

[Oct.,

1881].

SUPREME COUNCIL.

II

The Ritual Committee have reported on the work of the Degrees of our Rite 4° to 32°, but I procured from Ill. Brother PIKE the complete Work of the 33°, as practised by the Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America, for your use and information, and I hope the Ritual Committee will be able to report thereon. It required this addition to make complete our own authorized Work.

The illegal Body styling itself the "Cerneau" Supreme Council, 33°, etc., U. S. A., is still trying to give trouble to our lawful Brethren of the Jurisdictions North and South, of the United States, of which I received due and formal notification, and issued two Circular Letters (*See Appendix Nos. 2 and 3*) warning the members and Bodies of our Jurisdiction against any recognition of or intercourse with that illegitimate Body.

When speaking of our Foreign Relations, I forgot to state the Supreme Council, 33°, Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., again sent me a cordial invitation to be present at its Annual Session on the 20th ult., which I could not accept, to my regret. Our Ill. Secretary-General, however, attended, and would represent us well and creditably.

And, in connection with the subject of our Representatives, I should have stated that the Supreme Council, 33°, of Colon (Cuba) has unfortunately become divided into two Bodies, both claiming Jurisdiction. We cannot, of course, recognize both; and, therefore, I instructed our Representative there, Ill. Brother FRED. W. RAMSDEN, 33°, to cease acting upon his credentials until existing difficulties are healed, and Colon has returned to her normal condition. (*See Appendix No. 4.*)

I think I have not forgotten any matter of interest. I beg to make known to the Council that there is at present in this city an English gentleman and a member of the British House of Commons, Brother ALEXANDER STAVELEY HILL, 18°. He is a Knight Templar, and holds the honorable office of Chancellor of the Great Priory of England and Wales. Our Ill. Brother Colonel MACLEOD MOORE, 33°, can speak of Brother HILL more fully than I can, inasmuch as he was the bearer of a letter to Brother Colonel MOORE from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the English Templars and Patron of the Supreme Council, 33°, of England. You might be able to devise some courteous method of showing attention to Brother HILL. I do not know if time would allow an exemplification to be shown of our 18° work.

Before I conclude, let me invite your attention to the care that is being exhibited in England to the subject of the Archaeology of Masonry. It would be an honor if our Council were to be the first Body on this Continent to take up the subject and begin at once to gather items and articles of antiquity connected with the Craft, and found a museum of Masonic curiosities which might be attached to our Library.