

[Oct.,

Any brother, bearing a Brief or Patent of the Supreme Council of England and Wales, will be recognized by you and received as a visitor in accordance therewith, and his Brief or Patent will be *vised* by any one of our Inspectors-General whose *visa* may be asked for.

Given at the Or. of Washington, under the hand of the Grand Commander, and the petty Seal of the Supreme Council hereunto affixed, and these presents countersigned by the Secretary-General, the day and Seal aforesaid.

FREDERICK WEBBER, 33°,  
Secretary-General.

ALBERT PIKE, 33°,  
Grand Commander.

Perhaps you may wisely conclude that beyond this statement nothing is at present needed.

The Supreme Council acted with wisdom last year in deciding to give the Sovereign Grand Commander power to place the Province of British Columbia in charge of an active member of the Supreme Council, and to abolish the local Deputyship, in view of its limited powers. The Secretary-General, to whom I entrusted the Province, has taken a great deal of trouble to procure information as to the state of the Rite in that Province. Our duty will be, in view of what has been ascertained, to satisfy the just aspiration of the brethren of that Province, consistent with our duty to the Craft generally. They must rely upon us that this is our desire. Brethren who have, in the past, filled up their measure of duty, should have their work and their merit recognized; looking to the future, we must build upon sure foundations, and secure assistance from willing hands. As soon, then, as we can—and that will depend upon the brethren themselves—we should give one brother or more the highest grade and a seat in this Supreme Council. But greater activity in the Lodge and Chapter at Victoria would make it more easy to bring this about. I hope that before the next year has passed away some active member of our Supreme Council will be able to visit that Province, and assure the brethren personally, as I do now from this position, that our sincere desire is to fulfil all their reasonable requirements.

The constitution, as revised at our last annual session, has been printed, under the supervision of our Secretary-General, and is issued in a style creditable to the Supreme Council.

While endeavoring to discharge as effectively as possible the duties which came to me to do, I have been quite unable to give to the work of the Rite as much attention as I would like to give it. I am fully conscious of my deficiencies, but can justly plead that little, if any, of my time is wittingly spent in idleness.

Our particular duties at this annual session may not prove to be very onerous, although we have some important work before us. What we have to do will be, I am confident, done with zeal for the interests in our care, with fidelity, and in that spirit of harmony and true brotherhood which has made our meetings so pleasant to anticipate and so delightful to remember.

Yours fraternally,

J. V. ELLIS, 33°,  
Sov. Gr. Com.

1888.]

The Supreme Council  
Perfection, and labor

On motion of Ill.  
the Sov. Gr. Com.  
mittee.

The Sov. Gr.  
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ISAAC H. STEARNS and

The Special Com.  
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To the Supreme Council, 3

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