

A CORRECTION.

THE EDITOR HALIFAX "CITIZEN,"—

I observe in your synopsis of the remarks made by me at the masonic gathering on the evening of Tuesday last, an error, which I have no doubt was unintentional, but which I consider due to myself, and the cause of Masonry generally, to correct. I was made to say, when speaking of the present position and influence of Masonry, that it exists "with a freshness of religious zeal which goes far to make it the hand-maid, and even the rival, of the Church of Christ on earth." Masonry sets up no pretension to be the *rival* of a church, the teachings of which the brethren are enjoined to adopt and *follow*. Much as I esteem the Order, I claim for it no other character than a *human* organization of great antiquity, charged with the mission of binding its members in its own peculiar way, to the observance and practice of those moral and Christian duties, which are to be gathered from the Holy Scriptures. I make this explanation with the intent only to prevent any injurious misunderstanding arising, as to what Freemasonry is, and what the fraternity claim it to be

Yours, &c.,

HENRY W. SMITH.

January 20, 1872.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRAFTSMAN.

It may be interesting to your numerous readers to learn of the success of Masonry in the West, and of the interest taken in it by brethren of St. Clair District.

On the 21st, 22nd and 23rd February last, R. W. Bro. Tracy, D. D. G. M., held a District Lodge of instruction at Petrolia, inviting representatives from all the Lodges in the northern part of his District. There was a very fair attendance, upwards of 60 brethren having been present during the meetings. A day was devoted to each Degree, which was exemplified in the afternoon by members of Petrolia Lodge; and in the evening by representatives of other Lodges present.

Before the Lodge closed on the evening of the 23rd it was moved by Bro. J. A. Mackenzie, S. W. seconded by Bro. James Gowans, W. M. Victoria Lodge "that the thanks of the brethren in St. Clair District are due and be now tendered to R. W. Bro. Tracy for his energy and zeal in the cause of Masonry, and affording this opportunity for instruction; and that the thanks of the brethren present be given to W. Bro. John Sinclair for his able assistance in exemplifying the Degrees." The motion was carried unanimously and suitably acknowledged. It is the intention of R. W. Bro. Tracy to hold a similar Lodge of Instruction at Chatham, shortly.

Yours &c.

Sarnia, March 8th, 1872.

A. B.

He who is conscious of his ignorance, viewing it in the light of misfortune, is wiser than one who mistakes superficial polish for knowledge.

The bad man, diffusing his own spirit over the world, see it full of treachery, selfishness and deceit. The good man is continually looking for and seeking noble qualities.

Life is divided into three terms: that which was, which is, which will be. Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present to live better for the future.