

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN'S EDICT

THE ROYAL ARCH MASON

Fall, 1965

Whereas, among many laborers, etc., that ungodly custom of swearing is too often heard to the dishonor of God and contempt of authority, and to the end, therefore, that such impiety may be utterly banished from these works intended for the service of God and the honor of religion - it is ordered that customary swearing shall be a sufficient crime to dismiss any laborer that comes to the call; and the clerk of the works, upon sufficient proof, shall dismiss them accordingly. And if any master working by task, shall not upon admonition reform this profanation among his apprentices, servants and laborers, it shall be construed his fault, and he shall be liable to be censured by the commissioners.

The great architect Sir Christopher Wren issued this edict to the operative Masons engaged in building the Cathedral of St. Paul, in London, on September 25, 1695.