

answer the letter of the Swiss Council. I received a very gentlemanlike and courteous reply from our very highly respected Brother Besangon, stating that he had ceased to command the Council, but had consulted it respecting my letter; and had found that before renewing friendly relations with us, it would require our adhesion to the Confederation of Lausanne. He added that the Swiss Council was the executive power (*pouvoir executif*) of that Confederation, and would be happy to communicate to the other Councils belonging to it our desire to join it; but that unless we should express that desire, the S. C. for Switzerland could not respond to our intentions.

"I replied that we were an independent Council; that we sought no favor from any other, and did not mean to make any submission whatever, however pleased we should have been had our well-meant offer met a different reception; and since we have not joined the Confederation of Lausanne, and have no intention of doing so, we must remain as we are with regard to the Council for Switzerland."

The Illustrious Brother consoles himself with the reflection that "our correspondence is of the most friendly and fraternal character with the five great English speaking Councils of the world."

The "organization" of the Rite in Ireland differs from its organization in the other countries in which it prevails. The number of members of the Supreme Council is limited to nine, and of the Thirty-second Grade to sixteen. There appears to be separate bodies of the 29th, 30th and 31st degrees. The Rose Croix is not under the immediate jurisdiction of the Supreme Council as will be seen by the extract given above. In regard to the 32°, the Sov. Grand Commander recommends that, although the members of that grade prefer to be under the Supreme Council rather than to have a separate Consistory, a distinct set of officers should be appointed for the degree, and "that the members should be regularly invited each year to attend our January meeting, which might, when its peculiar business was attended to, resolve itself into a Consistory of the 32°, so as to allow the Brethren to be present at the reading of the Report of the Commander."

The Sovereign Grand Commander of the Council in a Circular letter addressed to the bodies of its obedience and to its Foreign Representatives—a copy of which has been sent your Committee by Ill. Bro. DOMVILLE, 33°, announces the death of Ill. Bro. WILLIAM FETHERSTONHAUGH, 33°, (an active member of the Supreme Council), and pays an eloquent tribute to his Masonic virtues.

BELGIUM.

The Committee have received the Bulletin of the Supreme Council of Belgium covering its transactions from 1st November, 1877, to 1st November, 1878; a complete set of these transactions would be a most valuable addition to the Library of the Supreme Council if it could be obtained, and the Committee recommend that our Representative near that Supreme Council, Ill. Bro. CLUYDTS, be written to upon the subject.

The Supreme Council. Lieut. G. LEOPOLD RICHARD BRIEKMAN, who in 1878, this Supreme Council, when the Council, argued the inference that its deal of work. I as a Supreme Council at other times to the 32°. It occurred of man, and August, 1878, it public monument of the Court of C had also been a d the President, in event of consideration was the res montane and inin contained among the Sovereign Grand Lieutenant Grand Instruction; and was an honor to therefore at an inf deputation had b the Supreme Council marks of public members of the S upon the new M Grand Commander them for the court same time, assured attendance at Sup cease. In the bo spirit; philosophic Chapter an essay v mines. Other bo unhappy people in taken up, concerts and clothes to the cal Masonic spirit review of Foreign Council for 1877, v