

Suspending the letter G in the Tabernacle

In another case a discussion was started in a Chapter, on the necessity of the suspended letter G in the Tabernacle, and the High Priest incidentally remarked that it was not necessary, as the Chapter was not, "strictly speaking, a Masonic body." Whereupon a Companion wrote asking two questions: One was, "Is a Chapter, of Royal Arch Masons a Masonic body?" and the other, "In a Masonic Lodge must not the letter G be suspended in the East ? "

"As the three preliminary degrees in a Chapter are Lodge degrees, the question was a proper one to ask, and it is proper that my opinion shall be recorded. I wrote to the Companion who asked the question, as follows:

"Regarding the first question, 'Is a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons a Masonic body, I beg to reply, Yes. And I will take the liberty of adding that, in my judgment, it is the crowning Masonic body in the realm of Symbolic Masonry."

To the other query he said that the letter G is part of the paraphernalia of the Middle Chamber only, and the one reference to it is in the ceremony of the Fellow Craft degree. Its presence in any other ceremony could not be out of place owing to its sacred significance, but it is not essential.

Sources:

Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada at the annual convocation, 1908 report on Foreign Correspondence - NEW YORK