Emperors of the East and West." Their Rite seems in the beginning to have consisted of twenty-five degrees; at least, all the writers who speak of its original scale, assign to it that number.*

The rite established (or adopted) by this chapter or council, consisting of twenty-five degrees, has ordinarily been known as the Rite of Perfection, or of Hérédom.†

In 1759 the Council of Emperors of the East and West is *said* to have established a Council of Princes of the Royal Secret at Bordeaux.‡

In 1761 Lacorne, enraged because the Grand Lodge refused to act with him in his character of Deputy or Substitute-General of the Grand Master, and its members to sit with him, set up a new Grand Lodge. Both Grand Lodges granted charters, and the Council of Emperors constituted lodges and chapters at Paris and throughout France.§

In the midst of this confusion, Etienne (or *Stephen*) Morin was commissioned—some writers say by the Council of Emperors, and others by the Grand Lodge. Ragon says, by the Grand Lodge of *Lacorne*.‖

The patent to Etienne Morin, which all the writers agree, and the copies extant show, was granted on the 27th of August, 1761, runs as follows:

"To the glory of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

"At the Grand Orient of France, and by the good pleasure of His Most Serene Highness, and the thrice Illustrious Brother, Bourbon, Comte de Clermont, Prince of the Blood, Grand Master and Protector of all the Regular Lodges. At the Orient of a place well lighted, where peace, silence and harmony reign, *Anno Lucis*, 5761, and according to the vulgar style, the 27th August, 1761.

"LUX EX TENEBRIS.

"We, the undersigned, Deputies General of the Royal Art, Grand

* Levesque, Aperçu 56. 1 Thory, Acta Lat. 74. Vidal Fezandié, Essai Hist. 145. Ragon, Orthod. Maç. 48, 49, 129. Clavel, Hist. Pitt. 167. Besuchet, 1 Precis Hist. 37. Rebold, Hist. Gén. 136. † Ragon, Orthod. Maç. 129.

‡ Thory, 1 Acta Lat. 78. Ragon, Orthod. Maç. 171.

§ Levesque, 57. Thory, 1 Acta Lat. 78. L'Arche Sainte, 46.

‖ Thory, 1 Acta Lat. 78. Ragon, Orthod. Maç 131, Clavel, Hist. Pitt. 206, say from the Council of Emperors. The Advocates of the Grand Orient, in its controversies with the Supreme Council of France, say, from the Grand Lodge. See, for example, l'Arche Sainte, 49, The patent speaks for itself.

Wardens and Officers of the Grand and Sovereign Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem, established at the Orient of Paris; and we, Perfect Grand Masters of the Grand Council of the regular lodges under the protection of the Grand and Sovereign Lodge, by the sacred and mysterious numbers, do declare, certify and prescribe to all the well-beloved brethren, knights and princes spread over the two hemispheres, that we being assembled by order of the Deputy-General President of the Grand Council, a petition communicated to us by the respectable Bro.·. Lacorne, Deputy of our Thrice Illustrious Grand Master, Knight and Prince-Mason, was read while we were in session, representing that our very dear Bro.·. Etienne Morin, Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Ancient Master, Knight and Sublime Prince of all the Orders of the Sublime Masonry of Perfection, Member of the Royal Lodge *de la Trinité*, etc., being about to sail for America, and desiring to be able to work under legal authority for the advancement and increase of the Royal Art in all its perfection, prays that it will please the Grand Council and Grand Lodge to grant him letters-patent for the giving Charters of Constitution.

"Upon the report that has been made us therein, and we knowing the eminent qualities of the very dear Bro.·. Etienne Morin, we have unhesitatingly granted him this slight satisfaction for the services that he has always done to the Order, and whereof his zeal guarantees to us the continuance.

"For these causes, and for other good and sufficient reasons, applauding and encouraging the very dear Bro.·. Etienne Morin in his designs, and wishing to give him testimonials of our gratitude, we have, by unanimous consent, constituted and instituted him, and do by these presents constitute and institute him, and do give to the Brother Etienne Morin, whose signature is on the margin of these presents, full and entire power to form and establish a *lodge*, for the purpose therein of receiving candidates, and extending the Royal Order of Freemasons in all the perfect and sublime degrees; to take care that the statutes and general regulations of *the Grand and Sovereign Lodge in particular*, be kept and observed; and never to admit therein any but the true and legitimate brethren of Sublime Masonry.

"To regulate and govern all the members who shall compose *the said Lodge* which he may establish in the four quarters of the globe, where he shall arrive or may remain, under the title of 'Lodge of St. John,' surnamed '*Perfect Harmony;*' giving him power to select such officers to aid

him in governing his lodge, as he shall think proper, whom we command and enjoin to obey and respect him. We order and command all masters of regular lodges, of whatever rank they may be, spread over the surface of the earth and sea, we pray them and enjoin upon them, in the name of the Royal Order, and in presence of our Th.·. Ill.·. Grand Master, to recognize as we do, our very dear Brother Etienne Morin, in his character of our Gr.·. Inspector, in all parts of the New World, appointed to enforce the observance of our laws, and as Resp.·. Master of the Lodge *la Parfaite Harmonie;* and we do by these presents constitute our very dear Brother Etienne Morin, our Grand Master Inspector, and do authorize and empower him to establish in every part of the world the Perfect and Sublime Masonry, etc., etc., etc.

"Consequently, we pray all our brethren in general to give to our said Brother, Etienne Morin, such aid and assistance as shall be in their power; requiring them to do likewise towards all the brethren who shall be members of his Lodge, and towards those whom he has admitted and constituted, and shall hereafter admit and constitute in the Sublime Degrees of High Perfection, whom we give him full and entire power to multiply, and to create Inspectors in all places where the Sublime Degrees are not established; well knowing his great knowledge and capacity.

"In testimony whereof, we have delivered to him these presents, signed by the Deputy-General of the Order, Grand Commander of the White and Black Eagle, Sovereign Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, and by us Grand Inspectors, Sublime officers of the Grand Council and Grand Lodge established in this capital; and we have sealed them with the great seal of our Ill.·. Grand Master, His Most Serene Highness, and with that of our Grand Lodge and Sovereign Grand Council. At the Grand Orient of Paris, the year of The Light, 5761, and, according to the vulgar Era, the 27th August, 1761.

"*Signed:* Chaillon de Joinville, Deputy-General of the Order, Ven.·. Master of the first Lodge in France, called *St. Antoine*, Chief of the Eminent Degrees, Commander and Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, etc., etc., etc. . . . The Bro.·. Prince De Rohan, Master of the Grand Lodge *l' Intelligence*, Sovereign Prince of Masons, etc., etc., etc. . . . Lacorne, Deputy of the Grand Master, Resp.·. Master of the Lodge *de la Trinité*, Grand Elect Perfect Knight, Sublime Prince Mason, etc., etc., etc. . . . Maximilien de St. Simeon, Sen.·. Warden, Gr.·. El.·. Perf.·. Kt.·. and Pr.·.

Mason, etc. . . . Savalette de Bukoly, Grand Keeper of the Seals, Grand Elect Perfect Knight and Prince Mason, etc. . . . Taupin, Grand Ambassador of His Highness, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight, Prince Mason, etc. . . . The Count de Choiseul, Ven.·. Master of the Lodge *des Enfans de la Gloire*, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight and Prince Mason, etc. . . . Boucher de Lenoncourt, Ven.·. Master of the Lodge *de la Vertu*, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Kt.·. Pr.·. Mason, etc. . . . Brest de la Chaussée, Ven.·. Master of the Lodge *de l'Exactitude*, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Kt.·. and Pr.·. Mason. *By order of the Grand Lodge also signed*, Daubantin, Gr.·. El.·. Perf.·. Mason, Kt.·. Pr.·. Mason, Ven.·. of the Lodge *Saint Alphonse*, Gr.·. Secretary of the Gr.·. Lodge and Sublime Council of the Princes Masons in France."

We translate from a copy in the Register of Ill.·. Bro.·. Jean Baptiste Marie Delahogue, Deputy Grand Inspector-General, written throughout with his own hand, in 1798 and 1799, and remaining in the archives of the Supreme Council at Charleston, certified throughout by himself and the Ill.·. Bro.·. Count Alexandre François Auguste de Grasse-Tilly, and authenticated by the seal of the Sublime Grand Council of Princes of the Royal Secret at Charleston. This copy, certified by the Brother Delahogue to be copied by him from the Register of the Bro.·. Hyman Isaac Long, is the oldest extant of which we have any knowledge; and, as may be seen, it agrees substantially with that given by Ragon.*

Every one can determine for himself from whom this patent emanated.

The Grand Lodge of France, as originally constituted, was strictly a *Symbolic Grand Lodge*, and its constitutions were like those of Anderson, except that they contained an article (the last), which forbade any superiority being admitted in the "Scottish Masters;" of which a writer in La Franc Magonnerie, in 1744, complained, averring that most of the Masters and Wardens did not know that Masonry consisted of seven degrees.† And it is positively asserted by Vidal Fezandié, Clavel and others, that the Grand Lodge of France never did know any other than the symbolic degrees.‡

The patent to Ill.·. Bro.·. Morin, on its face, emanated from the Depu-

* Ragon, Orthod. Maç. 132.

† Freemason's Quarterly Mag., 1853, p. 600, quoted from Kloss,

‡ Vidal-Fezandié, Essais Hist. 152. Clavel, Revue Historique, etc., de la Franc Maçonnerie, 20.