

Edinburgh. There are ten Rose Croix Chapters and four Consistories on the Roll of this Supreme Council. The only Brother whose death is announced is that of JOHN B. DOUGLAS, 31°, Grand Secretary of the Royal Order in Scotland.

BELGIUM.

A great many matters of more than local interest occurred in Belgium the present year. Last year your Committee announced the death of General RENARD, Minister of War, and Sovereign Grand Commander. At the session of the Supreme Council on October 31st, the Orator, Brother PAPPART, pronounced a remarkably eloquent tribute to the memory of this eminent Brother, who worthily closed a long career devoted to the service of his country and the cause of humanity. On the 7th November the new Grand Commander, Brother PIERRE VANHUMBEECH, Minister of Public Instruction, was installed Grand Commander with much ceremony, and the Orator again delivered a very eloquent oration, dealing with the principles of Freemasonry; proclaiming toleration in dogmas, in politics, and indeed in all the relations of man with man. The oldest member of the Supreme Council, Brother JACOB BEEKMAN, died during the year. This Brother was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General in 1833, and had faithfully done his duty for forty-six years. His place in the Supreme Council is filled by Ill.° Bro.° RABA, Minister of Justice of the Kingdom. The Bulletin of the Supreme Council covers its works from 1st November, 1878, to 7th November, 1879. It makes a volume of three hundred pages and is largely devoted to the work of the Rite at home, and to its condition in foreign countries. In its foreign department two or three pages are devoted to Canadian affairs, and special notice is taken of that portion of the address of our Sovereign Grand Commander in 1878 in which he dealt with the non-attendance of members of the Supreme Council; his opinions and views meeting with the approval of the reviewer. In Belgium there are 30 active members of the Supreme Council. When the Bulletin was published there were three hundred Subordinate Lodges, five Chapters Rose Croix, one Areopagus of the 30°, outside of Brussels; and directly under the care of the Supreme Council at Brussels are a College of the Royal Axe, a Court of Commanders of the Temple, a Lodge of Knights of St. Andrew of Scotland, an Areopagus of Knights Kadosh, a Tribunal of Inspector Commanders, and a Council of Princes of the Royal Secret, each Body being, as it were, within the body of the Supreme Council, but presided over by a member of the Supreme Council—a different presiding officer and set of officers for each body, serving for three years. The Degrees intervening between the 27° and 22° are conferred in the Council of Commanders of the Temple, and all between the 22° and 18° in the College of the Royal Axe. The Bulletin publishes separate lists of the members of each Body. For instance, there are thirty-nine members entered as of the 22°, twenty-five of the 27°, thirty-seven of the 29°, twenty-eight of the 30°, nineteen of the 31°, thirty-seven of the 32°. On the 24th Oct. last the Supreme Council elected its officers for *nine* years. On the 15th July last the Supreme Council notified us (Appendix E), that it made a concordat with the Grand Orient, which results as follows: The Supreme Council definitely abandons to the Grand Orient the exclusive

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