



## Nugget

### The summit of his profession

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An exploration of what is meant by 'The Summit of his Profession'.

#### Summary

A meaningful exploration of 'The Summit of his Profession' described in the First-Lecture, linked to, a phrase taken from the Third-Degree ritual, '*An ethereal mansion, veiled from mortal eyes by the starry firmament, emblematically depicted in our Lodges by seven stars*'.

#### Keywords

Third-Degree, First-Lecture, Jacob's Ladder,

## The summit of his profession

In the First Lecture and Tracing Board we are told that the Great Architect of the Universe ‘crowns His Temple with stars as a diadem’. These are to be found above that heavenly realm, which is to be found at the summit of Jacob’s ladder, where we are told that figuratively there is, ‘*An ethereal mansion, veiled from mortal eyes by the starry firmament, emblematically depicted in our Lodges by seven stars*’. Today our Candidate has reached the third and last of the principal staves of Jacob’s ladder, and should find himself in Charity with all men; a brother to all men. In reaching this level, the First Lecture tells us that he is ‘*deemed to have attained the summit of his profession*’.

In the First-Degree, he entered on the monochrome surface of the mosaic flooring; but now he will figuratively be able to step into a space of colour and light, that is shown close to the Blazing Star. That step, illustrates the rewards available to us all, if we tread the path of self-improvement along which the mysteries of Freemasonry direct us.

On the tracing board of this degree, the veils of the Sanctum Sanctorum are drawn back, in invitation to approach the Ark of the Covenant, which can be seen within. That invitation is central to the meaning of the Third-Degree.

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##END##

## Recommended use of Nuggets

Nuggets offer a short, simple and readily absorbed means of progressing Masonic knowledge and an easy way to introduce learning to Lodges and Chapters. It is hoped that they will become a regular feature of Lodge and Chapter meetings as well as a source for private-study.

Nuggets can be included as an item in the summons and read at most Lodge/Chapter meetings. They can be:

- Read by either a new or an experienced Mason with the minimum of preparation and practice; *though ideally, they need to be read a few times beforehand.*
- Themed with the meeting or activity.
- Used to initiate a discussion within a Lodge/Chapter, LOI/COI, or group.
- Read at home and shared as a topic for a future discussion.
- Used as a focus for an unplanned, informal discussion.

**For further nuggets and other learning materials visit ‘Solomon’ at <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>**

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