hall), built while Franklin was Grand Master, was laid by him and the Brethren of St. John's Lodge.

He visited lodges around the Northeast and Europe and was present at important happenings, including the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1754. In June of 1760, he was elected a Provincial Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England and was officially entered into the minutes at their November 1760 meeting in London. He was sent to France as an ambassador for the United States, his first actions were those affiliated with Masonic Lodges. In 1777 he was elected a member of "Loge des Neuf Soeurs" of Paris. He went on to also become a member of Respectable Lodge "de Saint Jean de Jerusalem" in 1782, and the next year was elected Venerable d'Honneur of that body. In 1783 he was also elected an honorary member of Lodge "des Bons Amis", Rouen.



CLOSING PRAYER

OUR FATHER

which art in *heaven*,
Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done in earth,

as it is in **HEAVEN**.

Give us this day our *daily bread*.

And forgive us our **debts**,
as we forgive our **debtors**.

And **lead** us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the

POWER, and the **GLORY**,

for ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

The Lord's Prayer in Gothic (c. C.E. 350)

ATTAR PINSAR FON IN HIMINAM WEIHNAI NAMO FEIN

father our thou in heaven blessed name thy
atta unsar thu in himinam weihnai namo thein

UINAI FINAINASSNS FEINS VAIKFAI VIAGA FEINS

come kingdom thine become will thy
quimai thiudinassus theins wairthai wilja theins

SYE IN HIMINA GAH ANA AIKFAI HAIF PINSARANA

as in heaven so on earth loaf our
swe in himina jah ana airthai hlaif unsarana

PHANA SINTEINAN RIF PINS HIMNA ADRA GAH BFAET PINS

this daily give us this day and forgive us
thana sinteinan gif uns himma daga jah aflet uns

PHATEI SKNADNS SIGAINA SYASWE GAH VEIS BFAETAN

that **sinful** are just as also we forgive
thatai skulans sijaina swaswe jah weis afletam

PHAI SKNADN PINSARAIN GAH NI BKITPAIS PINS IN

those **sinful** to us and not bring us into
thaim skulam unsaraim jah ni briggais uns in

FRAISTUBNGAI AK ANSEI PINS AF PHAINA NIBAIN

temptation but lead us from this evil
fraistubnjai ak lausai uns of thamma ubilin

NINTE FEINA IST FINADNRKAI GAH

for thine is kingdom and
unte theina ist thiudangardi jah

MAHTS GAH VTAΦNS IN AIWINS ANEN

might and glory into eternity amen
mahts jah wulthus in aiwins amen

THANK YOU

GO IN PEACE

SERVE THE CRAFT

THANKS BE TO GOD

