

Anderson's Constitutions of 1723

Anderson's Constitutions of 1723 is a significant work in the history of Freemasonry. J. Senex and J. Hooke published it on 28th February 1722-3. It consists of a dedication, a historical introduction, a set of six charges, Payne's regulations revised, the manner of constituting a new lodge, and songs for the Master, Wardens, Fellow Craft, and Entered Apprentice, along with an elaborate frontispiece. The six charges are one of the most essential components of the work, and they outline the duties of Masons. In this lecture, we will focus on the critical points of Anderson's Constitution, focusing on the six charges.

The six charges are as follows:

1. Concerning God and Religion
The first charge emphasizes believing in God and following a religion. It states that a Mason should be a good man and true and should not be an atheist or someone who does not believe in God. This charge is significant because it highlights the religious nature of Freemasonry and the importance of faith in the organization.
2. Concerning the Civil Magistrate
The second charge emphasizes the importance of obeying the law and respecting the civil magistrate. It states that a Mason should be a peaceful subject and not engage in treasonous or seditious activities. This charge is significant because it highlights the importance of being a law-abiding citizen and respecting the government's authority.
3. Concerning Lodges
The third charge emphasizes the importance of attending lodge meetings and participating in the Masonic community. It states that a Mason should not absent himself from the lodge without a valid reason and should not disclose the secrets of the lodge to outsiders. This charge is significant because it highlights the importance of participating in the Masonic community and keeping the organization's secrets.
4. Concerning Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices
The fourth charge emphasizes the importance of respecting the hierarchy of the organization. It states that a Mason should respect his superiors and follow their instructions and that he should not engage in any disputes or quarrels with his fellow Masons. This charge is significant because it highlights the organization's importance of hierarchy and respect.
5. Concerning the Management of the Craft in Working
The fifth charge emphasizes the importance of working diligently and honestly. It states that a Mason should work hard and not engage in fraud or deceit. This charge is significant because it highlights the importance of honesty and hard work within the organization.
6. Concerning Behavior
The sixth charge emphasizes the importance of good behavior and morality. It states that a Mason should be a good citizen and a good neighbor and that he

should not engage in any immoral or unethical activities. This charge is significant because it highlights the importance of morality and good behavior.

In conclusion, Anderson's Constitutions of 1723 is a significant work in the history of Freemasonry. The six charges outlined in the work emphasize the importance of faith, obedience to the law, community, hierarchy, honesty, and morality within the organization. These charges are still relevant today and continue to guide the behavior of Masons around the world.

Payne's revised regulations are an essential component of Anderson's Constitutions of 1723. Grand Master Payne originally wrote the regulations, which were revised and expanded by Anderson. The revised regulations were included in Anderson's work and were intended to provide a set of rules for the management of the Craft.

1. The General Regulations

The General Regulations are the first set of regulations in Paine's revised regulations. They outline the rules for the management of the Craft, including the duties of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Wardens. The regulations also outline the rules for the election of Grand Officers and the establishment of new lodges. The General Regulations are significant because they provide a framework for the management of the Craft and ensure that the organization is run in an orderly and efficient manner.

2. The Regulations for the Master and Wardens

The Regulations for the Master and Wardens are the second set of regulations in Paine's revised regulations. They outline the duties of the Master and Wardens of a lodge, including the rules for the election of officers and the management of the lodge. The regulations also outline the rules for the admission of new members and the conduct of meetings. The Regulations for the Master and Wardens are significant because they ensure that the lodge is run in an orderly and efficient manner and that the lodge members are treated fairly.

3. The Regulations for the Fellow Craft

The Regulations for the Fellow Craft are the third set of regulations in Payne's revised regulations. They outline the rules for the admission of new members and the conduct of meetings. The regulations also outline the duties of the Fellow Craft and the rules for their advancement to the rank of Master Mason. The Regulations for the Fellow Craft are significant because they ensure that the members of the Craft are adequately trained and that they can advance through the ranks of the organization.

4. The Regulations for the Apprentices

The Regulations for the Apprentices are the fourth set of regulations in Payne's revised regulations. They outline the rules for the admission of new members and the conduct of meetings. The regulations also outline the duties of the Apprentices and the rules for their advancement to the rank of Fellow Craft. The Regulations for the Apprentices are significant because they ensure that the

members of the Craft are adequately trained and that they can advance through the ranks of the organization.

5. The Regulations for the Visitors

The Regulations for the Visitors are the fifth set of regulations in Payne's revised regulations. They outline the rules for the admission of visitors to the lodge and the conduct of meetings. The regulations also outline the duties of the visitors and the rules for their behavior while in the lodge. The Regulations for the Visitors are significant because they ensure that the visitors to the lodge are correctly treated and that they behave in a manner that is consistent with the organization's values.

6. The Regulations for the Charity

The Regulations for the Charity are the sixth set of regulations in Payne's revised regulations. They outline the rules for the management of the charity fund and the distribution of funds to those in need. The regulations also outline the rules for the collection of funds and the management of charity accounts. The Regulations for the Charity are significant because they ensure that the fund is managed correctly and that the funds are distributed to those in need.

In conclusion, Payne's revised regulations are an essential component of Anderson's Constitutions of 1723. The regulations provide a set of rules for the management of the Craft and ensure that the organization is run in an orderly and efficient manner. The regulations also ensure that the members of the Craft are trained correctly and behave in a manner consistent with the organization's values. The regulations are still relevant today and continue to guide the behavior of Masons around the world.

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Illinois are modeled after Anderson's Constitutions and Payne's revised regulations.