

CORRESPONDENCE.

NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX, July 23, 1872.

BROTHER CRAFTSMAN,

Under the auspices of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 1, R. N. S., at the Masonic Hall in this place agreeably to announcement in the city papers, on Thursday evening, 18th instant, the Brethren in considerable numbers assembled to hear a lecture by Bro. J. Fletcher Brennan of Cincinnati, on the "History of English Masonic Ritualism. Edified and instructed, the audience (all Brethren of the Lodges in this city and visiting Brothers,) at the close of his lecture, and which occupied about an hour in its delivery, warmly applauded the lecturer; and Bro. John D. Nash, P. G. M. moved, and Bro. Allan H. Crowe, P. D. G. M., seconded, with suitable remarks, respectively, that a vote of thanks be tendered the lecturer, Bro. J. Fletcher Brennan by St. Andrew's Lodge, for the instruction and entertainment offered by his lecture, and particularly for that portion of it in which the difference prevailing between the Ancients and Moderns during the past century was explained, and the cause so clearly defined of that variety which is noticeable in the Lodge Ritual as practiced in the various States, Provinces, and Territories of this country. After the passage of this motion, which, by the members present of St. Andrew's, was unanimous, Bro. Benjamin Curren, D. C. L., Grand Secretary of the G. L. of Nova Scotia arose, and after, in his usually most polite and urbane manner, requesting Bro. R. C. Hamilton, W. M. of St. Andrew's, to vacate the chair in favor of Bro. Fraser, Past Provincial Grand Secretary. Bro. Curren, in some remarks laudatory as well of the lecture as of the lecturer, and who he was pleased to say had been for many years engaged, as numerous Masonic periodicals would bear witness, in enlightening the Fraternity generally and wherever disposed, moved that the thanks of that assembly of Brethren be tendered to Saint Andrew's Lodge, for the never-ceasing solicitude of that body, under its present popular W. M., to contribute to the instruction and entertainment of the Brethren generally of Halifax. Bro. Arthur Fletcher, in a few remarks happily rendered, seconded the motion of Bro. Curren, which being put by the chairman, Bro. Fraser, was carried unanimously and by acclamation. The audience, therefore, with sentiments of fraternal greeting dispersed about 10.45 p. m.

A general expression of desire that Bro. Brennan should allow his lecture to be printed for circulation among the craft was met by the remark, from that Brother, that the substance of much of the lecture had already appeared in Dr. Mackey's *National Freemason*, published by McGill & Witherow, at \$3.00 a year, in Washington City, and which he (Bro. B.) said he regarded as the most instructive Masonic magazine at present in North America, its editor being long and generally known as the Blackstone of Masonic law and jurisprudence, as well as a general Masonic author and writer of great ability.

I would add that Bro. J. F. Brennan is at present engaged in Halifax preparing his materials for a general history of Freemasonry in North America, and which he assures me will, so far as it is at all possible by travel and labor for him to obtain them, be compiled and written from original documents only, and great store of which, going back for more than a century he has found in this city (where a Masonic Lodge can be found with its original charter from the Earl of Blesington bearing date March 26, 1768) and the whole of which documents have, in the most cordial and fraternal manner by their possessors here, been placed at his disposal. He tells me that he has found three original warrants, one of them a Provincial Grand Warrant, bearing date 27th Dec., 1757.

I am fraternally yours,

VIATOR.

INSTALLATION.—At a meeting of the Keith Chapter held at the new Hall on Prince Street, over the store of J. F. Blanchard, Esq., Truro, the following Officers were installed by M. E. Comp. D. Pottinger, II. P. of St. Andrews Chapter, Halifax:—

R. E.—Rev. W. T. Wilkins, M. E. H. P.; R. E. Julius W. Miller, Exl. King; R. E. Thos. V. Cooke, Exl. Scribe; Comp.—John Yuill, C. of H; Comp. Alex. Chisholm, P. S; Comp. Alex. L. McKenzie, R. A. C; J. A. Leaman, G. M. of 3rd Veil; Comp. W. M. Birrell, G. M. 2nd Veil; Comp. Geo. Hyde, G. M. 1st Veil; Comp. Alexander McKay, Treas; Comp. John Bonayne, Secy; Comp. Rev. Robt. Haire, Chap; Comp. W. Truc McBobet, M. D., Organist; Comp. Geo. H. Skiuner, Janitor.