

Our Ill.^y Brother PIKE has sent me copies of his share of the correspondence in reply, (one of which is attached hereto, see Appendix A,) which like all emanating from him, is courteous in the extreme. I need hardly say he settles our constitutional legality and standing as a Supreme Council.

The singularity of the proceeding is, that the very Brother who organized our Body, with the known assent of every existing Supreme Council, and whose name is a household word in the annals of the Rite, should be asked to undo his own work, and stultify his own deeds!

With several Supreme Councils we have not as yet exchanged recognition, viz: Spain (see Proceedings 1878, page 20), Chili, Central America, Argentine Republic, St. Domingo (see Proceedings of 1878, page 17), and Hungary, all of which appear to be acknowledged by the Supreme Councils of the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions of the U. S., except Spain and St. Domingo. I have not the Records of other Councils.

From New Grenada I have no further communication to report. As regards Egypt, I suppose recognition thereof need not be postponed (see Proceedings of 1878, page 76), and with respect to Mexico I have not yet acted upon your recommendation for fraternal relations, by an exchange of Representatives, because I have not felt satisfied with the action of that Supreme Council in expelling Brethren desirous of establishing the first three Degrees of the Rite as an independent Body. I concur fully in the remarks of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, from which I quote (see Proceedings 1878, pages 16 and 17),—"It would be wise for all Supreme Councils to abandon control over "the Symbolic Degrees. This would promote harmony, whilst it would not "interfere with good government. We do not read with any satisfaction notices "of the excommunication of Masons because they have sought to establish "a Masonry of Three Degrees." Many Councils have done this, surrendering such Degrees to Grand Lodges as representative Bodies, and the present Symbolic Masonic generation cannot do without such a system. Where no Grand Lodge exists the Rite may be admitted to be perfectly legitimized in governing for the time those Degrees. I would like you to give this matter further consideration. It is true that some Grand Lodges hesitate as to recognizing and entering into friendly relations with Supreme Councils, 33°, but there is no small amount of inconsistency in this, when it is borne in mind that a large proportion of Brethren of the Craft are really holders of the A.^y & A.^y Scottish Rite Symbolic Degrees, and that from Grand Masters downwards they rank as undisguised members thereof. Credentials presented by representatives from Foreign Supreme Bodies of the 33°, are neither questioned nor objected to that I can discover, which is surely another form only of recognition. If Grand Lodges were to cut off all but Grand Lodge made members of the Symbolic or Craft Degrees of Freemasonry, it is probable that they would find themselves in connection only with some half of the Freemasons of the Globe.

The Royal Arch Degree is acknowledged (Ancient Craft Masonry being defined in England as consisting of three Degrees, including the Holy Royal

Arch), although A.^y & A.^y Scotch Perfection of the Body that gave

I must apologize to well to submit will only put on misunderstanding of our Toronto Ill.^y Deputy for s progressing we applications from of Perfection the they are at work it are fast increas

Death has called to their sympathy belonging one of our own MACALLUM, M. was well able to impart them to

And now I meet again at our allotted three sco of our Order as the last and in So mote it be.

MONTREAL,

After the Bro.^y H. A. M that the Gran committee to

The Sov.^y Ill.^y Bros.^y J.

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