

1881.]

SUPREME COUNCIL.

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I attach (*see Appendix 1*) an official document showing the action of the Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., on this melancholy occasion, for your information.

I now pass on to the decease of our late very lamented Illustrious Brother ALBERT GALLATIN MACKEY, 33°, M. D., formerly of Washington, D. C., in the U. S. of A. I do not know that as regards him I can improve upon the circular that I caused to be sent to our members and bodies, viz.:

It has pleased the G.: A.: O.: T.: U.: to end the days of our Ill.: Brother, ALBERT GALLATIN MACKEY, 33°, M. D., late of Washington, D. C., in the United States of America.

He died on the 20th June last, at Fortress Monroe, in Virginia, and was on the 26th buried at Washington with all the honors of Freemasonry, and his funeral was one of the most impressive events that has been witnessed in that city. As stated by the public prints, the large acquaintance which Brother MACKEY had, the high regard in which he was held as a citizen, a friend, and a true and upright man, the eminence to which he had risen in the Masonic fraternity—to which Order he had devoted the ripper years of his life—all combined to make his loss peculiarly felt and to induce exceptional honors to be paid to his memory. The Masonic Text Books written by him, his Treatises on Masonic Jurisprudence and on Parliamentary Law as applicable to Masonry, and his great works, the Lexicon and Encyclopædia of Freemasonry, coupled with his other labors, have made him well known as an author of high standing in this and other countries, and as an accomplished writer and an educated physician.

Brother MACKEY held high offices in Symbolic and Royal Arch Masonry, and was a Commander of Knight Templars. At the date of his lamented decease he fulfilled the duties of Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite 33°, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, and what most interests and concerns us, he was our honored Representative near that Grand Body.

One who knew well his worth—our Illustrious Brother ALBERT PIKE, 33°, his friend and Grand Commander—thus eulogizes our departed Brother: "Brother MACKEY had lived all his life among gentlemen, and had the manners and habits of a gentleman. Tall, erect, of spare but vigorous frame, his striking features were replete with intelligence and amiability. "He conversed well, and was liked as a genial and companionable man, of a cheerful, tolerant and kindly nature, who, if he had quarrels with individuals, "had none with the world. Idolized by his wife and children, he loved them devotedly. He had many friends, and made enemies, as men of strong will "and positive convictions will always surely do, but he plotted no harm "against any one and sought no revenge. Masonry will not soon lose as "great a man, and she may well put dust upon her head and wear sack-cloth "in her Lodges, where, in Masonry, his heart always was."