[Catechism portions of the Dumfries No. 4 Manuscript ca. 1710] [From Carr's Early Masonic Catechisms 1963, Edited by Bro. B. Hoff 2001]

Q PROPOUNDED AND ANSWERED

1. Q what are you

A I am a man

2. O how shal I know that

A by all trwe signs in ye first part of my entry Ill heall & conceall

3. Q what are you no more to ---.

A yes but a man I was begotten of a man & born of a woman and besids I have severall potentat kings & mighty princes to my brothers

4. Q what lodge were you entered in

A in ye trwe lodge of st John

5. Q where ought a lodge to be keept

A on the top of a mountain or in ye midle of a boge without the hearing of ye crowing of a cok or ye bark of a doge

6. Q how high is your lodge

A inches & spans Inumberable

7. O how Inumberable

A the material heavens & stary firmament

8. Q how many pillers is in your lodge

A three

9. Q what are these

A ye square the compas & ye bible

10. Q where Lyes ye key of your lodge

A in a bone box covered with a rough map

11. Q give ye distinction of your box

A my head is ye box my teeth is the bons my hair is the mapp my tongue is ye key

12. O hou were you brought in

A shamfufly with a rope about my neck

13. O what pouster were you in when you Receved

A neither sitting nor standing nor running nor going but on my left knee

14. Q whay a rop about your neck

A to hang me if I should Betry may trust

15. Q why upon your left knee

A because I would be in too humble a pouster to ye receiving of ye Royall secret

16. Q what Obligation are you under

A great oath

17. Q what punishment 's inflicted on these that reveals ye secret

A your heart is to be taken out alive your head to be cut of & your bodys to be buried in ye sea mark & not in any place where Christians are buried

18. O how many lights is in your lodge

A two

19. O which be ye two

A ye sun riseth 'in ye cast & sets all men to work & sets in ye west & so turns all men to bed

20. Q which way stands your Lodge

A East & west because all holy churches & temples stands that way and particularlie ye temple of jerusalem

21. Q might not Hiram lade ye foundation of ye temple south & north rather than east & West

A no he could not

22. Q give a reason for that

A david appointed ye foundation of ye temple to be laid on a barn flore as you may read in ye holy bible where it is called ye thrashing floor araunah ye jebusit likwise you may read in holy wryt that ye ark of ye lord wherein was ye covenant betwixt god & men & ye two marble tables with ye ten commandments wryten by ye finger of god ye said Ark was detained by misfortain a considerable [time? I on the forsaid thrashing floor of araunah which oblidged them to lay ye foundation of ye temple East & west conformt to ye pouster of ye two tables

23. Q what is masonry

A it is a squere work

24. O what is a masson

A he is a worker in stone

25. Q would you know your master if you saw him

A yes

26. Q what way would ye know him

A by his habit

27. Q what couller is his habit

A yellow & blew meaning the compass which is bras & Iron

28. Q what morter had these massons at ye buillding of ye temple

A the same such smorter as they had at ye building of nimrods Tower viz slime being a kind of hot o Earth which they made thin & powred it into ye wall affter ye stons was laid it was of ye nature sement or bitumor

29. Q what ladder had they building of ye jacobs between ye heaven & ye earth

30. Q how many steps was in jacobs ladder

A 3

31. O what was Ye 3

A father son & holy spirit

32. Q how many flowers is in ye massons possie

A 3 & 12

33. Q what call you them

A trinity & ye twelve Apostles

34. Q who was master masson at ye buillding of ye temple A Hiram of tyre

35. Q who laid the first stone in ye foundation of ye temple A ye above said Hiram

36. Q what place did he lay ye first stone

A in ye south cast corner of ye Temple

37. Q what did he say when he laid it

A help us god

- 38. Q what was ye greatest wonder that seen or heard about the temple A god was mam & man was god mary was a mother & yet a maid
- 39. Q what is ye night good for

A ye night is better for hearing than seeing

40. Q what is ye day good for

A ye day is bette for seeing than hearing

41. Q what did ye second man when ye first man died

A he perfected ye work we ye first man Intended thus king david that intended to build ye temple but was prevented by death but solomon performed it

42. Q what is meant by ye brassen see that Hiram framed & supported it by 12 oxen 3 looking towards north 3 towards ye south 3 towards Ye west 3 towards ye east

A It was appointed to bath & wash ye preists in at that time But now we finde it was a tipe of Christs blood whose blood was to purg sin & to wash ye elect & ye i2 oxen a type of ye 12 apostles who opposed all heathenism & athism & sealed ye cause of christ with there blood

43. Q what meant ye golden dore of ye temple where they went in to sanctum sanctorum

A it was another type of Christ who is ye door ye way and the truth & ye life by whome & in whom all ye elect entreth into heaven

I QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TEMPLE

Q what signifies the temple

A ye son of god & partly of the church ye son soffered his body to be Destroyed & rose again Ye 3d day & raised up to us ye Christian church we is ye true spiritwal church

2 What signifies the white marble

Christ is ye white marble with- out spot the stone ye builders r[ejecte]d I but god choised it out [several words illegible] might be built

3 The mystery of the cader wood

The cader Cyprus & olive wood was not subject putrifaction nor posible to be devoured by worm[s] so ye human nature of christ was subject to no corruption nor putrefaction

4 The mistrey of the Gold

The gold and precious stones signifies the dietie of christ wherein duelt the fulness thereof for he is the fountain thereof.

5 The mistery of the cherubims

first they signifie the heavenly glory and the everlasting life to come they being pictured to the Image of man do represen[t] the congregation of ye blessd angles & saints which sing Te Dum law damuss secondly ye two cherubins on ye mercy seat in the holy Quire signifies ye old & new testmant containing ye doctrine of christ & as their wings touch one another so the old & [new] testament are joined together ye end of the one beginning ye other ye one containing ye first world ye other

containing ye end of ye 2 world both had a relation to christ to whome ye ministrie of god was comitted

6 The mistry of the golden door of the temple

Christ is the dore of fife by which we must enter into etemall happiness ye two doves signifies a two fold knowledge before we can enter that is of his person & office

7 What doth the vaill signiffie

The son of god our lord jesus Christ hanging Upon Ye alter of ye cross is ye trwe vaill that is put betwe god & us shadowing with his wounds and blood ye multitud of our offencess that so we may be made accaptable to his father

8 The ark of the covenant

It represents as weel our saviour Christ as ye hearts of ye faithfull for in christs breast was ye doctrine both of law & gosple so is it in ye faithfull though not in that measure he was ye true manna that descended to give life to ye world ye table of ye law move us to love & obedience Aarons rod flowrishing with blossoms signifies ye swetnes of ye gosple & ye glory of our High preist jesus christ of whome Aaron was a figure

9 The mistry of the alter

The alter with 4 golden horns being made part of shittim wood & part of gold compassed about with a crown of gold Represents the unity of ye humamitie & dietie of our saviour for ye naturly incoriptable was beautified with gold so ye humanitie of Christ not of putrifaction being adorned with ye celestial [glory?] of ye dietie personaly united to the devine nature asscended to heven & sitteth at ye Right hand of god his father crouned with the crown of majestic and ettemall happinss

10 The mistrie of the golden candlesticks

The Golden candlestick with his six branches & seven lights signifies Christ & ye ministers Christ the foundation is cheif preist & light of ye world Iluminating us to etemall liffe the docters & teachers of ye church are ye branches whom Christ enlightens with ye sound doctren of ye gosple neither ought they to be seprated from christ but by ye Light of ye doctren to be lamp to our feet & as all ye branches was united unto ye candlestick so every minister & child of god ought to be united to ye bod of christ without any separation the flowers & lillies donot ye gracess of his spirit which he hath bestowed upon ye faithfil ministers the lights & lamps do Admonish al godly ministers to a godly care & diligance

11 The mistrie of the golden table and shewbread

The table being compased with a precious crown signifies ye ministers of ye gosple ye bread signifies Christ ye bread of Life

12 The mistrie of ye golden vine & christal grape[s]

The vine in ye East of ye temple mad of shining gold Resembles our christ who compared himself unto a vine & the faithfull unto branches ye christall grapes ye doctren of ye gospel & ye work of ye faithfull which are faith love hope charite patience prayer & works of grace unto such as belives

[13 The] molten sea its mistrie

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The molten sea was a figure of baptism & ye living water Issuing from ye wounds of christ ye twelve oxen signifies ye twelve Apostles

THE TEMPLE WAS IN HIGHT AND LENGTH

It wa 100 cubits in length in hight 120 cubits ye holy Queer [=Choir] stood in ye west end ye Marble stons in ye temple was 25 cubits long I2, cubits broad & 8 cubits thick being all whit marble

QUESTIONS PROPOUNDED AND ANSWERED

44. how many lights is 'in that lodge

A 3

45. O what Of Ye 3

A ye master the fellow craftsmen & ye ward [en]

46. Q which way stands yee lights

A there is one in ye East & [one] in ye west & one in ye midle

47. Q what is for ye one [in] ye East

A it is for the master & ye west is for the ffellow craftsmen & ye midle is for ye warden

48. Q what stands at the wardens back

A 3 shelve[s]

49. Q what is there upon them

A There is 3 Rulers

50. Q what . . these

A There is 36 foot 34 foot & 32 foot

51. O what is them for

A 36 is for leveling 34 is for beve[ll]ing & 32 for measuring ye earth about

52. Q which way came ye W first about

A it was given to king david by report when he was hewing ye stons in ye mount to know ye workmen from . . . Labourers & it pleased god to take away King David & solomon succeded in his place & it was Given him

53. O what is ye length of your cable

A it is as long as between ye point of my navel and ye shortest of my hair

54. Q what is ye reason of that

A because all secrets lyes there

55. Q by what . . by whom do you stand upon your princip[les?]

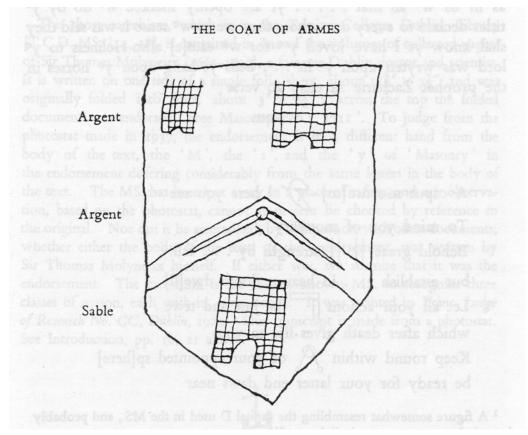
[A By him?] that stood upon ye highest penacle of the temple

56. Q which way was ye temple built

A by solomon & Hiram who furnished tooles for that work it was Hiram who was brought out of Egypt he w[as] a widdows son he furnished all sorts of Tools pick[s] spades shovels & all things belonging to ye temple

- 57. Q where layes ye master
 - A in a stone trough under ye west window looking to ye cast waiting for ye son rising to sett his men to work
- 58. Q where [was] the noble art or science found when it was lost

A it was found in two pillers of stone the one would not sink and the other would not burn



Solomon set up twoo notable Names that on ye Right hand called jachine that is in it their is strength show.. not only by ye matter but by ye Name Also of these two pillers what stedfastness ye elect stands in before god both for ye present & for time to come for ye present ye sons of god have Received strength inwardly for ye time to come god will stablish so with his spirit of grace that they shall never wholy depart from him & with I was by the way taught this point These two Names seems to note out besids this ye two churches of ye Jews & gentiles that of ye jews by jachin on ye right hand as ... god would at length Establish in his time though as yet it had not atained to this stablnes through ye obstinacy of their minds wherewith they should reject christ when he should come This of ye gentiles by boaz on ye left hand because of ye present strength that should be in her when she should Imbrace christ at ye first hearing these christ shall wryt upon these pillers better names than those of jachin & boaz for first he shall wryt upon them ye name of his god that it may be made plain to all men that these men are choswn out from ye rest to be gods peculiar people as in us with all mat that are openly marked which do by their titles declare to every one whose they are in which sense it was said they shal know that I have loved yee for which caus[e] allso Holiness to ye lord was wryten upon ye lit ... bells that hang upon ye horses in the prophet Zacharie 14 chap 20 verse

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