

the British Crown, I am directed to send you the accompanying Memoir, drawn up by their Delegates, at the Congress of Lausanne, to be laid before your Supreme Council.

I am, dear and V. V. Ill. Bro. V.,

Yours fraternally,

SHADWELL H. CLERKE, 33^o,

Grand Secretary General.

33 Golden Square, London, 29th May, 1876.

MEMOIR.

Had the Scotch Delegate to the Congress of Lausanne, Bro. MACKERSY, remained to the end of the Conference (instead of leaving after the first preliminary meeting of one of the Committees, and actually before the Congress sat at all), though he professed not to understand the French language, in which the discussions were necessarily carried on, the untenable statement circulated by him in the name of the Scotch Council—namely, that the Congress did not express its belief in a personal God—never could have been ventured upon; for the strongest point insisted upon by the Congress was the laying down absolutely that the fundamental principle of the A. V. & A. V. S. V. Rite of thirty-three degrees was the *belief in the personality of God*, as the Maker, Creator, the Supreme Creator, the Grand Architect of the Universe, the Supreme Being; the members hoping that by such a definition no one could become a member of the A. V. and A. V. S. V. Rite without believing in God as a personal God, and in order to keep out free-thinkers, in contra-distinction to certain other Bodies, which, by welcoming them to their bosom, have a *tendency to become purely materialistic*.

To prove how unfair this charge is, and how unscrupulously it has been made, it is only necessary to refer to the "Declaration of Principles." In the first place, *secondary* evidence is never accepted when *primary* can be obtained; and yet the Scotch Delegate was only present at a Committee Meeting, and did not remain for the Lausanne Congress, nor has he consulted the Delegates who were there. The G. V. Chancellor of the Supreme Council for England, Wales and the Dependencies of Great Britain, one of the Delegates present at all the Meetings of the Congress, solemnly declares that one great object of the Congress was to prove to the world, by its manifesto, that the A. V. and A. V. S. V. Rite of Masonry would not have within its ranks any one who did not believe in God as a personal God, the Creator, Maker and Ruler of all things, the Jehovah. Another Delegate, Bro. V. HUGH SANDEMAN, Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, solemnly attests the same; and the other, Bro. V. DR. HAMILTON, would do so likewise, were he not absent in the south of Europe, and not likely to return to this country till the autumn. And if the eighth paragraph of the Declaration of Principles be turned to, it will be found, in the second, third and fourth lines, "La Maçonnerie pose en principe que le *Créateur Supreme* a donné à l'homme, "comme le bien le plus précieux," i. e., "*the Supreme Creator has given to man.*" If these words do not mean the sole God, who is above all, and who is a

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