

[Oct.,

1881.]

SUPREME COUNCIL.

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Councils at this late date, in the interest of the Rite, as non-availing against long possession, unchallenged and good government.

EGYPT.

From the Supreme Council of Egypt we have this year nothing of importance. It does not appear that the Supreme Council is in undivided possession of its territory, as some foreign Lodges of the Rite have still an existence and have recently been created there. The officers of the Supreme Council manifest much intellectual ability and Masonic zeal, as is evident by their publications. They should now devote themselves vigorously and actively to the work of consolidating Masonry in Egypt.

SPAIN.

In Spain there are four or five bodies exercising Masonic control, whilst there are also several Lodges working under French authority, and there are also some working under the Grand Orient of Portugal. The most of them have, however, lately formed a provisional government of their own, and their action has been approved by the Grand Orient which created them. The probability is that they will eventually unite with some one of the powers claiming jurisdiction in Spain. Your Committee last year, or previously, expressed themselves well affected towards a recognition of the Supreme Body over which Ill.^o Bro.^o PEREZ presides. They observe, however, that the recognition of that Body is strongly opposed by Ill.^o Bro.^o PIKE and by Ill.^o Bro.^o PALMER, and that the views of each meet with warm approval in the bodies over which they preside. Bro.^o PIKE is favorably inclined to the Sagasta Body. It is well to mention that the organization over which this distinguished man presides continually gains strength, for Sagasta seems to grow in favor with the Spanish people, while he is not in disfavor with the present ruler of Spain. There are nearly a hundred Lodges and many Superior Bodies under his obedience, and although it has been intimated that his Masonic organization is really a political club, the statement must be received with some caution, or at least with the consideration that all the Spanish Masonry is more or less affected by the constant ebb and flow of opinion on public affairs in that country. The Committee adhere to the opinion expressed by them heretofore, that a union among the Spanish Masons ought to precede a recognition of their governing authority. It may be very difficult, indeed, to bring about such an union. Something would be achieved, however, if the leaders could agree upon a truce in their denunciations of each other. Then, as in France and in some other countries, a recognition of the powers and authorities of each might follow, and the first step towards union would be taken. Such an union must ever involve individual sacrifice, but sacrifice is worth all it costs when it produces harmony. We received the publications of the Supreme Council over which Bro.^o PEREZ presides. We ought also to get, for the information of the Grand Chancellor and of the Committee on Foreign Relations, the publications and documents issued by the Grand Orient presided over by Ill.^o Bro.^o SAGASTA. If we do not recognize we