

[Oct.,

1878.]

SUPREME COUNCIL.

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itself the Supreme Council of Palermo, which, as you may recollect, asked to be recognized by the Congress of Lausanne in 1875, and was refused.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) HUGH D. SANDEMAN, 33°,
Gr.: Sec.: Foreign Correspondence.

To Ill.: Bro.: LA SALLE,
Sec.: Gen.: Sup.: Co.: Italy.

[TRANSLATION.]

TURIN, 19th May, 1878.

To: Ill.: Bro.: HUGH D. SANDEMAN,
Gr.: Sec.: Foreign Cor.: Supreme Council of England, London.

DEAR SIR AND T.: ILL.: BROTHER :

I have the honor to reply to your favour of the 3rd upon the legality and regularity of the Supreme Council of Egypt.

Without doubt the decision of the Delegates of Supreme Councils at the Convent of Lausanne (session of the 7th September, 1875) not to recognize the Supreme Council of Palermo as Supreme legal Authority, was in conformity with Article 5, sec. 3 of the General Statutes of 1786 ; but it could not prevent the Supreme Council of Italy sitting at Turin, from making arrangements to convert it into one of its sections for the Masonic Jurisdiction of the Island of Sicily with headquarters at Palermo.

When Italy was divided into several States, Italian Masonry was also divided into several Grand Bodies more or less irregular and independent of one another, and in order to unite them in a common masonic bond under the obedience of the Supreme legal Authority, it was necessary to act towards them with much prudence and consideration so as not to wound their self-love and susceptibility. That is the reason the Supreme Council of Turin in its capacity of Sole Supreme and legal Authority for all Italy, has felt it its duty to recognize the actions the said Grand Bodies had performed.

Now, as the Supreme Council of Egypt had been constituted by that of Palermo before the Congress of Lausanne, the Supreme Council of Turin was logically obliged to recognize it in its turn, and it is for this reason that it has delegated one of its Grand Dignatories of the 33° with the mission to prove if the Supreme Council of Egypt had been regularly constituted, and in the contrary case to proceed conformably to Article 5, sec. 3 of the General Statutes of 1786, which has been done.

That admitted, the Supreme Council of Italy is of opinion that Article 5 of the Treaty of Union of the Supreme Confederate Councils is entirely foreign to