

# The Ancient Palatine Lodge No 97

Bro Sir Cuthbert Sharp

Pages 269 to 271



Sir Cuthbert Sharp, FSA

<b>SIR CUTHBERT SHARP.</b>	
Biographical Sketch	<p>Sir Cuthbert Sharp, son of Cuthbert Sharp and Susannah Crosby, sister of Brass Crosby, Lord Mayor of London in 1771, was born at Hartlepool.</p> <p>On his eighteenth year he received a Commission in the Essex Fencibles, a Cavalry Force, raised for home service. He served during the Irish Rebellion of 1797 under Lieut. General Lord Sack, and was present at the Battle of Arklow, on June 10<sup>th</sup>, when 31,000 insurgents were utterly routed, the Essex and Durham Fencibles bearing the brunt of the day.</p> <p>On the signature of the Treaty of Amiens on Oct. 1, 1801, he visited Paris, where, in 1802, he was one of the last Prisoners — a victim to the ungenerous policy of Napoleon in detaining all English Officers as Prisoners of War. He was detained in a French Prison nearly 4 years. On his release he returned to Hartlepool where, in 1816, during his Mayoralty, he was honoured with a Knighthood by the Prince Regent.</p>
Prisoner of War	
Collector of Customs at Sunderland	<p>In 1823 he was appointed as Collector of Customs at Sunderland, and resided in Albert Place, Seaton Road, Blyth, and in December, 1824, became a Joining-Member of Palatine Lodge, of which he was installed W. M. in 1827, 1828, 1834, &amp; 1837.</p> <p>During this period he became R. W. Deputy P. &amp; M.</p>

269

	<p>in 1832, and was honoured in 1839 with the rank of Grand Warden by Grand Lodge.</p> <p>Before severing his connection with Sunderland to take up a similar position at Newcastle in 1845,</p>
PRESENTATION or a P.M. Jewel	<p>he was presented by Palatine Lodge on Jan. 12. 1837, with a handsome Free Mason's Jewel, when Bro Sharpe in the absence of the W.M. Bro Sir J. B. Williamson, rose in making the presentation, said:-</p>
SPEECH of Bro Thoby	<p>"Worshipful Sir, I am deputed by the Brethren of this Lodge to present you with this Masonic Jewel, the emblem of a P.M. as a token of their respect and esteem and of gratitude for your exertions to promote the interest and respectability of this Lodge during the time you have been a Master of it. It is not my intention, Worshipful Sir, to enter into any lengthened eulogium on those merits which have induced the Brethren to offer you this mark of respect, for knowing you as I do, I am certain it will be more gratifying and pleasing to you simply to be assured that the Brethren sincerely think you most highly deserving of it. I therefore, in their name, beg your acceptance of it as a small tribute of their gratitude, wishing you long life and health to wear it as a proof that the Brethren of the Palatine Lodge will never let merit go unrewarded."</p>
RESPONSE.	<p>Bro Gilbert Sharp, P.M. then rose and made a reply in a very feeling and affectionate manner, but on account of the long and continued Cheering, it was impossible to read it."</p>

PRESENTATION or SILVER PLATE	<p>The Townspeople shewed their esteem by presenting him with a "piece of silver plate" of considerable value.</p> <p>He was decidedly Antiquarian and literary in his tastes; his many works including:-</p> <p>"The History of Harlepool", "Memoirs of the Revellies", "Memoirs of Brass Crosby", "The Bishopric of Durham" and "The History of the Prov. of Durham".</p> <p>When writing to Sir Walter Scott, he referred to his visit to Sunderland, which elicited a reply in verse of which the two following occur:-</p>
Sir WALTER SCOTT.	<p>Forget thee? No! my worthy friend! Forget blithe mirth and gallant cheer? Death sooner check me on my beer Forget thee? No!</p> <p>Forget the universal shout When "Canny Sland" spoke out? - A truth which kenaves affect to doubt Forget thee? No.</p>
DEATH	<p>Bro Sir Gilbert Sharp died at Newcastle on June 12th 1849, aged 68 years.</p>

