

An **entablature** refers to the superstructure of moldings and bands which lie horizontally above columns, resting on their capitals.



## 2013: A Good, New Year for the College and Maine Masonry

**By Walter M. Macdougall, PGM**

2013 has begun with a class in rhetoric and with our third annual Celebration of the Arts and Sciences both of which have been exceptional. Now, as I write this, we are looking forward to R.W. Brother Charles Plummer's myth and ritual class on March sixteenth.

I have attended many speech classes, but the rhetoric course delivered by Professor Diane Keeling was tops. It was richly interactive and drew from the same classical wells of wisdom as does so much of our ritual. Professor Michael Grillo, head of the Department of Art at the University of Maine, brilliantly led the Celebration of the Liberal Arts and Sciences.

This was our third annual celebration of Masonry's core disciplines. The first was led by Dr. Jeff Hecker, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Maine. Dean Hecker focused on the importance of the arts and sciences in today's world. The second celebration was equally helpful and inspiring. It was led by Professor Kirsten Jacobson of university's philosophy department.

In this year's celebration, Prof. Grillo traced, with numerous slides and illuminating insights, the Platonic Ideas of Light and the advancement of the human spirit through the early Christian era to their elegant expression in French Gothic architecture and the labors of our operative, Masonic ancestors. As the course developed, we came to see how the great ideas of Justice, Love, Inclusiveness,

Wisdom and Noble Aspiration exist and in glorious moments of human triumph are expressed.

In the following thank you note to the College, Dr. Grillo captures the collective purpose of all individuals and institutions which, inspired by such Ideas, work for the greater good:

*"Just a quick thank you for the wonderful opportunity to talk with such an interested group. It struck me just how similar the missions of Higher Education and the Masons parallel one another, for we're all concerned with grounding the next generations in a rich knowledge of their world so that they can contribute well to future society through earnest engagement and deeply informed decision making. I very much appreciated the open dialogue and willingness to work through complex ideas as a group, again, in quite the familiar parallel to any truly successful seminar. In all, thank you."*

As the expression goes, Dr. Grillo is "right on." The Maine Masonic College does not endeavor to duplicate the role of higher institutions of training, but it does share the same mission in its own unique way.

The mission that now characterizes Freemasonry is that of building a new and greater actualization of those Ideas and Tenets we hold in this new century of enlarged challenges and possibilities. To do this takes renewed responsibility and caring along with expanding knowledge and expertise.

### The College Briefly...

Our name inspires us to a 'higher educational calling.' We are not a bricks and mortar school but a "Temple of Knowledge," offering a growing variety of learning opportunities in various modalities

We believe that Freemasonry is relevant in society today, helping to create a continuum of knowledge for those who are interested in personal enrichment.

Masonic ritual exhorts us to broaden our knowledge of the seven liberal arts and sciences. Thus, our programs include topics of interest to anyone with an inquisitive mind: ethics, astronomy, logic, public speaking and more. We have molded the Maine Masonic College on the best features of not only traditional and modern Masonic-oriented education but also "senior college" and lifelong learning endeavors.

In addition, we are developing audio and video material along with reading lists and more. At the Maine Masonic College, we encourage your input, your recommendations and - most of all - your...

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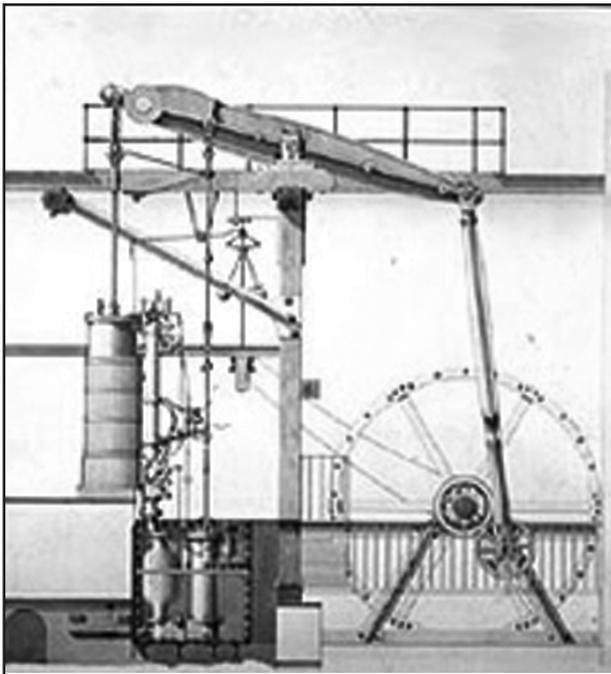
# #11 The Minutes of “Old Builders Lodge #1000”

**Brother George M.A. Macdougall**

*When we think of Architects, Engineers and Scientists who have influenced the Art that has created the modern world around us, we would probably think of men such as M Pei and Frank Lloyd Wright. However, these men have not changed the Art as much as they have mastered the use of it. This is one article in a series on the people who created, discovered or redefined how modern architecture, engineering and science came about.*

After our recent trip through the Cosmos and her various windings, let's get back to the people who shaped our world. The person we will discuss in this edition of the minutes was a Mason! He was initiated in Scotland in 1763. Brother James Watt was born on 19 January 1736 in Greenock, Renfrewshire, a seaport on the Firth of Clyde. Watt did not attend school regularly; initially he was mostly schooled at home by his mother but later he attended Greenock Grammar School. In true engineering fashion he displayed great manual dexterity, engineering skills and an aptitude for mathematics, while Latin and Greek failed to interest him.

When he was eighteen, Watt travelled to London to study instrument-making for a year, then returned to Scotland, settling in the major commercial city of



**Drawing of a 1789 steam engine designed by James Watt and Matthew Boulton.**

Glasgow intent on setting up his own instrument-making business. He made and repaired brass reflecting quadrants, parallel rulers, scales, parts for telescopes, and barometers, among other things. Because he had not served at least seven years as an apprentice, the Glasgow Guild of Hammermen (which had jurisdiction over any artisans using hammers) blocked his application. So he went to the University of Glasgow to work for them restoring astronomical instruments they had acquired. At the University, Watt began to experiment with steam though he had never seen an operating steam engine. He tried constructing a model. It failed to work satisfactorily, but he continued his experiments and began to read everything he could about the subject. He came to realize the importance of latent heat in understanding the engine.



**James Watt 1736-1819**

Understanding of the steam engine was in a very primitive state, for the science of thermodynamics was not in place for another 100 years or so. In 1763, Watt was asked to repair a model Newcomen engine belonging to the university. Even after repair, this engine only barely worked. After much experimentation, Watt demonstrated that about three-quarters of the heat of the steam was being wasted - consumed in heating the engine cylinder on every cycle. This energy was wasted because later in the cycle, cold water was injected into the cylinder to condense the steam to reduce its pressure. Thus the engine expended much of its energy in repeatedly heating the cylinder rather than in delivering mechanical force.

He went on to patent his ideas that vastly improved the steam engine. These patents helped launch the industrial revolution in Britain and the United States.

*Watt developed the concept of horsepower and the metric unit of power, the watt, was named after him.*