

"I was most positively assured by the Grand Commander of the Supreme Council and the officers of the other Bodies that none of these allegations were true, but that the Grand Lodge of the Federal District and other Grand Lodges of the Mexican States, together with the Grand Orient of Mexico, a Body that had been giving the first three degrees, had formulated a Body styling itself the Grand Dieta, and dissolving the Grand Orient, (this Grand Dieta is a Sovereign Body over the Grand Lodges in Mexico, similar in character and power to the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States over Grand Chapters) and that this Grand Dieta claimed jurisdiction only over the first three degrees of Masonry, and was absolutely distinct and separate from the Supreme Council of Mexico, as much so as our own Grand Lodges are from our Supreme Council. Consequently, I am convinced that the Supreme Council of Mexico, of which Ill. Bro. LOUIS POMBO, 33°, is the Sovereign Grand Commander, has maintained and continues to preserve its sovereignty over the Scottish Rite Degrees from the fourth, or Secret Master, to the thirty-third, inclusive, as completely and fully now as she has ever done, and is as much entitled to be continued on the list of Supreme Councils with which this Supreme Council is in correspondence and amity now as ever."

The volume of transactions to which reference is made above, conveys a very high idea of the organization of the Rite in the Mexican Republic. There can be no doubt whatever of the regularity of all the proceedings, and of the high character of the men who compose the Supreme Council and its subordinates.

#### BELGIUM.

The transactions of the Supreme Council of this country have not appeared for a later period than the year 1893. There is nothing in them which is of particular interest to us at this date. The observation might be made that the Belgian Bulletin contains several addresses delivered by Ill. Bro. HENRI PAPPART, the Grand Orator, which are models of composition, and display great learning combined with eloquence of a high order. Although the transactions are of no later date than that named, Bulletin No. 36 contains a tableau of the organization of the Supreme Council, on 1st May, 1896. There were thirty-one active members of the 33rd degree, one honorary and seventeen other members who had received the degree. Ill. Bro. EMILE DE MOT MYR, of Brussels, is Sovereign Grand Commander, and Ill. Bro. GUSTAVE JOTTRAND, Grand Secretary-General. In the care of the Supreme Council are six organized bodies, each with its own organization complete, and each presided over by a member of the Supreme Council. In other words there is a special body which confers the 32°; another which gives the 31°, and so on down to and including the 27°. These are all at Brussels, and the transactions are given in the Bulletin of the Supreme Council. Besides these there are at the same place two Chapters of Rose Croix, and two Lodges which unite in both the Modern Rite and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. There is an Areopagus of the 30th degree at Antwerp, a Rose Croix Chapter, and a Symbolic Lodge. There are also four other Rose Croix Chapters on the roll of the Supreme Council. The Belgian Supreme Council no longer grants warrants for Symbolic Lodges, but the three which existed when an