

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRAFTSMAN.

HAMILTON, Sept. 29th 1869.

DEAR SIR.—While visiting Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, London, a few evenings since, I was so much pleased with the proceedings of its worthy W. M. Thos. F. McMullen, that I would like to see his example followed by a few other W. M. throughout the Dominion. After the usual routine of Lodge business, as it was still early, he requested any of the Brethren present who had noticed any errors or omissions to state them, to make any suggestions that might have occurred to them as to his forms of working, and to ask any information they might think proper. Now I am quite aware that it is a rule to do this in all Lodges, but it is usually done in so formal a manner, that it is seldom taken advantage of, and in this way a large amount of information is often sacrificed by the brethren, for it must be acknowledged we cannot any of us claim perfection in the working of our lodges; and besides this, there are frequently little points where the omission of a few words makes a vast difference, which is not noticed by members who are accustomed to that work regularly, but is easily detected by a visitor, and can be easily remedied by attention being drawn to it. In this way parties visiting different lodges can make their services almost invaluable in assimilating their working. On the night I refer to, there were a large number of visiting brethren present from different parts of the Dominion, and also from the American side, as it was during the Exhibition week; and a number of very interesting points were brought up for discussion, some of which I beg to submit for your decision: 1st. Is it not in accordance with the Canadian working to repeat the following passage of scripture during a certain part of the ceremony of raising the candidate, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth &c., &c." as it is frequently omitted? 2nd. Is not the obligation of the Master Mason very much the same in all the different workings, English, Irish, Scotch, American, &c., &c.?

I have read with interest the controversy that is going on about "Masonic Courtesy." I must say I quite agree with W. M. of Ottawa, as to the conduct of lodges there; for having had the pleasure of visiting the lodges, I have always received the most courteous treatment, and in fact remarked it on one occasion more especially on account of my being a mere humble M. M., of no very brilliant pretensions; but, as the Worshipful Brother says, I found the lodges well tyled. I have known several occasions where P. M., and W. M. have visited lodges as M. M. only, and then grumbled because their rank was not recognized. Others grumble because the examinations are so severe. These complaints are inevitable, and do not in any way reflect upon the "Courtesy" of the Lodges. I am glad of this opportunity of bearing my testimony on this subject in favour of the Ottawa brethren. C.

CHANGE OF MEETING.—The Brethren of "Evergreen" Lodge, U. D., meeting in Lanark, have, by unanimous vote, changed their night of meeting from the Tuesday on or before full moon, to the first Tuesday of every month.