

he meant "a Supreme Council could not be formed, but that Rose Croix Chapters "could." No individual Sovereign or Supreme Council can alter the Grand Constitutions, that alone can be done by a General Congress; and these Constitutions say: "Each Supreme Council may authorize Deputies to establish "Lodges and Councils in any of the degrees from the 4th to the 29th inclusive, "in places where there are no Lodges or Councils of the sublime degrees legally "constituted."

And this is strictly logical, for the axiom admits of no exception "that a "whole is composed of all its parts." This inalienable right of every legal Council can only be waived with the consent of all the Sister Councils without violating the Grand Constitutions themselves, to do which would render the waiving Council itself illegal: thus logically and constitutionally where a Rose Croix Chapter, or any one Body of the A. and A. S. Rite of thirty-three degrees exists in working order, there the A. and A. S. Rite is in all its entirety, and in its fully-constituted rights under the Grand Constitutions, and consequently cannot tolerate within the same country any other Body under the jurisdiction of another Supreme Council of the A. and A. S. Rite of thirty-three degrees.

Although the English Council considered its rights unattackable, still, in consideration of the friendly intercourse that existed, and should always exist, especially between Sister Councils so nearly connected, it was thought right to enter into negotiations with the Scotch Council for forming a Treaty of Alliance which should define what ought to be considered neutral ground for the Councils of Ireland, Scotland and England.

The immediate result of this step was the memo. of the Scotch Council, dated the 1st December, 1871, in which the Scotch Council states "its opinion," generally, "that our (English Council) proposition ought to be acceded to," the proposition being as follows:— "Whenever any one of the Councils shall have "established the A. and A. S. Rite in one of the Colonies, the other "Councils should leave that colony *under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council "which had first introduced the Rite."*

In July, 1871, the preliminaries for a Treaty with the Supreme Councils for Ireland and Scotland were entered upon. On the 14th December, 1871, the Scotch Council writes in reply to a complaint made by the English Council, that Scotland was planting an A. and A. S. degree in New Brunswick while negotiations were pending: "that the Scotch Council had granted *years ago* a "Warrant for New Brunswick, though the said Warrant was not granted until "the 9th August, 1871, nearly a month after preliminaries had been commenced."

About the middle of the year 1871, the Scotch Council began to lay plans for establishing Rose Croix and Thirtieth Chapters in Bombay, though all the time they most strenuously denied the statement made by our Grand Inspector General for India, namely, that a Scotch Brother had authority for opening Chapters, &c., under the jurisdiction of the Scotch Council; in the meanwhile the acceptance of the

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