



T. T. G. O. T. G. A. O. T. U.

SUPREME COUNCIL

Of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33d and last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, of the United States of America—its Territories and Dependencies.
For the Colored Race.

Office of M.:P.: Sov.: Gr.: Commander,
No. 379 South 2d Street, Brooklyn, E. D.

GRAND EAST, CITY OF NEW YORK, SEPT., 1884.

To the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-Third and Last Degree Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of U. S., Orient of Boston, Mass.—GREETING :

ORDO AB CHAO.

PEACE, TOLERATION, FRATERNITY.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN :—The Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, of the 33d and last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the United States of America, their Territories and Dependencies, was constituted in conformity with the general system of creating Supreme Councils of the Rite, as adopted and practised among all Nations, by the Illustrious Brother AUGUSTE HUGO DE BULOW, an active member of the Supreme Council of France and its Dependencies, and by him Founded and Established among Masons of the Colored Race in the United States of America, at the Orient of New York, on the first day of the Hebrew month Kislev, A. M., 5625, which corresponds to the thirtieth day of November, A. D. 1864, in full accordance, with the Spirit of the Constitution of 1786, the only authority by which any Supreme Council of the 33d Degree can exist.

At this date, owing to causes with which we have nothing to do, there were two bodies, each claiming to be the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, and each denouncing the other as irregular. The Illustrious Brother De Bulow, assumed the position that the territory, so far as the Colored Masons were concerned, was vacant : and he determined and proceeded to establish a "Central Masonic Power" of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite among them, by the authority he possessed, as a Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33d Degree, and an active member of the Supreme Council of France—sustained by the 2d Section of Article II., of the Constitutions of 1786. The Council thus established has continued to exist to the present time, having had uninterrupted succession, and is the SOLE LEGITIMATE GOVERNING POWER OF THE ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE AMONG COLORED MASONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Desiring to perpetuate the Rite as thus received, and thereby erect a barrier against the illegitimate acts of individuals, and irregular bodies assuming authority as Supreme Councils of the Rite, and in view of the progress of the Race now being developed, this Supreme Council claims Exclusive jurisdiction, and Control, of the Degrees of the Ancient Accepted Rite, among the Masons of the Colored Race in the United States of America.

This Supreme Council, while it does not abandon, or yield any of its prerogatives, proposes to respect the authority of all regular and legally established Grand Lodges of the Ancient and York Rite Masons, and will initiate none into the Scottish Degrees, but Master Masons in good standing; neither does it desire to interfere with the authority of either of the Supreme Councils that now exist and hold jurisdiction over the Northern and Southern portions of the United States of America, of which the Grand East of one is at Charleston, in South Carolina, and the other at Boston, in the State of Massachusetts—but prefers to receive its initiates from among the race of men, who as Masons, are ignored by the said Supreme Councils of America.

After twenty years of existence, without specific objections on the part of either of the Supreme Councils of the United States, this Council is encouraged to request that the Supreme Council of the Northern jurisdiction of the United States, will, by its action, accord it recognition as a Masonic Power, entitled to administer the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite among Masons of the Colored Race in the United States of America, in accordance with the Constitutions and Rituals of the Order—believing the prejudices formerly existing have become weakened by time, and like every other wrong, born of injustice and intolerance, will eventually cease to exist in presence of the Doctrines and Teachings of the Rite to which our, as well as your Sovereign Body, have vowed allegiance, and whose Standard we are bound to uphold and defend. May our Sovereign Body hope to receive your fraternal and earnest consideration of this important, if not vital question, in the interest of the Colored brethren.

May the protecting love of our Heavenly Father ever be with you, and may He have you in His holy keeping.

In the name of the Supreme Council,



PETER W. RAY, M. D.,

Sov.: Gr.: Commander.



SAMUEL R. SCOTTRON,

Gr.: Secretary Gen.:



ATTEST.

PETER W. RAY, M.D.	33°	Sov.: Gr.: Commander.
JAMES E. STOTES,	"	Lieut.: Gr.: Commander.
B. ST. GAUDENS,	"	Gr.: Minister of State.
WM. A. MARS,	"	Gr.: Treasurer General.
SAM'L R. SCOTTRON,	"	Gr.: Secretary Gen.:
PETER T. JEWELL,	"	Gr.: M.: of Ceremonies.
WM. H. ANTHONY,	"	Gr.: Marshal General.
ROB'T McDougall,	"	Gr.: Standard Bearer.
WM. H. RANDALL,	"	Gr.: Capt.: of Guard.

JAMES E. WHALLEY
19 ROGERS STREET
PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE