

## *Masonic Definitions*

*Profane* means someone who is "not a Mason". The word is derived from the Latin "pro" meaning before, and "fanum" which means temple. Thus, someone profane is one who is "outside the temple", or uninitiated.

In Freemasonry *Clandestine* is used technically, and receives its definition from the laws enacted by the Grand Lodge. The Code of the Grand Lodge of Iowa gives the following definitions: "A *clandestine* lodge is one without a Dispensation, Charter, or Warrant from a recognized Grand Lodge." *Clandestine* Mason: "None are Masons unless made in a lodge working under authority of a recognized Grand Lodge."

The *cable-tow* is the sign of the pledge of the life of a man. He agrees to go to the aid of a Brother "if within the length of his cable-tow." For each Mason the cable-tow reaches as far as his moral principles go and his material conditions will allow. Of that distance each must be his own judge, and indeed each does pass judgment upon himself accordingly, by his own acts in aiding others.

*Dotage* is a condition associated with old age. Being old does not bar someone from membership in a Masonic Lodge, but it is required that he be mentally healthy and alert.

*Non-age* refers to a person who has not yet attained legal age, which in Iowa is considered to be 18 years of age.

An *atheist* is one who denies the existence of a deity or divine being.

A *libertine* is a person lacking in moral standards and self restraint.

A *madman* is a person who is or behaves as if insane; lunatic; maniac.

A *fool* refers to a man without prudence and judgment. He is of legal age, but is lacking in common powers of understanding.

A Brother who has been *expelled* from the Fraternity has had the rights and privileges of membership taken away.

A Brother who has been *suspended* has been debarred temporarily from the privileges of the lodge.

*Chastity*: The condition or quality of being pure or chaste. (Chaste: refraining from sexual intercourse that is regarded as contrary to morality or religion; virtuous)

*Inviolable*: Not capable of being broken or violated; as, an inviolable covenant, agreement, promise, or vow.

*Traduced*: to speak maliciously and falsely of; slander; defame: *to traduce someone's character*.

*Equivocation*: intentionally vague or ambiguous.

*Mental Reservation*: an unexpressed doubt or qualification.