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not better by name

Universi Terrarum Orbis Architectonis per Gloriam Ingentis.

DEUS MEUMQUE JUS.

ORDO AB CHAO.

From the East of the Supreme Grand Council of the M. P. Sovereigns, Grand Inspectors General of the thirty-third degree, under the C. C. of the Zenith, near the B.: B.: answering to 40° 42' 40" N. L., and 2° 51' 0" E. L., Meridian of Washington City.

To our Illustrious, most Valiant and Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Knights of K—H, Illustrious Princes and Knights, Grand, Ineffable and Sublime, Free and Accepted Masons of all degrees, ancient and modern,* over the surface of the two Hemispheres;

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE LETTERS MAY COME, GREETING:

Health ---- Stability ---- Power.

Know Ye, That we the undersigned, Most Puissant Sovereigns, Grand Inspectors General, lawfully and constitutionally established at our GRAND EAST — the City of New-York, in Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third degree, for the Northern Masonic district and jurisdiction of the United States of North America, and duly congregated this twenty-eighth day of Nissan, A. H^m. 5608, A. LIB^{is}. 2384, which corresponds to the first day of May 1848, of the Christian Era, and A. O^{is}. 730, and A. M^m. 534, at our Grand Council Chamber, a SACRED ASYLUM, where reign

Union ---- Contentment ---- Wisdom,

Do hereby most solemnly declare, certify and affirm, as follows, to wit:

WHEREAS, slanderous attacks void of the least semblance of truth, have been reiterated, published and clandestinely disseminated, during the year past, from Paris, Scotland and elsewhere, by certain ill-intentioned individuals, against this Supreme Grand Council and its Most Illustrious and highly respected Sovereign Grand Commander, one of its original founders; we have resolved to set forth and transmit to our Illustrious Brothers over the two Hemispheres, the following explanatory and vindicatory declaration of facts:

First. That the only two Supreme Grand Councils of the thirty-third and last degree "ancient and accepted rite" which ever did, do now, or ever hereafter can lawfully and constitutionally exist for the United States of America, their territories and dependencies, are the following:

1st. The Supreme Grand Council for the Southern Masonic District and Jurisdiction of the United States of America, founded at the city of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, on the 31st day of May, 1801, by the M. H. Brothers, John Mitchell, (Colonel in the Army of the Revolution, member of the Cincinnati, &c.), Doctor Frederick Dalcho, Emanuel De La Motta, Doctor I. Auld, Doctor James Moultrie, Abraham Alexander, M. C. Livy, Thomas B. Bowen, and J. De Lieban.

2d. The Supreme Grand Council for the Northern Masonic District and Jurisdiction of the said United States of America, founded at New-York City, on the 5th day of August, 1813, by the M. H. Brothers Emanuel De La Motta, Special Deputy—Representative from the aforesaid Supreme Grand Council at Charleston, Daniel D. Tompkins, (Governor of the State of New-York, and afterwards Vice President of the United States of America,) S. Simson, J. J. J. Gourgas, R. Riker, (Recorder of the City of New-York,) J. G. Tardy, and M. L. M. Peixotto.

* By "Modern" is meant the Christian Degrees, which originated at the time of the "Holy Wars." and shortly after.

Secondly. That this Supreme Grand Council of the 33d, at New-York City, for the *Northern* Masonic District and Jurisdiction of the United States of America, *never* did "reconstitute" itself in 1832, nor at any other time before nor since, but has always remained integral, and lawfully and actively *existent* since the first instant it was founded; notwithstanding the wholesale fabrications published by F. T. B. Clavel, in his Almanac for 1847 (at page 50): all of which are sheer deliberate *falsehoods*, as well as all other things this slanderer has published at various times previous, against the said two only lawful and constitutional Supreme Grand Councils of the 33d at Charleston, South Carolina, and at New-York City, for the said United States of America, and for which he was denounced in our manifestos of May 1st, and August 2d, 1845.

Thirdly. That from the powers which were granted by the Supreme Grand Council at Charleston, South Carolina, on the 21st of February 1802, to Count De Grasse, have been *derived* the Supreme Councils at Paris and elsewhere on the European Continent.

Fourthly. That in 1813, the expulsion of Joseph Cerneau, "his abettors and followers," was lawfully and regularly published by the Supreme Grand Council of Charleston aforesaid.

Fifthly. That in 1832, a certain high-titled French intruder, suddenly made his appearance in New-York City, where joining the *remains* of the Company of said Joseph Cerneau, he conjured up with them, and his lineal successor and High Masonic Child, the late ELIAS HICKS, what they denominated their "Grand Fusion and Union"—"Tres uno Congressu," and arrogated to themselves the title and powers of "Suprême Conseil uni, pour l' Hemisphere occidentale—chefs, sublimes de la Haute maçonnerie." The very idea of such "*incorporation in unity*" is insane, and the act itself a monstrous anomaly, in open defiance of the constitutions of our M. Ill. order: and so far as it regards or concerns our aforesaid *two* Supreme Grand Councils, and their natural constitutional rights in these United States of America, their territories and dependencies, we hereby pronounce and proclaim the whole to be a deeply laid, gross and palpable *fraud*, a reckless attempt at usurpation, and an engrafting of their own foreign misdeeds and innovations upon "*ancient, free and accepted Masonry* in these United States of America.

In this connection, we would say a word respecting the *titles* assumed by this same intruder, as they are given in the Tableaux of the "Suprême Conseil de France" to which he belongs, to wit: Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Grand Master *Adjunct* ad vitam, Supreme Grand Representative, *Deputy Universal*, general and special, ordinary and extraordinary, of the Supreme Council united, *for the Western Hemisphere!*" We would ask, how is it possible that a Supreme Council such as that of France which claims to be full of "*hautes capacités*," could ever have suffered itself to have been so egregiously "*duped*," and to have remained so since 1832? and whether the adoption of such silly, presumptuous, and unprecedented titles and qualities, was *ever* authorized by *true*, ancient, free and accepted masonry?

Sixthly. As to the scandalous falsehood uttered in said publication of F. T. B. Clavel, that we were reconstituted in 1832, and became part of said spurious Council of Elias Hicks and others, original members and successors of Joseph Cerneau, it bears the stamp of extreme impudence and absurdity upon its face, and well known "*facts and documents* give the lie to it in the most formal manner." Moreover we wish it to be well and fully understood and remembered, that there is, and always has existed, from our very beginning in 1813, and ever must of necessity exist, an irremovable *moral impossibility* on our part, to form the most distant affinity with such people or their successors, under any pretext or device that may be invented.

Seventhly. In regard to the very delicate and *recherché fleur de Rétorique* from the aforesaid titled French intriguer, "a high dignitary of the Suprême Conseil de France," that we are "*la queue de De Grasse*," it is sufficient to observe, that inasmuch as De Grasse established said "*Suprême Conseil de France*" in 1804, it is evident that said "*Suprême Conseil*," and none other, is, and ever must remain the *véritable* "*queue de De Grasse*."

Eighthly. In reference to the slanderous attacks so impudently levelled at this Supreme Grand Council and our venerable well beloved Chief during the past year (1847) clandestinely published and disseminated with so much pains and craft by a certain Scotch doctor of high Masonic pretensions, (whom his coadjutor Clavel calls his "*honorable friend*,") we will only observe, that he has exemplified in his own conduct, how far such intriguers as he may forget themselves, and sully their own characters and *assumed* position, by defiling the *Holy Truth*.

Ninthly. The imputation that any one of us is "*Marchand des hauts grâdes aux dupes qu'il peut faire,*" comes with an exceeding ill grace from people who are themselves notoriously what they charge upon others. There were no "*Marchands des hauts grâdes*" in this country until the travelling emissaries and disorganizing propagandists to whom we have alluded, infested and interfered within these United States of America. The overstepping of freemasonic landmarks, and substitutions of novelties for time-honored principles and laws, have hitherto come directly from that hot-bed of innovation—*France*; or indirectly from that country through South America, the West Indies, &c. We shall consider ourselves fortunate, if for the time to come, the masonic emissaries of the French, and their "*recognitions,*" are disseminated any where else than in these United States of America, their territories and dependencies. Here we have the right, and we wish to exert the privilege, of being our own advisers and directors, in whatever relates to "*Ancient, Free and Accepted Masonry*"—the only sort of Masonry held in estimation by us. We neither receive nor send any kind of representatives, regarding it as an innovation on *ancient* masonic practice, fraught with danger to our order. We believe that all the good it proposes, can be accomplished by the ancient custom of stated or occasional correspondence.

We hereby declare our determination to comply, in every respect, with the terms of our circular-manifesto of the 1st October 1845, and to endeavor to preserve in its integrity and purity, our "*ancient and accepted rite.*" Should, therefore, any future interference, from any quarter whatever, be attempted, we shall continue to assert and maintain our rights, and in reference to such interference, take such action as our duty and freemasonic laws require at our hands.

In taking our leave of all *true* brethren, we would ask them whether our masonic *titles* which we claim so religiously to preserve within our INNER EASTS, our hieroglyphical jewels, in particular those of the 14th, 18th and 33d, which we wear *upon our breasts*, and even the very words "*Holy Empire,*" were not intended by our ancient institutors, to inspire us with sentiments of a far more sacred and momentous nature than those which regard earthly honors and distinctions and the ephemeral affairs of the world; whether they were not designed to imprint upon our minds and *seal upon our hearts*, TRUTHS and DUTIES more sublime and commendable, than are taught in the school of worldly ambition and petty intrigue? Are they not suggestive of actions, the very antipodes of those prompted by partisan, selfish, and mercenary motives? Is our exemplar the grovelling wily serpent, or the *soaring eagle*, with its eye fixed upon *the sun*? Are we not bound to shun as pestiferous, all *innovators* and evil-doers in "*Ancient, Free and Accepted Masonry,*" and all traitors to its principles and laws?

Deus Meumque Jus.

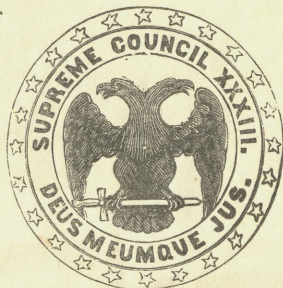
J. J. J. GOURGAS,

Sov. Gr. Commander 33d ad vitam.

EDWARD A. RAYMOND, Gr. Treasurer
General of the H. E.

K. H. VAN RENSSELAER, Gr. Master
of Ceremonies.

JOHN CHRISTIE, Captain of the L. G.



CHARLES W. MOORE, Gr. Secretary
General of the H. E.

ARCHIBALD BULL, Sov. Gr. Inspector
General, 33d.

GILES F. YATES,

Ins. Liéut. Gr. Commander 33d.

2002/106/11

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Grand Lodge of the State of New York

J. J. COURTES

Sov. Gr. Commander 33d Dist.

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General of the H. E. S.

CHARLES W. MOORE, Gr. Secretary
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W. H. TAYLOR

Sov. Gr. Commander 33d