

The Supreme Council of Canada was created by that of England and Wales, with the consent of all the other Councils, consulted by it in advance; I assisted in constituting it, and it has been recognized by all the Supreme Councils in the world, and will no doubt continue to be so.

The disposition in the Grand Constitutions, that there shall or will be two Supreme Councils in North America (*duo erunt Concilia*), and that as to South America, using the same phrase, differ from those as to the Nations, Kingdoms, States, and Empires of Europe, Asia, and Africa, in regard to which the phrases are '*unicum Supremum Concilium erit*,' '*unum tantum erit*,'—*unicum* meaning 'one and no more,' only, sole, single'; and *tantum*, 'only.'

But whether the phrase in each case was or was not restrictive, it is quite evident that it was the present or first creation of Supreme Councils only, that was provided for, and that it was not intended to establish a rule for all time to come. For it must clearly have been foreseen that political changes would take place, and other circumstances would arise, even in Europe, in the long process of time, that would make it impossible to adhere to the original rule. Even the great size of a country like Russia would compel its abandonment, and of course it must have been foreseen that the day would come when North and South America would each contain many independent and sovereign states, kingdoms or republics, and when the creation of one Supreme Council for each would become of inexorable necessity for the very existence of the Rite.

Erit and *erunt* are in the future tense, and are restrictive by implication. The phrase literally is 'there will be two Councils' (not two Councils *only*) 'for North America'; but even if *tantum* had been added, the disposition would still have been necessarily of the nature of those political and territorial arrangements, which are intended to control only until it shall be found necessary to change and modify them. And if we should see fit to create a Supreme Council for the States of the Pacific coast, we should not at all doubt our power to do so, as we have never doubted our power to change for ourselves the Grand Constitutions in their dispositions regarding subordinate Bodies of the Rite.

Your propositions would equally destroy the Supreme Councils of Mexico, Colon and Central America, and all but the eldest two of the Supreme Councils of South America, with those of Scotland and of England and Wales, and that of the Grand Orient of France.

The simple solution of the whole is, that the dispositions of the Grand Constitutions were only for the first establishment of Sup.^o. Councils, made provisions for the then existing States and Nations, and were in no sense intended to provide for all the future.

It is not necessary that I should answer one by one your questions. The Supreme Council of Canada is unquestionably legitimate and regular, and your allegiance to it cannot be thrown off.

I should not voluntarily have intervened in the unfortunate controversy between yourselves and that Supreme Council, and had not intended to notice it

in our Bulletin. clearly my duty to I think, all the oth by any Brethren of Canada, and de

But I would f that such disputes They invite the s faith, and win for and gentlemen, a measures that sha withdraw all contr are, above all, Mas and obedience. I you half way.

May our Fath keeping.

Letter from
Sup.^o. Council
Chancellor:—

DEAR AND ILL.^o. B

I duly received y your Sup.^o. Council for the high honor the part will be wanting t

In consequence quatur was granted by of the Ill.^o. Bro.^o. WIL Council, and I now e him with an expressi consented to accept th