October 2011

THAT SYMBOLIC LEVEL

We speak of the Level, where the Level is to lay horizontal, and we say that a surface is indeed horizontal when the fluid is at rest. Symbolically, we are at peace of mind, well balanced.

Of course, the great meaning of the Level is that it teaches equality. Our Declaration of Independence teaches us that all men are “created equal”. One would determine from that, we are all made of the same dust, we have the same hopes and fears, and faiths, walking together on the Level of time until we die. Anyone who faces the facts knows well enough that all men are not created equal, either by nature or grace. Men are different in physical power, in mental ability, in moral quality. No two men are equal. Some can do what others cannot do. Some have five talents while others have three or even one talent. When we each have different gifts, it is difficult to talk of equality of opportunity. It doesn’t exist.

What then, is the equality of which the Level; is the symbol for? Clearly, it is not the identity of our gifts.

It is something better. It is the equal right for each man to develop his gifts and talents. Whatever, they may be. He has that equal and inalienable right to “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness”. Every man has an equal right to equal justice.

So, as in the Lodge, there upon the Level, rich and poor, high and low, men of different creeds, interest and occupations, meet in natural respect of each other. Disregarding station in life, where we unite in building the Temple, and each has his work to do. We all know of the joy of seeing the Temple slowly rise in the midst of our labors, as we all are raised to a higher level.

Fraternally,

Bob