

THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN,

AND
MASONIC RECORD.

J. B. TRAYES, P.D.D.G.M.,
Editor & Proprietor.

"The Queen and the Craft."

{ \$1.50 per annum
in advance.

VOL. XIV.

PORT HOPE, ONT., APRIL 15, 1880.

No. 4

MIXED PROCESSIONS, and CONNECTION BETWEEN CRAFT MASONRY AND THE CHRISTIAN ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

BY COL. MACLEOD MOORE, GREAT PRIOR OF CANADA.

To the Editor of the CRAFTSMAN.

R. W. SIR AND BROTHER,—In your issue of the CRAFTSMAN for this month, I read with much interest the very excellent letter of R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, on "Mixed Processions." Whilst admiring the ability shown by our Bro., and fully appreciating his desire to preserve the Craft in its purity, also agreeing with him as to the unadvisability of permitting any innovations on the established usages and prerogatives of Ancient Craft Masonry, I must take exception to the opinion he has formed and expressed, in asserting "that as Chief of the Templar Order, I disclaim any connection with the Craft, and that the members of the higher degrees look down with an air of superiority upon those who are mere Craft Masons." In this assertion—no doubt carried away by his zeal—our good brother has erred, and evidently put a mistaken construction on what I did say. The address to which I presume he alludes, was read before the Great Priory at Toronto,

in August, 1872, reference being made to a wish on the part of some of the Templar brethren in Canada, to adopt a change in the authorized costume, to admit of their taking part as Templars in Masonic processions, &c., &c., using the argument,—“That the Templar costume was not a suitable dress to appear at the laying of foundation stones, or other Masonic ceremonies.” I distinctly stated, this could not be applicable to the Templar Order, such demonstrations being entirely within the province of the Craft degrees, and never could have formed part of the duties of the Templars; nor was it intended they should appear before the public in the mediæval costume of the Order, neither be represented in Craft ceremonies. My own conviction has always been, that no degrees or orders, beyond that of the Master Mason, can lay claim to appear in the distinguishing badges of the degrees they represent, or take part in the legitimate and old established ceremonies of the Craft, unless