



THE WELL READ MASON

THE BUILDER



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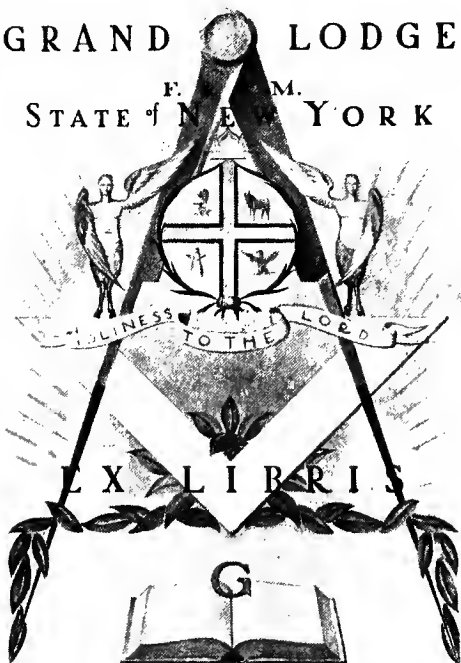
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Author

Wm L Boyden, 33071

GRAND LODGE

F. M.
STATE OF NEW YORK



Classification

OF THE

LITERATURE OF FREEMASONRY

AND

Related Societies

BY

WILLIAM L. BOYDEN, 33° Hon.:

**Librarian of the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree of the Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the Southern Jurisdiction
of the United States of America.**

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1915



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PREFACE

The Masonic Classification herewith presented is the result of some twenty-two years of practical experience in the largest masonic library in the world—the Library of the Supreme Council, 33rd Degree at Washington. This Library, in addition to its thousands of items on Freemasonry and related societies, contains also thousands upon thousands of general works in all branches of literature. These latter works are classified according to the well-known Dewey Decimal System, but this system provides no classification of freemasonry, assigning one class only to the subject, which class is practically incapable of subdivision. The scheme which I have devised and which is in successful practical operation, provides for nearly four hundred classes and sub-classes.

Practically all masonic libraries contain much general literature, but as they specialize on freemasonry, it becomes necessary to provide some system which will allow of their classification independently of the general library. Many libraries use the Dewey Decimal System, and I have devised the present scheme to prevent confusion, not only in the classification, but also in the catalogue card number, the book label number, the shelf guide number, and in various other ways, the letter “M” (Masonry) arbitrarily prefixed to the digits, always indicating the card, the book, its label, and the shelf-guide, as of masonic import.

The entire range of masonic literature is divided into ten great classes, somewhat similar to Dewey’s ten great classes of general literature. These ten classes are subdivided again and again to suit the requirements of the literature on a given subject. For example, if we have a general history of freemasonry, it goes in class M10. If it is a history of Freemasonry in Europe, it goes in class M17.940, the M17, indicating that it is a geographical division of masonic history, and the 940, indicating that it is a history of Freemasonry in Europe, the 940 being Dewey’s notation for Europe. Again, take the class M20, which is Customs and Paraphernalia. Any general work on the subject would go in this class, but if the library possessed literature on the Obituary Rites of freemasonry, it would go in class M20.01; if it had works on Paraphernalia, they would go in class M21; Jewels and Medals would go in M22, and so on.

I am familiar with several schemes of masonic classification, made by interested masons, but they utterly fail to be of any practical value. Several public libraries have attempted classifications, but the lack of knowledge of the subject, has been the cause of some grave errors. For instance, the Library of Congress, in its treatment of Scottish Rite Literature has placed everything of this nature under the caption "Cerneau Organizations", whereas every intelligent mason knowing that "Cerneauism" is regarded throughout the masonic world as spurious and clandestine, would never look for the extensive literature of the Scottish Rite under this heading; and as this same library in its classification provides for "Non-recognized, Clandestine Masonry", Cerneauism would be properly looked for here. This is simply *one* of the errors of the Library of Congress classification.

The Subject Index following the classification, is a most important and useful feature, giving to the reader when in doubt the exact location of a given subject, and aiding the librarian in cataloguing his books, showing him to what class the books should be assigned and familiarizing him with a knowledge of the system.

WILLIAM L. BOYDEN, 33° Hon. .

CLASSIFICATION

CLASSES

- M00 GENERAL WORKS
- M10 HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY
- M20 CUSTOMS AND PARAPHERNALIA
- M30 JURISPRUDENCE
- M40 CHARITY AND EDUCATION
- M50 ART AND ARCHITECTURE
- M60 LITERATURE AND MUSIC
- M70 SOCIETIES ADMITTING ONLY MASONS
- M80 WOMAN IN MASONRY, CO-MASONRY
- M90 NEGRO FREEMASONRY



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DIVISIONS

M00 General Works

- M01 Annuals, Year Books
- M02 Societies, Transactions
- M03 Study (Schools of Instruction)
- M04 Bibliography
- M05 Libraries
- M06 Book Rareties

M10 History

- M11 Philosophy and Symbolism
- M12 Church and State
- M13 Special Subjects
- M14 Rites, Degrees, Manuals
- M16 Biography
- M17 Geographical Divisions of History
- M19 Antimasonry

M20 Customs and Paraphernalia

- M21 Paraphernalia
- M22 Jewels, Medals, Badges
- M25 Blank Forms
- M26 Completed Forms

M30 Jurisprudence

- M31 Constitutions, general
- M32 Special Topics
- M33 By-Laws
- M35 Trials

M40 Charity and Education

- M42 Benevolent and Educational Institutions
- M43 Boards of Relief
- M44 Insurance and Mutual Aid Associations
- M45 Hospitals
- M46 Cemeteries
- M47 Other Masonic Benevolence
- M48 Impositions on Charity

M50 Art and Architecture

- M52 Architecture
- M53 Art
- M54 Other Works

M60 Literature

- M61 Addresses, Lectures, Essays
- M62 Magazines
- M63 Poetry and Drama
- M65 Music
- M66 Novels and Tales
- M67 Humor and Satire

M70 Societies admitting only

Masons

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- M72 Royal Order of Scotland
- M73 Masonic Veteran Associations
- M74 Clubs
- M75 Acacia Fraternity
- M76 Mystic Shrine
- M77 Veiled Prophets
- M79 Other Orders

M80 Woman in Masonry

- M81 Adoptive Masonry
- M82 Order Eastern Star
- M84 White Shrine
- M85 Co-Masonry

M90 Negro Freemasonry

(Subdivided)

GENERAL WORKS

- M00** **Encyclopaedias, general reference works**
- M01** **Annals, Year Books, Statistical Information, general**
 (Put Local under Geographical Divisions M17 to M17.997)
- M02** **Societies, Transactions**
 (When of a general nature. Put others under their special subjects)
- M03** **Study**
 (Schools of Instruction, Lecture Bureaus, etc.)
- M04** **Bibliography, general works**
- M04.1 Catalogues, general
- M04.2 Private
- M04.3 Sale
- M04.4 Special Subjects
- M05** **Libraries, general works**
 (Includes anything on the Library as a means of Education)
- M05.1 Library Classification
- M05.2 Library Reports
- M05.3 Other Library Work
- M05.4 Book Plates
- M06** **Book Rareties**
- M06.1 Albums, Scrap Books
- M06.2 Books, not masonic, but of masonic interest
- M06.3 Other works and curios

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

- M10** **General Works**
- M10.1 Related Societies, general
- M10.11 Mysteries
- M10.12 Rosicrucians
- M10.13 Guilds
- M10.14 Illuminati
- M10.15 Other Societies
- M10.4 Addresses, Lectures, Essays
- M11** **Philosophy and Symbolism, general**
 (Put philosophy of any particular degrees or Rites under classes
 M14 to M14.9)
- M12** **Church and State**
- M13** **Special Subjects**
 (e. g. Jew in Freemasonry)
- Rites, Degrees, Manuals**
 (Classes M14 to M14.9 are intended for everything relating to
 the subject, including the history, philosophy, etc., exclusive
 of the class Related Societies, above.)
- M14 **General Works**
- M14.1 York Rite, general
- Blue Lodge
- M14.2 American
- M14.21 English
- M14.22 French
- M14.23 Other
- Chapter (Royal Arch) High Priesthood
- M14.3 American
- M14.31 English
- M14.32 Other
- M14.4 Councils (Cryptic)
- Knights Templar and Related Orders
- M14.5 Knights Templar, History
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- M14.55 Related Orders
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- M14.6 History and Philosophy
 (Put anything local under classes M17 to M17.997)
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- M14.62 Controversial Literature
 (See also Cernescuism M19.73)
- M14.7 Manuals, Monitors
- M14.8 Constitutions, Laws (general)
 (Put others under the Bodies concerned)
- M14.9 Other Rites
 (e. g. Rites of Memphis and Mizrsim)
 (See also Societies Admitting only Mssons)
- M16 Biography, general and collective**
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- M16.1 American
- M16.2 English
- M16.3 Other
- Individual
 (By subject of the Biography)
- M16.5 American
- M16.6 English
- M16.7 French
- M16.8 Other
- M17 History, geographical divisions**
 (Put everything of a local nature in this class, including, calendars,
 directories, simanacs, statistics, By-laws, programs, local peri-
 odicals, Proceedings of Grand Bodies, etc., Charity and
 Education, Mystic Shrins and other Orders admitting only
 Masons, Woman in Mssonry, etc. of a local nature go in
 their own class.)
- M17.940 Europe, general**
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- M17.9413 Local, or by Counties
- M17.9415 Ireland
- M17.942 England and Wales, general
- M17.9421 By counties
- M17.9423 By cities
- M17.9425 Wales
- M17.943 Germany and Austria, general
- M17.9431 By cities or counties
- M17.944 France, general
- M17.9443 Local
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- M17.947 Russia
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- M17.9492 Netherlands
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M17.951 China
M17.952 Japan
M17.954 India
M17.955 Other Asiatic countries
M17.960 Africa
M17.962 Egypt
M17.966 Other African countries
M17.970 North America
M17.971 Canada, general and provinces
M17.9712 Local
M17.972 Mexico
M17.9728 Central America
M17.9729 West Indies
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M17.9743 Arizona, general
M17.97431 Local
M17.9744 Arkansas, general
M17.97441 Local
M17.9745 California, general
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M17.9746 Colorado, general
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M17.97471 Local
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M17.97491 Local
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M17.9751 Local
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| M17.9762 | Maryland |
| M17.97621 | Local |
| M17.9763 | Massachusetts, general |
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| M17.9764 | Michigan, general |
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| M17.9771 | Local |
| M17.9772 | New Hampshire, general |
| M17.97721 | Local |
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| M17.97731 | Local |
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| M17.97741 | Local |

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| M17.97781 | Local |
| M17.9779 | Oklahoma, general |
| M17.97791 | Local |
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| M17.97821 | Local |
| M17.9783 | Rhode Island, general |
| M17.97831 | Local |
| M17.9784 | South Carolina, general |
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| M17.97851 | Local |
| M17.9786 | Tennessee, general |
| M17.97861 | Local |
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| M17.97871 | Local |
| M17.9788 | Utah, general |
| M17.97881 | Local |
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- M19.2** **Defensive and Controversial**
- M19.3** **Almanacs**
- M19.4** **Church and State**
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- M19.5** **Fraudulent Manuals and Rituals**
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 everything relating to them)
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(For patents, certificates, etc. that have been filled in)

- M26 York Rite
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M30 **General Works**

M31 **Constitutions, Ahiman Recons, Old Charges, Codes**

(When a constitution or similar work relates to a particular body, put under that body. This class is for general works only.)

M32 **Special Topics**

M33 **By-Laws**

(Owing to the vast number of by-laws it is usual to bind them into volumes, numbering them consecutively, and as most of them contain much history and local information, cataloguing them under local history—M17 to M17.997)

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- M43** **Boards of Relief**
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- M45** **Hospitals**
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- M47** **Other Masonic Benevolence**
- M48** **Impositions on Charity**

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- M50** **General Works**
- M52** **Architecture**
- M52.1 Plans and specifications of Temple, etc.
- M53** **Art**
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M60 **General Works****M61** **Addresses, Lectures, Essays, general**

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(When a Magazine or "Bulletin" is purely in the interest of some Body, put under that Body.)

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- M73** **Masonic Veteran Associations**
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- Mystic Shrine**
 (Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the)
- M76** **General Works**
- M76.1** **Local History**
- Veiled Prophets**
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- **M77** **General Works**
- M77.1** **Local History**
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M90.2 York Rite
M90.3 Scottish Rite
M90.4 Other
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(Can be arranged like M17.940-M17.997, prefixing M91 instead of M17)
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