

The Newark Masonic Temple

It is an interesting fact that Bro. Shell
 was the first to suggest that the
 opinion that the Masons of Newark should
 have a building worthy of them and that
 year down. He is also in conjunction with the
 late Bro. Wm. B. B. Cunningham, who
 purchased the site in 1888, and from
 that time he worked like a Trojan, difficulties
 were encountered, only to be surmounted.
 He accomplished the work of three or four
 men, still at last the foundation stone of the
 Temple was laid, particulars of which will be
 recorded in due time.

When the Temple was founded the Division
 of Palestine Lodge, thought it was fitting
 that his jurisdiction should be occupied,
 and in 1890-1891, he was persecuted with
 a view to his removal, and it was
 through the efforts of the
 Worshipful Master, Bro. W. B. Cunningham,
 one of the founders of Palestine Lodge,
 and the assistance of the
 Grand Lodge, that he was able to
 continue his work to one of its greatest and
 best loved institutions.

The first to suggest in the section of the
 Newark Masonic Temple is well known to all,
 and to give the date of the 12th Dec 1887
 when he said "it had not been for
 Bro. James Shell, this great edifice could not
 have been carried through as the spirit which
 carried it and carried it to a successful issue
 he so nobly exhibited his power and persistence
 for his spirit and untiring energy.
 There need have been occasion when he visited
 the numerous responsibilities he had undertaken
 and that would probably be true when the
 difficulties he encountered would be well
 nigh insurmountable.

He has been to the Alpha Lodge, Grand
 Philadelphia, and Newark for many years and
 we trust the G. A. O. T. U. will be pleased to
 share him to us for many years - may many
 the Temple stand a monument of his
 strength and beauty, and come to some
 future generation a blessing of the wonderful
 work of Bro. James Shell.

END