



Grand Collège des Rites Écossais
SUPRÊME CONSEIL DU 33° DEGRÉ EN FRANCE
1764-1804
GODF

Monthly letter 179 - October 2021

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

This monthly letter for a new masonic year gives me the opportunity to wish to all and every one of you an excellent 6021-6022 year, productive, stimulating and filled with fraternity.

I hope that it may follow its course in better conditions than last year.

In the first days of September, we met in Paris for our so-called Great Meetings of Autumn: the Grand Philosophical Council, the Grand Lodge of Perfection, and the Grand Chapter. Some 250 Brothers and Sisters attended each of them. They marked the resumption of our work and they made it clear that freemasonry generates a pleasure of being and working together.

The Grand Lodge of Perfection was an opportunity for fruitful exchanges with the representatives of the Lodges around the “Rainbow” project (co-option, integration, initiatory progression). The Grand Chapter was an opportunity to meet again all those with whom we have close fraternal relations: French and foreign Scottish Rite jurisdictions, higher degree jurisdictions of the Grand Orient of France, which was represented by the Grand Master at the head of an important delegation of the Council of the Order.

You have also found your way back to your Lodges. Traditionally, at the reopening meetings, the Colleges of Officers are installed. Although this is an article in the General Regulations (Article 38), it is more than a simple administrative formality. It is a strong moment in the life of the Lodge and therefore it must assume a degree of rigour and solemnity.

It is also a moment of mutual recognition of the members of the Lodge and of the Officers.

The promise of each Officer “*to perform devotedly and with zeal the duties of the function to which [he] has been called by his Brothers and Sisters*” is not only a commitment towards the others and oneself, but also the taking up of a responsibility which is never given but by one’s peers of whom, whatever the burden or the circumstances, one remains the equal, without any powers except those granted by the ritual and the regulations. This is valid for all Lodges, from the Lodge of Perfection to the Supreme Council.

The same notion of equality prevails when the Lodge members are invited to acknowledge the Officers and to “*bear them the deference to which they are entitled in their respective qualities*”. The deference invoked here is not a servile attitude but a respectful consideration for others, such as the one we wish for ourselves.

This double recognition is the warrant of the unity of the group and a token of efficiency in our works because, in its own way, it makes it possible to unite what has been put asunder, a principle to which we are deeply committed.

Please rest assured, Dearest Brothers and Sisters, of my most fraternal and friendly feelings.

ILL. BR. Georges LASSOUS, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander