

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

CONTRIBUTED BY ILL. BRO. ALBERT PIKE, 33°, SOV. GR. COM.

SUPREME CONSEIL du 33d et dernier degre, Fondateur. CENTRAL GRAND LODGE OF FRANCE. Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

M. P. S. O. V. G. R. C. M. :—We have read with astonishment the translation of an article in the newspaper, THE CRAFTSMAN AND CANADIAN MASONIC RECORD, of the 12th of March, thus expressed :

"We learn that the Anc. and Acc. Scottish Rite has extended to the Sandwich Islands. The Bro. Pitkin C. Wright, Deputy and Legate of the Sup. Coun. for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, established in July and September last a Lodge of Perfection and a Chapter of Ros. Croix at Honolulu. Of this last body, His M. David Kalakaua, King of Hawaii, is the presiding officer or Venerable. The King is likewise a Knight Templar, and has received the 32nd degree of the Scottish Rite.

Let us mention in this connection that H. M. Bro. Kalakaua lately travelled through the United States of America, and that on his way through New York he visited the new Mas. Temple in that city. Lodge No. 330 having at that moment a session of the 3rd degree, invited the Royal Visitor to take part in its works, and prepared for him spontaneously a most cordial and fraternal reception.

"The King was accompanied on this occasion by his official guides BB. John M. Kapena, Governor of Waiiu, and Geo. M. Totten, Lieutenant of Marines of the United States, as well as the Gr. Master Bro. E. E. Thorne, and the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York."

The Sup. Coun. for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States cannot be ignorant nevertheless, that we have at Honolulu, since 1843, a lodge of the three first degrees, No. 124, the "Progress of Oceanica," of which the late King Kamehameha IV., 30th of our Rite, had been the Venerable.

So that it is with great surprise we have seen the creation of those two new Bodies of the Anc. and Acc. Scottish Rite, without the Masonic power which created them having informed us of it.

I beg of you, M. P. S. O. V. G. R. C. M., to be so kind as to inform the Sup. Coun. of France as to what of truth there may be in the article which I have brought to your notice above.

Be so kind as to accept, M. Ill. Bro., the renewed expression of my most devoted and fraternal sentiments.

The Gr. Sec. Chancellor of the Rite,

G. GUIFFREY, 33D.

[Seal of the Sup. Co.]

REPLY OF ILL. BRO. PIKE.

OFFICE OF THE SOV. GR. COM. S. J., ORIENT OF WASHINGTON, D. C., }
2nd July, 1875, V. E. }

ILL. AND DEAR BRO.

We in our turn have read with astonishment the claim of the Supreme Council of France, that, because it established, thirty-two years ago, a Symbolic Lodge at Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands, it had then so appropriated to itself the jurisdiction over those Islands, that we were not at liberty to establish there, in 1874, a Lodge of Perfection of the 14th degree, to work the degrees from the 4th to 14th.

The Sandwich Islands are not of the Dependencies of France. If they had been, we should have established no bodies there, whether the Supreme Council of France had done it or not.

Those Islands constitute a Kingdom, and it is our understanding of the Law of Freemasonry that, there being no Supreme Council for the Kingdom, any Supreme Council could and can establish Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Consistories there. If there had been neither, until we had established a Lodge and Chapter, we should not have claimed that by doing so we excluded any other power of the Rite from doing the same.

We find upon the Tableau of your Supreme Council a Lodge in the Island of Jersey, established in 1863, and one at Montevideo, in 1865. No Supreme Council can annex a whole kingdom to its own jurisdiction so as to exclude all others from it, by simply creating a Lodge there. When there was no Grand Lodge or Supreme Council in Chile, more than one power established Lodges there; neither complained of the other, nor had a right to do so.