

~~The main purpose of the book is for delicacy's own~~

My dear Sir & Brother,

Bro. Parker's article in the Magazine, which I read for the first time this morning, is not written as I would have wished - It will now be, a capital opportunity for you to explain ~~that~~ when the dispute for the 'Red Cross' first arose, you ~~not~~ being aware that Victor Emmanuel did not recognise the Order of the Ex. King of Naples and the Ex. Grand Duke of Tuscany as you thought that he would make objection ~~as~~ or proceedings against Mr. Little & his associates, and that is the reason why you advised (?) them to ask permission from the Obelisk Government, but afterwards having been informed that the Italian Government did not recognise the Soubstantium & the rest of the Order of the obedience from which it was formed by conquest and the will of Napoleon, and therefore could not have any rights on them (see my last letter) you ^{in that case} ~~did~~ ^{advise} what you wrote afterwards, about my rights where you were then ignorant of them of the King of Spain & Grand Duke of Tuscany - The letter of the Minister of Italy at London clearly shows ^{that} what you were ~~informed~~ ^{was} ~~correct~~ - That is to say the Italian Government ~~was~~ ^{was} not recognised the Order in question with not interfered with the Italian Order, the the apostate & damnable Order being obedient only

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of the jurisdiction of Vitor Emanuel's government
 Mr Little might as well ask the Italian
 Minister to allow him to use the ^{in his name} ~~the~~ order
 of the Emperor -
 Now as regards the article of Mr Little in the
 Freeman, - He without replying to your
 question, and without defining ^{it} ~~it~~, or
 asked, to move the ^{entire} ~~entire~~ ^{substantially} ~~substantially~~ and ^{sub-}
^{stantially} ~~substantially~~ and ^{sub-}
 quit of his order, - ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{turn} ~~turn~~ the tables
 and instead of being the accused, to mix
 my name in the matter, and was examining
 me - ^{and to examine the accused} ~~and to examine the accused~~ ^{for} ~~for~~ ^{are} ~~are~~ ^{an} ~~an~~ ^{experienced} ~~experienced~~ ^{lawyer} ~~lawyer~~, and
 you understand better than myself that
 the game of Mr Little must be stopped
 and my name not be mixed at all
 in the matter as he is anxious to do and
 give to himself a ^{pleasure} ~~pleasure~~ and have
 the audacity ^{an} ~~an~~ ^{equal} ~~equal~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{examine} ~~examine~~ ^{my} ~~my~~
 rights - As regards the Consul of the Ionian
 Islands, it seems that Mr Little is ignorant
 of geography, in order to suppose for a
 moment that a Consul had before or any
 other Ionian Island, who perhaps did not
 know what was going on in the Island where he was

would know, what was taking place in the island
of Ohio, with which there was not the slightest
communication with the Louisiana side - neither
steamed nor anything - If Mr. Wright was in
the fall of Ohio, then his testimony (if it was
unimpeached) might be accepted - and after
all when Mr. Wright was at the Louisiana islands
my family before the revolution of 1822 although
generally lying in Ohio, were going to the
great part of the year in France, France,
Paris & - after the revolution they left
Europe, the island, and resided in Athens,
Geneve, Rome, Paris, Petersburg, Pans, Berlin,
London, Vienna & - ^{when still young} Now they visit the
island of Ohio very rarely indeed from
fear of their mortal enemies the Quakers.
In your article you must give Mr. Little
the right of communication of his property
and rights, and not allow him to change
sides - you tell him that he must first
prove his rights, and when he established
them, then to throw us in question about
the rights of the other side - You observe
that ~~Mr. Little~~ Mr. Little is by me
deny what he said first regarding the
rights of the other side or - In fact you
are of more literary experience yourself
on all these points, but especially as you more
quicker than you in this matter of the
ed help I give you hints which you
can work out to our best advantage - You
say also that no individual has the
right to confer an order, he must be
the sovereign regent, a hereditary

I assure you that the contributors of the ^{Massachusetts} papers, are none a less very ignorant individuals as the wife of Louis Lumbine. The friend, in last week's Freeman - I gave a reply to Mr. Curtis to write, which however did not make yet its appearance -
Believe me to remain with sincere regards and esteem

My dear Sir & Brothers
Yours most sincerely & faithfully
Abraham Lincoln

23 April 1830
Park Street House

Richard Wood Esq. R. D., Wash.
D. C.

P.S. I do not know if you will be able to understand well my English - In case you want any information I shall be delighted to give it - I am overwhelmed with an avalanche of letter answering therefore you will excuse the bad calligraphy of this letter.

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We beg to announce that a series of articles entitled "Freemasonry in England" from the pen of our accomplished contributor the "Son of Salathiel" will shortly appear.

Reviews.

The Council Monitor; by JACKSON H. CHASE,

Company, 432, Broome Street.

Another useful addition to Masonic literature has been made by Bro. Chase, whose small, but very neat, work exhausts the subject of what our American friends call "Cryptic Masonry." It may be necessary to state that the Cryptic degrees are not known or worked in England—in fact they have been adapted from degrees in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and are essentially American ceremonies. The first is called the Royal Master, which is preparatory to the second or more important degree of Select Master, which again is supplemented, in some councils, by a third known as Super-Excellent Master. The officers of a council are: 1, Three Distinguished Masters representing K.S.; 2, Right Illustrious Deputy Master as H.M. of T.; 3, Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Works as H.A.; 4, Treasurer; 5, Recorder; 6, Captain of the Guard as Adoniram; 7, Conductor of the Council as Ahishar; 8, Steward; 9, Sentinel.

These degrees are founded upon a tradition that in order to preserve certain sacred writings, the three Grand Masters who presided at the building of the Temple, resolved to construct a secret vault under the sanctum sanctorum—the entrance to which was by nine successive arches, the ninth arch or chamber being the place wherein the Grand Masters held council together, and to which none others had access.

The other eight arches were occupied by Adoniram, Ahishar, and twenty-two other brethren, according to their rank—three being posted on each side. Upon one occasion, however, Ahishar being absent from his post in the eighth arch, an inquisitive brother, traditionally known as Izabud, penetrated to the secret vault, and would have expiated his indiscretion with his life, had he not revealed the fact that the door was unguarded; whereupon the unfortunate Ahishar was incontinently executed for his negligence, and Izabud installed in his stead.

Members of the ineffable degrees will readily perceive how similar this tradition is to that related in the degree of "Intimate Secretary." The degree of Super-Excellent Master has no connection with the degrees of R. and S. Master, other than that it refers to the final destruction of the Temple by Nebuzaradan, Captain of the Guard to the King of Babylon.

The Chief Officer represents King Zedekiah; the second, Companion of the Order who represents the governor of that name, who was appointed to rule over the remnant of the Jews who remained in Judah during the captivity of their noble brethren. The other officers are the keepers of the Temple, Captain of the Guard, the Herald, three Guardians, Treasurer, Secretary, and Sentinel. Companion Chase represents his readers with the full ceremonials for installing the officers of a grand and dedicating new lodges, the Cryptic Rite. To an English Mason, the publication of such works will doubtless appear singular—especially as the extracts from the rituals themselves are copious and suggestive. Nothing, however, of real importance is divulged, and the whole tenor of the disclosures goes far to prove that the degrees are in perfect consonance with the universal teachings of the Craft. Every Masonic student should possess this small but comprehensive manual, as an illustration of Freemasonry in one of its least developed phases; and we trust Comp. Chase will eventually reap the reward of his arduous labors in the cause of Masonic instruction.

Stories for the Freemason's Fireside; by Mrs. C. W. TOWLE, of Alabama, Cincinnati. American Masonic Publishing Association, 114, Main-street.

We have rarely read a book with greater pleasure than Mrs. Towle's very interesting volume, which comprises twenty-eight distinct tales of a varied character, some touchingly pathetic, and others highly instructive, as well as amusing. We are especially glad to find that a lady is so thoroughly imbued with Masonic sentiments as this handsome volume indicates, and we believe that its wide circulation amongst the wives, sisters, and daughters of Masons will do more to enlist their sympathies on behalf of the Order than the most elaborate defence ever written. Mrs. Towle deserves the thanks of the Fraternity for her very valuable book.

Catalogue of Designs; by E. W. STREETER (late Hancock & Co.), 37, Conduit-street, Bond-street.

Mr. Streeter has produced a very useful book of the designs used in his world-famed manufactory of diamond ornaments and jewellery of every description. The illustrations are exceedingly well executed, and afford a good idea of the perfection that has been attained in the beautiful art to which the book more especially refers. Purchasers living at a distance can therefore accept the work as an accurate guide to the selection of any article they may require, without the fear of being afterwards disappointed in its workmanship or elegance.

THE RED CROSS ORDER.

Verily "Lupus" travels apace, and covers a vast extent of ground. My reply to his question "Can it be shown that the Masonic Red Cross Order has been allied with the Constantinian name more than a few years?" was mainly written under an impression that by the words, "a few years," Lupus meant to indicate a period prior to the revival in 1865. It was solely for that reason, and not as a proof of antiquity, as he somewhat hastily assumes, that I referred him to a work upon Freemasonry, published in 1838, in which the alliance of the Red Cross Order with the Craft is distinctly demonstrated. The words "time immemorial" as applied to the working of the Order in Scottish K.T. Encampments must also be interpreted in a similar sense, although I confess being unable to accept the assertion of Lupus that such Encampments were unknown in Scotland before 1800. My grandfather was a Scottish Knight Templar, and he died in 1799. It has always appeared to me that the Order of the Temple in Scotland possesses stronger claims to antiquity than have

yet been adduced for the Order in other countries, but I leave its defence to abler pens, merely remarking, *en passant*, that the Scottish Templars would have scarcely received into the bosom of their venerable Chapter-General an Order like the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, had the latter been simply a concoction of the nineteenth century. I am, however, desirous of placing on record the fact that the present ritual of the Grand Cross is in Bro. Walter Rodwell Wright's own handwriting, and that the ritual of Knighthood is derived from the original ritual forwarded by Bro. Colonel McLeod Moore, 33°, Grand Prior of Canada, K.T., as the executor of Bro. Wright, to the late Bro. Henry Emly, 33°, Grand Chancellor, K.T., by whom it was given to one of the present members of the Red Cross Council. Colonel Moore, with whom I am in frequent correspondence, distinctly remembers that the ritual he sent home from Malta was that of the "Red Cross of Constantine." The identity of the ceremonials is thus established, although additions and unessential alterations have undoubtedly been since made.

I may add that this old ritual is quoted in my brief "Sketch, &c.," published with the Statutes, page 26, as follows:—

"After the memorable battle fought at Saxa Rubra, on the 28th October, A.D. 312, the emperor sent for the chiefs of the Christian legion, and—we now quote the words of a ritual in presence of his other officers—constituted them into an Order of Knighthood, and appointed them to wear the form of the Cross he had seen in the heavens upon their shields, with the motto *In hoc signo vinces* round it, surrounded with clouds; and peace being soon after made, he became the Sovereign Patron of the Christian Order of the Red Cross." It is also said that this Cross, together with a device called the *Labarum*, was ordered to be embroidered upon all the imperial standards. The Christian warriors were selected to compose the

Handwritten notes:
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 being a
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