

"believe. To Him our temples are dedicated. To Him we pray, not deeming
"our prayers idle and foolish words, but the voice of children, speaking ignor-
"antly and helplessly indeed, but speaking to One who can hear and pity—
"even the Lord and Ruler of the Universe, our Father which is in Heaven."

UNITED STATES—SOUTHERN JURISDICTION.

The Supreme Council held its biennial session [in October, 1880, at the City of Washington, The Illustrious Sovereign Grand Commander in his annual address makes kindly reference to his peers of the Supreme Council, who, since the last session, had been called to rest. He states that since the session of 1878 he had travelled 20,000 miles through the Jurisdiction over which he presides, during an absence of nine and a half months, in the interest of the Rite, which, he reports fairly prosperous. He has devoted much time, labor and great talents and learning to the Rituals of the Degrees, and eloquently says:

"Our Rite can recruit its ranks and multiply its bodies only by commend-
"ing itself to the consideration of intelligent and thoughtful men. It must
"not appeal to ignorance and curiosity or to idle display, nor seek to grow
"strong only by increase of numbers. If it is to live to any useful purpose it
"must address, especially and incessantly, the intellect, for which alone our
"degrees are intended. It must show to intelligent Master Masons that they
"can learn in its degrees and there only, what the Blue Masonry and its
"symbols really mean. * * * * It is plain, simple and severe, apostle of the
"truth in morals, philosophy and religion, advocate and defender of freedom
"of action, speech, thought and conscience. It demands the strict performance
"of duty everywhere; seeks to impress men only by the thoughts which it ex-
"presses in words, and proclaims that the only value of any degree consists in
"the lessons which it teaches, as it holds that no creed is of any value, except
"as it bears fruit in action."

Since its last Session the Supreme Council has accumulated, by gift and purchase, a Library of over a thousand volumes, few of any Masonic books of value being wanting; and it has in contemplation the erection at Washington of a Home for the Rite, where all its treasures may be safely kept. Ill. Bro. PIKE is strongly opposed to the recognition of the Perez Supreme Council, of Spain, and declares it clearly illegitimate. Referring to the differences existing between Councils in Great Britain as to the Colonial dependencies of the Crown, he refers to his offer formerly made of arbitration, adds that nothing has come of it, and says that there is no prospect of the restoration of amicable relations, adding—

"I have therefore ventured, some time since, to induce the contending
"parties to submit the dispute to arbitration; but nothing has come of it,
"and there is no prospect of the restoration of amicable relations.

"I see this with much regret; and as it seems to me that as the other
"English-speaking Councils may become deeply interested to have the

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