PLATE OF AUGUST GLAHN
Designed by J. K. Gratz
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MASONIC BOOKPLATES
Plate of Supreme Council
Designed by W. P. Barrett
MASONIC BOOK-PLATES

Masonic Book-Plates are of course primarily interesting to members of the Craft who can understand the various signs and symbols appearing upon them. Yet these plates are interesting to Book-Plate collectors in being among the rarest of Ex Libris specialties. Two collectors have written on the subject—Robert Day in his "Masonic Book-Plates", (London, 1904), and A. W. Pope with "Remarks on some Masonic Book-Plates in America and their Owners", (Boston, Part I, 1908; Part II, 1911). Yet combining the lists of plates in these two brochures and adding to them the plates in my own collection I can here list but a few over one hundred and seventy Masonic Ex Libris.

Before taking up the different emblems found on Masonic Book-Plates it might be well to explain that the initiate rises through the various stages of Freemasonry by a series of steps called degrees which the member may take in sequence as his interest leads him to enter into the work of the Craft. The highest degree is the 33d which is conferred as an honor upon prominent Masons. Together with and accompanying these steps or degrees, which may be called the main road of Masonry, are various side paths or divisional bodies such as the Shrine, the Knights Templar and others.

There are in some cases special symbols to denote these bodies; other emblems are used for Masonry in general. To begin with—the most common mark is the general Masonic symbol of the square and compasses between which there is often placed a G. Then there is the key-stone bearing a lettered circle, and the all-seeing eye sometimes placed in a triangle. Various geometric figures are used, for instance the triangle, the circle, the
cube or perfect ashlar, the five-pointed star or pentalpha, (See P-I, plate of L. M. Taylor) and the six pointed star formed of two triangles as in the Ruddiman plate. At times a plate will have some of the architectural marks of a lodge room, such as the altar or the two columns with their spheres one for the earth and the other for the heavens. A very interesting example of an altar with the beam of light falling on it from above is seen in the old plate of W. Chapman.

Among the special emblems for the subsidiary Masonic bodies are the cross and crown (See plate of Dr. Egbert); the scimitar, crescent and star, the mark of the Shrine; the Maltese cross of the Knights Templar; and the crowned double eagle of the Scottish Rite bodies. It is for these emblems that the Book-Plate collector must look.

Some plates will be found to be almost entirely Masonic. That of W. H. Rylands has all sorts of emblems and symbols—the layman might almost get a liberal education in such matters by a study of this plate. Another of the same kind is that of the Supreme Council 33d by W. P. Barrett. This is perhaps the most elaborate Masonic Book-Plate in existence and seems to contain all the insignia of the Scottish Rite. Other interesting plates, on account of the wealth of symbolism or mysterious signs which they contain, are those of L. M. Taylor, A E. Bachert, E. V. D. Brown, and L. A. Onley.

There are few foreign plates in the list. Freemasonry, except in France, does not seem to be very strong on the Continent. Moreover, the Continental bodies are not very closely affiliated with those of England and America. Several very interesting plates appear, however, even two from Bohemia. Furthermore I understand that M. Henri Andre is now at work on a volume to be entitled “Maconnique Ex Libris”. Judging by M. Andre’s “Ex Libris de Medecins” the promised volume should be both interesting and valuable.

Like most Ex Libris, Masonic plates often lead the
collector to interesting facts in regard to their owners. The history of the Iowa Masonic Library is really that of Mr. T. S. Parvin its librarian and benefactor. The story of such a versatile person as General Pike is most certainly interesting, even if his Book-Plate is not, and gives us an instructive side light on the sort of life led by the Middle Westerner during the early years of the last century.

In this connection it is interesting to read part of an unpublished diary of John Rowe who was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of America from 1768 to 1787.*


"23d November Wednesday (1768) A Fine Morning W. West. I had the honour & pleasure of being Installed Grand Master of Masons of North America at Concert Hall this Morning, this was a very Solemn Ceremony, after the Installation the Whole Fraternity proceeded in Order and marched in Procession from Concert Hall Round the Town House, accompanied with Two Bands of Musick the 59 & 64 Regiments to Trinity Church. The Revd Mr. Bass of Newberry Preached from the 21st Chapter of St. John & part of the 20th Verse—The Disciple whom Jesus loved—after Service wee Returned in Procession to Concert Hall & dined on an Elegant Entertainment provided by a Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge, there were One hundred and thirty four Brethren present. Wee spent the Afternoon very Cheerfully & in Good Order, which did honour to the Craft. I came home at Eight of Clock in the Evening."

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*This and other data used here are taken from notes made on the margin of the mounts of these Book-Plates in my collection. This material may already be printed. But not being certain of this, I cannot make the proper acknowledgements to any publication.
Paul Revere was an earnest Mason. He was initiated in the Lodge of St. Andrew in 1760, and held various offices. "When the schism in St. Andrews arose, and the Lodge was nearly equally divided on the question whether it should renounce its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and hold under the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, his patriotic feelings made him the leader of the seceders from St. Andrews who united in forming the Rising States Lodge, taking its charter from the Massachusetts body. Of this new lodge he was Master 1784 and 1791, and Treasurer 1785. He was also junior Warden of the Royal Arch Lodge, out of which grew St. Andrews Royal Arch Chapter."

Some light in regard to the feeling at times held towards Freemasonry may be seen in the career of Silas Ketchum. Born in Barre Vt., in 1835, he married in 1860 and worked his way through the Bangor Theological Seminary by means of his trade of shoemaker at which he had been apprenticed before his marriage. After graduating he became pastor of a church in Wardsboro, Vt., where he remained for two years. In the library of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire is a farewell sermon delivered at Wardsboro on Sept. 24, 1865. On the inside of the cover of this Mr. Ketchum wrote:—"In Sept. 1865 I was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, in Mt. Lebanon Lodge, Jamaica, Vermont. For this crime I was dismissed from the church in Wardsboro, of which I had been pastor two years, and took my leave with the following sermon. Silas Ketchum." Mr. Ketchum later helped to edit two Vermont newspapers and the next year was called to a church in Bristol, N. H. During the later years of his life he was much interested in early New England matters and was a member of many historical societies, among them the New Hampshire Historical Society, the New Hampshire Antiquarian Society, the American Antiquarian Society, the Prince Society, the New York Historical Society, and the New England His-
toric Genealogical Society. His Book-Plate shows four symbols of his life's interests—the square and compasses for Freemasonry, the awl for his early trade, the bible for his ministry, and the pen for his antiquarian work.

It is hoped that these few notes and comments may start some Book-Plate collectors into trying to gather a few Masonic Ex Libris for a special collection. The list which follows is of course not at all complete, and I hope that any collectors who may happen to find Masonic plates which are not here listed will be kind enough to bring them to my attention.
Scottish Rite Library
Valley of Los Angeles
Orient of California
Plate of Lodge of Perfection of Scotland
ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE LIST

Arm.—Armorial. Attrib.—Attributed. Boh.—Bohemian. Can.—
Canadian. C.—circ.
Cent.—century. Chip.—Chippendale. Comp.—compasses. Cr.—
crest.
Dut.—Dutch. Eng.—English. Fest.—festoone. Ger.—German.
Gr.—Grand. Hung.—Hungarian. Jac.—Jacobean. Lab.—label.
Lod.—Lodge. Mas.—Masonic. Mod.—modern. Mon.—monogram.
Pict.—pictorial. Pl.—plain armorial, (i.e. Die-sinker).
Port.—portrait. P-I.—A. W. Pope, "Remarks on Some Masonic
Rus.—Russian.
Sccy.—secretary. Squ.—square. Sups.—supporters. Swed.—Swedish.
(References to D and to P-I, P-II, show that more information
and often a cut of the plate may be found in one or other of these
publications.)

A PARTIAL LIST OF MASONIC BOOK-PLATES

(Anon.) T. I. W.? Jac. Arm. with squ. & comp. as Cr. 1893. Eng?
(Anon.) N? Lod. mark in key stone. A Book-Plate?
(Anon.) Elaborately and entirely Mas. Attrib. to Richard Brunton.
See A. C. Bates, "An Early Connecticut Engraver and His
Work." Am. P-II.
(Anon.) Arm. form with squ. & comp. Eng? D.
(Anon.) Arm. Jewel at base of shield dated 1812. Rua. Mod. D.
(Anon.) Pict. Knight in Armour, Mas. emblems, banner "Vita
sine littera more est." Eng? D.
(Anon.) Arm. (In oval, sea, island, two ships, sun in splendour.)
Motto, "Je sera de guide" and fleur-de-lys above. Below on base
squ. & comp. Fr. 18 Cent.
(Anon.) Arm. (Clasped hands.) Above is another and smaller
cartouche within which an oval containing scales and sword
squ. & comp. at sides. Fr. 18 Cent.
Alken, Tonnes. Dec. Swed. Mas?
Bain, George Washington. Pict. By (John Vinycomb) "Marcus
Ward & Co." 1897. Eng. D.
P-II.
P-II.
Berthold, Rabbiner, Dr., Oppenheim. Pict. Ger.
Bingham, Chas. D. Pict. By C. V. Kirby, 1869. Am. Of Water-
town, N. Y. 33d. P-II.
Bond, Alderman, 1845. Pict. George Bond of St. John, N. B.,
died 1859. Can. D. P-II.
columns, Mas. marks, etc. Mod?
Bremnan, B. Frank. Pict. By D. McN. Stauffer. Am. Born 1887,
MASSON BOOKPLATES


Brown, John. Lab. Am. D.


Castle Lodge 1621, Bridgenorth. Arm. Eng. D.

Chapman, W. Z. H. J. Pict. (Entirely Mas.) Eng. 18 Cent? D.


Day, Robert. Arm. (with long Mas. record.) By John Vinycomb, 1891. Eng. D.


Easton, Elwood Tracy. Pict. Am. 32d.


Egbert, Dr. Joseph C. Arm. Dec. Am.

Egbert, Dr. Joseph C. Pict. By Renouf, 1912. Am.


MASONIC BOOKPLATES

France, Grand Orient de. Seal. Fr? D.
Frankfurt A—M., Bibliothek zu den Loge zur Einigung in. Pict? Ger. D.
Fuller, James F., F. S. A. Arm. By owner. Eng. D.
Furnell, Michael, Pro. Grand Master, Knight of the Eagle and
Pelican, Prince Grand Rose Croix, etc. Pl. Arm. Eng. D.
Galliers, John. Lab. Eng. D.
Gilkes, Peter. Pict. "I. Cole Invent. Printed at No. 9 St. Agnes
Colorado Springs. 32d. P—II.
1898. D.
Glasgow Royal Arch Chapter No. 50, Arm. Dec. Eng. D.
Govandale Lodge No. 437, S. C. of F. & A. Masons. Pict. (River
Clyde). Eng.
Gruenstein, Bernhard. Pict. By A. H. Noll, 1912. Am. A. Camp-
bellite preacher.
Guitt, Stanislasc de. Arm. wth sups. Fr. Note, "Celebre occulliste,
Grand Chef de la R. & C. Membre du Conseil Suprême Mat.
Mont. en 1897".
Chancellor of Univ. of the South.
Mas?
Hosmer, Timothy. Arm?. Pict. By Joel Allen. Am. Hosmer of
Middletown, 1740—1829. See James Terry, "Ex Libris Leaflet"
No. 4, pg. 15.
Hull No. 181. Arm. Eng. D.
see Parvin.
1833. There are said to be three varieties of this plate.
Born 1835, died 1880. P—I.
Kinsale Masonic Lodge No. CCXXXIV. Seal. Eng. D.
33d. P—II.
Knight, Samuel, Archtect. Cr. By Thomas Moring. Eng. D. Mas?
Kuppemanyr, Fred. Pict? Ger. D. Mas?
Los Angeles, Masonic Library. Pict. Am. P—II.
Los Angeles Consistory No. 3, Scottish Rite Library. Presented by
Los Angeles, Valley of, Orient of California, Scottish Rite Library.
Donated by — — —. Arm. Lab. Am. P—II.
Arms of Markham of Sedgebrook, Bart., created 1642, extinct
1779. D.
MASONIC BOOKPLATES

Marquis, Frank H. Pict. (Entirely Mas.) Am.
Masonic Home of Massachusetts. Arm. Pict. By Mrs. E. S.
Crandon. Am. P–II.

Mason, George, P. M. Salopian Lodge of Charity 185. Eng. D.
McNab, D. R. Arm. Eng. D.
McNutt, W. F., M. D. Pict. By owner and Mrs. Fairfax Wheelan.
Of San Francisco. P–II.

Eng. D.

Meredith, Jos. E. Pict. By Cyrus Fosmouth. Am. Editor of "The
American Freemason". P–II.

1899. Two sizes. Eng. D.

New Hampshire, Grand Commandery of the State of. Presented by
Joseph W. Fellows, etc. Lab. Am. P–II.
Norris, Mark. Pict. By C. V. Kirby, 1907. Am. Of Grand Rapids,
Mich. 32d. P–II.

Olney, Louis Atwell. Dec. Am. Prof. of Chemistry in Lowell
Textile School. P–II.

Olney, Louis Atwell. Dec. By "D. W. S." Same general design
as last, but more elaborate. P–II.

Arm. Pict. Am. Born 1817, died 1901. Mr. Parvin founded
the library and gave largely to it. P–I.
Parvin, Theodore Sutton, LL. D., presents this volume to the Iowa,
Two sizes. Am. P–II.

Son of F. M. Perkins. Of Lawrence, Kas. 32d.

Francis M. Perkins, 32d. of Lawrence, Kas. P–II.


Pope, Alexander Winthrop. Pict. By J. Chambers, 1903. Book-
Plate collector of Newton, Mass." Author of "Masonic Book-
Plates in America". "Some Theatrical Book-Plates". Of
Rabboni Lodg, Boston. 32d. P–I.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076. Pict. (Mas. figures of Four
Crowned Martyrs from the Isabella Missal, c1500 A. D.) Eng. D.
Ravenswood Masonic Library. Belonging to Ravenswood Lodge,
No. 777. A. F. & A. M., Chicago, Illinois, etc. Pict. By Walter
R. Corlett. Am. P–II.

Revere, (Paul). Arm. Lodge of St. Andrew, leader of those who
seceded from it to the Rising States Lodge. P–I.

Rosae Crucis signum mysticum. Pict. (Candle and stars.) Eng.
Two varieties, 1. motto, "Lux Lucet in Tenebris." 2. motto,
"Convallium Antiquissima Insignia". D.
Rowe, John. Chip. Arm. (No Mas. marks.) Am. Gr. Master of
Gr. Lodge. 1768-87.
Rowe, Henry Sherburne. Arm. (No Mas. marks.) Am.
MASONIC BOOKPLATES

Rupp, Geo. P. Pict. Am. Librarian of Masonic Temple, Philadel-
phia.
Eng.
Rylands, William Harry, P. M. 2. Arm. Pict. (Elaborately Mas.) 
By owner? 1891. Eng. D.
Sachse, Julius Friedrich. Arm. Am. Librarian of Gr. Lod. of Penn. 
of the oldest Boston Lodges.
Pr. Early 18 cent.
Eng. D.
Santa Johannis Evangelistae Sigillum Collegi Latomorum, Kingston, 
Canada, 1794. Seal. P—I, II.
St. Paul's Masonic Lodge of Litchfield, Conn. Lab. Am. See 
Scotland, Metropolis of. Coleidge Heredon VII D. Pict. (Entirely 
Mas.) Motto, "Dieu Le Veut. Lodge of Perfection. Will of 
God". Eng. 18 cent.
Pict. Hung. 18 cent.
Soane, Harry. Pict. 1873. Eng. Mas? 
Societatis Rosicrucianae in Scotia. Seal. Two sizes. Eng. D.
Spaeth. Arm. 1894. Three sizes. Eng. Mr. Speth died 1901. D.
Stauffer, David McNeely, A. M. C. E. By owner, 1884. Am. Mas? 
P—I.
Supreme Council 33d. of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of 
Freemasonry, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A. 
Arm. Am. D. P—I.
Supreme Council 33d., S. J. U. S. A. The Pike Library of the. 
Additions by the Sup. Council, May 14, 1881. (Another variety 
The gift of Albert Pike, born in Boston, 1809, practised law in 
Little Rock, Ark., died 1891. He was a lawyer, soldier, author, 
editor, poet and a noted Mason. D. P—I.
Supreme Council 33d. Pict. The most elaborate and impressive of 
Donated by Martin Colline, 33d., St. Louis, Mo. Port. Am. P—I.
Donated by Wm. F. Busby, 33d., South McAlester, I. T. Port. 
Am. P—I.
(Sussex) Coronet with collar of the Garter, etc. (No Mas. marks.) 
Tatech, Jacob Hugo. Prominent Mason of Spokane, Wash. 1911. 
Taylor, L. M., 33d. Pict. Am. Leroy Mortimer Taylor, of Wash-
ington, born 1836, died 1904. P—I.
Tittman, D. Carl August. Pict. c1760. Ger. D.
Tyre Lodge, No. 18, F. & A. M. Chartered Jan. 14, 1848, Coldwater.
Warr, John Gough, No. —. Pict. P—I.
Williams, S. Stacker. Pict. Arm. (No Mas. marks.) Am. 33d.
Williamson, Geo., Sing Sing, N. Y. Dec. Am. P—II.
Lod.) Eng. D.