

B91 3L3.

6, Widney Lane,  
Bolinghall,  
Worcestershire,  
B91 3L3.

21st. June 1978.

Dr. Frank Elliot Dobie,  
Past Sub.G. Master (S.C.)  
25, Fairweather Place,  
Newton Mearns, Glasgow, G77 6BX.

Re., Alexander Dobie (1795 - 1876)

Dear Brother Dobie,

Please accept my grateful thanks for your letter of 12th. inst. and for the copy of the Letters Patent granted to Col. Fraser Dobie. As requested, I return the Patent herewith. When the copy was made it cut off some words in the right margin so I have typed a copy of the readable part and left 'blanks' where the cuts occurred and would ask you to be so kind as to fill them in, if possible.

It is very easy to jump to conclusions but, having read (and typed out!) the Letters Patent, I cannot help but feel that we are on the right track. The Christian names "Alexander" and "William" are not uncommon in the Dobie family and "my" Dobie was named Alexander and his death was witnessed by his son, whose initials were "W.A." (possibly 'William Alexander').

I must also thank you for initiating a further search into the records of S.S. No. 0. and for communicating with the Registrar of Edinburgh University re. "my" Alexander Dobie's graduation in Law, which, I hope, will prove fruitful (see below).

I recently obtained a certified copy of "my" Dobie's death certificate which gives the date and place of death as 14th. June 1876 at 4, Hyde Park Terrace, Knightsbridge, London. The cause of death was stated by George Burrows, M.D., as "General decline of vital powers, old age". The certificate also states that "W.A. Dobie, son, present at the death, 4, Hyde Park Terrace, Knightsbridge" The registration was made on the 19th. June 1876 and signed by W.E. Needham, Registrar.

I still lack information as to

(a) where and when he was born (see (i) below),

p.t.o.

- (b) parentage, education, early boyhood and why he journeyed to London
- (c) where he studied Law and when he qualified
- (d) confirmation that he was initiated in M.F. No.0. (presumably, at the age of 18) and whether his father was a Freemason

Can you suggest any ways of answering these questions?

A lawyer friend of mine has ascertained

- (i) that Dobie was admitted a Solicitor in England in the Easter term of 1816 at the age of 21 and adds "...Such an age almost certainly precludes the possibility of his earlier qualification in Scotland"
- (ii) His first office address was 53, Boulevard Street, Fleet Street, London and in 1831 or thereabouts, he moved to 5, Palsgrove Place, Temple Bar, London. His last move was in 1870 when he moved to 2, Lancaster Place, Strand, London.
- (iii) No notice of his death appeared in the local newspapers ("The Chelsea News" and "The Kensington News") but in the "Times" (19th. June 1876, p.1, col.1.) was printed:-

"On the 14th inst. Alexander Dobie, Solicitor, of 2, Hyde Park Terrace, Kensington Gore and 2, Lancaster Place, Strand, aged 81, deeply regretted. Friends will please accept this information"

That is all I have to report at the moment; I am continuing my search and, in the meantime, look forward to receiving your reply to my request concerning the Letters Patent and any other information which the foregoing may suggest to you.

Fraternal regards,  
Yours sincerely,

(R.G. St. George.), F.G.D.(FC)

Copy to:-

W.Br. R.H. Hall

" " T.W. Grounsell.

FRANK ELLIOT DOBIE,  
25 Fairweather Place,  
Newton Mearns,  
Glasgow, G77 6BX  
Tel. 041-639 1969.

12. 6. 78

Dear Mr Bro St. George

I have just returned from a short holiday & found your letter awaiting me - My relationship with this particular branch of the Dobie family was confirmed in 1925 when the Letters Patent and Crest were granted to Lt Col Fraser Dobie of Paisley by the Lord Lyon King of Arms - I was personally acquainted with the Col and one evening a his guest after dinner ~~you~~ <sup>he</sup> showed me all the documentary evidence he had collected during his lifetime and which had cost him about £7,500. He knew I was keen on genealogy hence our common interest - after looking through the history of my family background he assured me that one of my ancestors was either a brother or cousin of Sir Robert Dobie of Altonhill (Kilmarnock) in the 17th century - He had a great grandson Alexander born 1750 & married 1781 - His eldest son was George and there were 3 other sons not mentioned in the lineage, but which the Col had a note (James, Alexander & William) The Crest and Letters Patent are now in Paisley Museum but the Colonel's personal notes are not traceable and the Lord Lyon Office has just

The bare bones of the lineage - only the  
succeeding sons name being mentioned.

I am asking the Registrar of Edinburgh  
University for a note of the date of Alexander  
graduation in Law and I am also seeking  
evidence of him having had a practice in  
Dumbar for two years before he went South.

I am asking for a further search  
of the records of the Mother Lodge No 0 -  
of which I am an Honorary Member.

I enclose photograph of the  
Letters Patent and Crest - the principal  
motif of the latter being the Iron of  
Lorraine, which signifies our origin as  
French.

I would ask you to return  
the photograph as your convenience

National regards

Sincerely

Frankfort Lohis

Post Sub G Meder

Any further information I (SC)  
get will be sent to you  
immediately

FL

Transcription of a letter dated

12/6/'78

from Br. F. Elliot Dobie

Dear W. Bro. St. George,

I have just returned from a short holiday & found your letter awaiting me - My relationship with this particular branch of the Dobie family was confirmed in 1925 when the letters-patent & crest were granted to Lt. Col. Fraser Dobie of Paisley by the Lord Lyon King of Arms -

I was personally acquainted with the Col. & one evening as his guest after dinner he showed me all the documentary evidence he had collected during his lifetime & which had cost him about £7,500. He knew I was keen on genealogy hence our common interest - after looking through the history of my family background he assured me that one of my ancestors was either a brother or cousin of Sir Robert Dobie of Stonehill (Kilmarnock) in the 17th. century - He had a greatgrandson, Alexander, born 1750 & married 1781 - His eldest son was George & there were three other sons not mentioned in the lineage but which the Col. had a note (James, Alexander & William). The crest & letters-patent are now in Paisley Museum but the Colonel's personal notes are not traceable & the Lord Lyon Office has just the bare bones of the lineage - only the succeeding son's name being mentioned.

I am asking the Registrar of Edinburgh University for a note of the date of Alexander's graduation in Law & I am also seeking evidence of him having had a practice in Dunbar for two years before he went South.

I am asking for a further search of the records of the Mother L. No. 0. - of which I am an Hon. Member. I enclose a photograph of the Letters-patent & Crest - the principal motif of the latter being the Cross of Lorraine which signifies our origin as French.

I would ask you to return the photograph at your convenience.

Fraternal regards & sincerely,

(sgd) Frank Elliot Dobie,

Past Sub. G. Master (SC).

P.S. Any further information I get will be sent to you immediately.

FED.

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Library and Museum Trust

The following was taken from the letters - Patent granted Col. W. Fraser Dobie :-

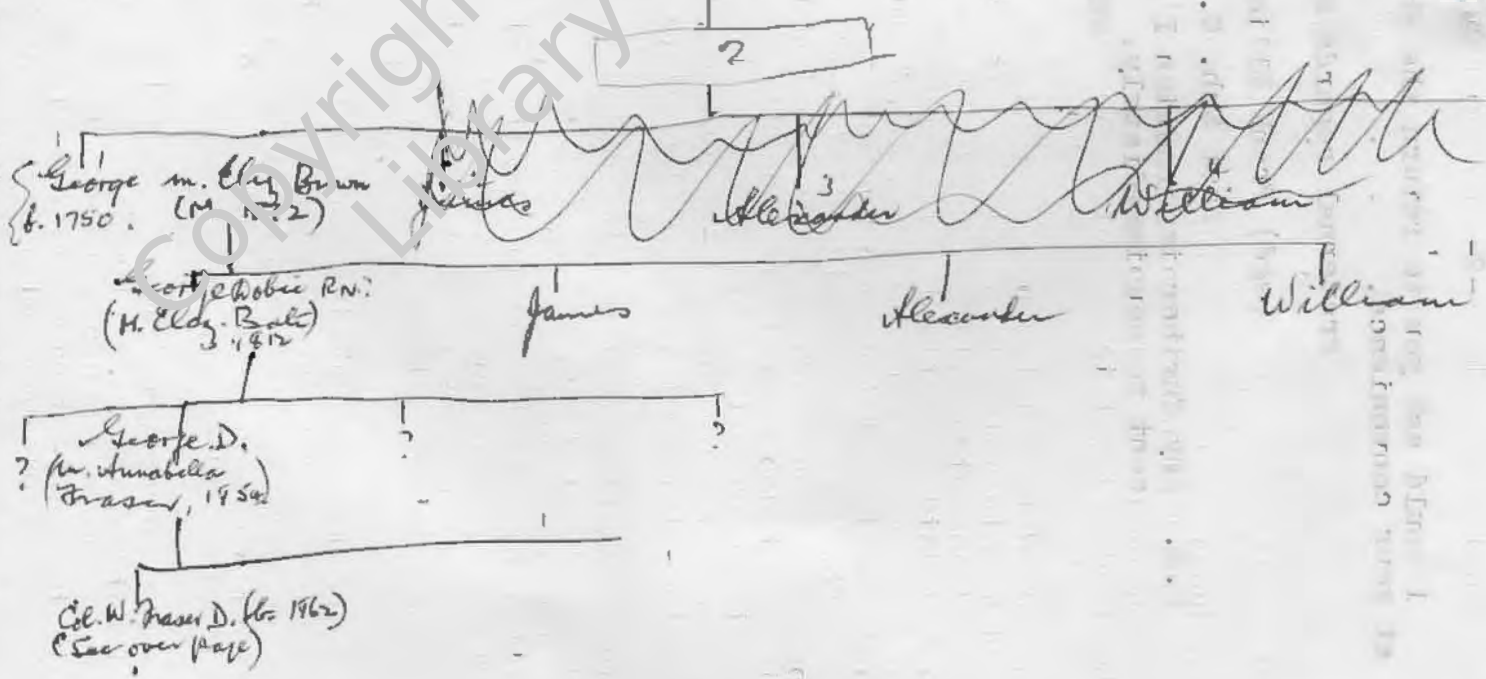
(Grandson) Alexander Dobie (b. 1750) Elizabeth Bate (m. May 1812) James Alexander William

George Dobie: Annabella Fraser (m. July 1854)

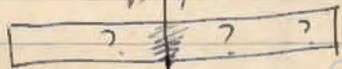
Col. W. Fraser Dobie (b. 1862)

This is the possible lineage :-

Sir Robert Dobie (17th century)



Sir Robert Dobie  
(b. 17<sup>th</sup> century) of Stonohill, Kilmarnoch.



Alexander  
(b. 1750 w. 1791)

(1) George

m. Annabella  
Dobie  
(July 1852)

Col. W. Dorn  
Dobie  
(b. 1862)

m. Annabella Dorn  
~~July 1884~~

(2) James

(3) Alexander

(4) William

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Library and Museum Trust



On 29<sup>th</sup> April 1846, Dabie  
appointed Grand Registrar  
(w/ preference V. W.)

---

At the {O'ly Com<sup>n</sup> of G. on  
{Grand Festival}

~~At the~~ Br. W<sup>m</sup>. E. Walmisley of  
Lodge No. 1. (Grand Master's) was ~~appointed~~  
as Grand Steward on the 27<sup>th</sup> <sup>proposed</sup> Apr 1836  
by A. Dabie (President.)

---

Dabie, himself was appointed a Grand  
Steward on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1835 (G. Festival)  
(proposed by Br. George Leach. Dabie was a  
member of Grand Master's L. No. 1.)

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• Albert G. Calvert's book  
= "The Grand Stewards & their Apron  
Badges"

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p. 154 - Shows that Dowie  
as "President" in 1835.

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The Duke of Sussex appointed  
Alex. Dowie & James G. Deacons  
at Q.C. on Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> April 1838.  
& also appointed a member of the Bd. of  
6. Purposes. President since 1843.

(L.H. paper)

B91 3LS.

6, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS.

Br. F. Elliot Dobie,  
Past R.W. Substitute G. Master, Scotland,  
25, Fairweather Place,  
Newton Mearns,  
Glasgow.

30th May 1978.

Re., Alexander Dobie.

Dear Brother Dobie,

On the 9th December 1974 you kindly replied to my query i.e. whether you are a descendant of Br. Alexander Dobie who joined the English Craft and eventually became Grand Registrar, Provincial Grand Master for Surrey and a confidant of the Grand Master (H.R.N. Duke of Sussex).

Have you been able to verify that Alexander was an initiate of Rother Kilwinning either from the Lodge Minutes (between 1790 and 1820) or the Treasurer's book?

As I said in my letter to you dated 3rd. December 1974, Br. Patterson (Secretary of M.K. No.0) did mention that there was an entry in the Treasurer's book regarding the issue of a "demit" to a Br. Dobie but gave no date.

Since writing to you I have ascertained (a) that he became a joining member ("an affiliate" in Scottish parlance?) of the Devent Lodge No.40, Hastings, in 1849 and the Grand Master's Lodge No.1 and (b) that the precise date of his death was 14th. June 1876, at his residence, 4, Hyde Park Terrace, Knightsbridge, London, and that his son, W.A. Dobie was present.

I am most anxious to complete my researches into the life of this well-beloved brother and would greatly appreciate any further information you may have gleaned since we last corresponded.

Fraternal regards,  
Yours sincerely,

G.D.(EC)

B91 318.

W.Br. C. George Taylor,  
"Edgehill",  
Keyford,  
Nr. Dymock,  
Gloucestershire,

30th. May 1978.

Re., Alexander Dobie.

Dear Brother George,

Very many thanks for your letter of 22nd. inst. and the copy of Dobie's death-certificate which will be most helpful.

I notice from that certificate that Dobie had a son and that begs the further questions i.e.

(a) whom did he marry?

and (b) when and where?

(Those questions are not addressed to you)

Sometime ago, I noticed the name "Dobie" amongst the list of Past Grand Officers of Scotland and we are in correspondence; so far no family connection has been established but I have a hunch there might be.

However, that is for the future - for the present I am most grateful to you for your efforts and would ask you to accept the enclosed cheque to defray \* the expense you have incurred.

I would add - that if any new avenue of approach occur to you I should very interested to know of it.

Fraternal regards,  
Yours sincerely,

\*. (76-62)

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON.

Application Number PAS-001267/78

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Saint George Hansover Square

1876. DEATH in the Sub-district of St. Margaret in the county of Middlesex

Form A-504 S.363738 Dd 412938 20/77 Hw.

Columns :-		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	
433	Fourteenth June 1876 4 Hyde Park Terrace	Alexander Dobie	male	81 Years	Esquire Solicitor	General decline of vital powers old age certified by George Burrows M.D.	W. A. Dobie SON present at the death 4 Hyde Park Terrace Knightsbridge	nineteenth June 1876	W. E. Needham Registrar	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 1978

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.

Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate. or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

DA 668605

23 MAY 1978



Pw  
18/4/78

C. George Taylor, D.F.C.  
H. Michael Harvey, LL.B  
Ernest V Lovegrove  
Christopher C. Williams  
Julian C. P. Griffiths LL.B  
John H. Roberts LL.B  
Christopher I. Swingle  
Mark R.S. Atkins LL.B  
Jeremy R.A. Harrison, LL.B  
E. Ralph Jones, B.A.

CONSULTANTS

John Shufflebotham  
Brian Hannibal  
George W. Bain LL.B

Your Ref.

22 May 1978

Our Ref.

T/WB

as from

'Edgehill'  
Netford  
Nr Dymock  
Glos.

# GLAISYERS

Incorporating ATKINS & SELKIRK

SOLICITORS

Alpha Tower  
Suffolk Street Queensway  
Birmingham B11 1R

021-631-5501

Telex 358610

R G St George Esq  
6 Widney Lane  
Solihull  
West Midlands

Dear Rex

Alexander Dobie  
-----

I have had my clerk investigate this matter in an endeavour to reply to your specific queries.

The following information is to hand:

1. Dobie was admitted as a Solicitor in England in the Easter term of 1816 at the age of 21. *1817*
2. Such an age almost certainly precludes the possibility of his earlier qualification in Scotland.
3. His first office address was 33 Bouverie Street, Fleet Street, London.
4. He moved his office to 5 Palsgrove Place, Temple Bar, around 1831. Exact date unknown and at this time became a 'Scotch Agent'. If the meaning then is the same as it is now he would have been instructed by Scottish Attorneys on behalf of their clients who wanted work done in England and on which they personally could not act.
5. Sometime around 1870 he moved his office to 2, Lancaster Place, Strand and his office remained there until his death.

C. George Taylor, D.F.C.  
H. Michael Harvey, LL.B.  
Ernest V Lovegrove  
Christopher C. Williams  
Julian C. P. Griffiths LL.B.  
John H. Roberts LL.B.  
Christopher I. Swingle  
Mark R S. Atkins LL. B.  
Jeremy R A. Harrison. LL. B.  
E. Ralph Jones, B.A.

# GLAISYERS

Incorporating ATKINS & SELKIRK  
SOLICITORS

Alpha Tower  
Suffolk Street Queensway  
Birmingham B11TR

021 632 5881

Telex 338610

## CONSULTANTS

John Shufflebotham  
Brian Hannibal  
George W. Bain LL. B.

Your Ref

22 May 1978

Our Ref.

. T/WB

as from:

'Edgehill'  
Ketford  
Nr Dymock  
Glos.

R G St George Esq  
6 Widney Lane  
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5. Sometime around 1870 he moved his office to 2, Lancaster Place, Strand and his office remained there until his death.
6. By 1870 he was also a parliamentary agent. I do not know off hand what this term means. If it is important I can make further enquiries.
7. In the course of investigations there has been no indication that he was

Cont/d...

Offices also at: 216 Corporation Street, Birmingham B4 6QB Telephone 021 236 1885 and 021 632 5881 Telex 338610  
1659/1661 High Street, Knowle, Solihull B93 0LR Telephone Knowle 2298 and 6247  
254 Lichfield Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield 874 2UH Telephone 021 308 7411  
41 Anchor Road, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 8PT Telephone Aldridge 52337/58538/52840  
16th Floor, St. Andrew's House, 53 Portland Street, Manchester M1 3LW Telephone 061 236 7616/9 Telex 666471  
628 Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester M13 0SD Telephone 061 224 3311/2

23 MAY 1978

ever in partnership though another solicitor named Dobie does appear in the list for roughly the same period.

8. Death certificate enclosed. 4, Hyde Park Terrace, Kensington-gore (a continuation of Knightsbridge) was his home address.

9. No death notice or obituary could be traced in either the Chelsea News or the Kensington News for June/July 1876.

10. A death notice was traced in the Times June 19 1876, page 1 column 1. "on the 14th inst. ALEXANDER DOBIE, Solicitor of 4 Hyde Park Terrace, Kensington-gore and 2 Lancaster Place, Strand, aged 81, deeply regretted. Friends will please accept this intimation."

It is possible that further information might come to light but I believe this would entail a considerable amount of work and expense. However the above answers your questions fairly fully with the exception of whether the practice was a specialised one. In view of the period with which we are dealing I would not think that Solicitors tended to specialise to any great degree but so far as Alexander Dobie is concerned I do not have any facts other than as stated above.

I do not of course intend to make any professional charge as this is not really an office matter. However I have incurred expenses of £6.00 in respect of the death certificate and £0.62 in obtaining copy notice.

If it is necessary to reply to this or if you want further information would you please address any letter to me at home.

Yours sincerely

23 MAY 1978

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ROYEX HOUSE ALDERMANBURY SQUARE  
LONDON EC2V 7LD

DH

11th April, 1978

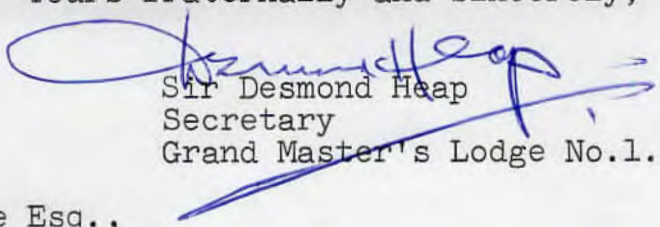
Re Alexander Robie

My dear Brother St. George,

I have not been idle on your letter to me of February 24th last. The fact is I have been searching through such books, papers and files which I have relating to Grand Master's Lodge No.1. I took over at very short notice and in a time of some difficulty from my predecessor when I became Secretary of the Lodge. I am sorry to say that many of our papers were in some disarray, and I have failed to find any Minutes of the Lodge for April 17th 1837, these being, the Minutes quoted in the Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No.2076 and mentioned in the first paragraph of your letter to me.

I wish I could write you a more helpful letter to help you in your researches but I greatly regret I cannot. Please forgive me.

Yours fraternally and sincerely,

  
Sir Desmond Heap  
Secretary  
Grand Master's Lodge No.1.

R. G. St. George Esq.,  
6, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS

15 APR 1978

*Robie was proposed for membership of the Grand Stewards Lodge (no number) ~~and~~ by Mr. George Leach on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1835 (Annual Grand Festival)*  
*On 1<sup>st</sup> June 1836 Robie was appointed a member of the Bd. of Gen. Purposes, & Bd. Finance.*

6, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS.

17th. March 1978.

W.Br. C.G. Taylor,  
"Edgehill",  
Ketford,  
nr. Dymock,  
Gloucestershire.

Re., Alexander Dobie. (1795 - 1875).

Dear Brother George,

I have at last got round to taking advantage of your kind promise, at our meeting in Fletcher Chapter early this month, to elicit further information re. Alexander Dobie.

My interest in him is due to the fact that, as Grand Registrar, he was deputed by the Grand Master (Earl of Zetland) to preside at the erection of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcester-shire on 17th. August 1847 which he did and appointed W.Br. Dr. Roden as Deputy Prov. G. Master. From then onwards his Masonic career is fairly known; but his place of birth and the date are not known to me.

In a letter he wrote to a Br. Lee, dated 23rd. June 1873, he said "...I am an old Mason, having been initiated in November 1813 in the oldest Lodge in Great Britain, the Kilwinning Lodge in Scotland...". But, in spite of that, there remain doubts as to whether he was referring to Mother Kilwinning No.0 (SC) or to one of a number of Scottish Lodges having "Kilwinning" in their titles.

I wrote to Br. Patterson, Secretary, M.E. No.0, but he could not find any trace of Dobie in the Lodge Minutes. In the Treasurer's book, however, the name was mentioned in connection with the issue of (what we in England term) a 'clearance certificate'. So there is a distinct possibility that he was referring to Mother Kilwinning.

We are looking for but have no evidence regarding his family background, boyhood, education and how he started to earn his living in his youth. However, he later journeyed to London where he must have set up in practice as a Solicitor. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ I have a letter from the "Law Society Services Ltd. (Records and Statistical Dept.)" dated 25th. May 1976 confirming that Dobie was admitted a solicitor in 1816. (The address of the Law Society Services Ltd. is: 113, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL). The L.S.S. state that 21 years is the earliest age for admission into the profession so if Dobie was initiated in 1813 he must have been only 18 years of age!

Obviously, he must have joined a London Lodge - for, by 1838, he had attained the rank of Junior Grand Deacon in the Grand Lodge of England. Later he was appointed President of the Board of General Purposes (1842-1848) and Grand Registrar in 1847. Later that year he was appointed Provincial Grand Master for Surrey.

F.T.O.

-x "a demit"

My object in troubling you with this rigmarole is to ascertain if there is any other source of information, apart from "The Law Society Services Ltd.," which will supply details of

- (a) the date Dobie arrived in London and where he lived?
- (b) did he qualify in England or Scotland and at what age?
- (c) Was he in "general" practice or did he "specialise"?

I am very grateful to you for your offer to help (or endeavour to do so) and look forward to hearing what you have to say in due course.

Fraternal regards,  
Yours sincerely,

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B91 3LS.

6, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS.

Grand Secretary  
Freemasons' Hall,  
Gt. Queen Street,  
Kingsway,  
London. WC2B 5AZ.

24th. February 1978.

Dear Brother Grand Secretary,

I shall be greatly obliged if you would  
address the enclosed envelope to the Secretary of the  
Grand Master's Lodge No.1.

Yours fraternally and sincerely,

(R.G. St. George.)

P.J.G.D.

(L.V.II. paper.)

B91 3LS.

6, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS.

The Secretary,  
Grand Master's Lodge No.1,

24th. February 1978.

Dear Brother Secretary,

In Volume 24 (page 102) of the Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No.2076 is a quotation from the Minutes of the meeting of your Lodge on 17th. April 1837 which runs "It was proposed by Br. Pollock, seconded by Br. Dobie and unanimously carried....etc".

I am engaged on some research into the life and Masonic career of one Alexander Dobie, by profession a Solicitor, who, in 1847, was Grand Registrar and Provincial Grand Master for Surrey. There is some reason for stating he was initiated in Lodge Mother Kilwinning No.0 (SC), Ayr, Scotland, according to the Law Society Services Ltd., London, Dobie was admitted as a Solicitor in 1816. It is thought he was born in the year 1795 so that in 1816 he was 21 years of age, the minimum age for qualification.

My object in writing to you is to ascertain if your records shew

- (a) that the Dobie mentioned in your Minutes of 17th. April 1837 is the same person?
- (b) If so, was he a member of any other English Lodge?
- (c) the date he joined your Lodge and who proposed and seconded him?
- (d) Is his age mentioned?
- (e) Any other relevant information?

P.T.O.

I am sending this to the Grand Secretary with a request that he address the envelope to you.

I regret having troubled you with this matter but shall be greatly obliged to receive your reply in due course.

Fraternal regards,  
Yours sincerely,

(R.G. St. George.), F.J.G.D.

Since the above was written I again read a letter rec'd from Mr. Harry Seymour, P.G.S.B. & in it he refers to ~~the~~ as silk banner emblazoned with the arms of the P.G.M., Alexander Dobie ---

? where, & whom to write for details?

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Registered Office

113 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1PL

Telephone 01-242 1222

Telegrams Interpret London Telex

Telex 261203

Registered Number 763864 England

# The Law Society

Services Ltd  
Records & Statistics Dept.

R.G. St. George Esq.,  
Treasurer,  
Library and Museum Committee,  
6 Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire B91 3LS

Our reference HH  
Your reference  
Date 25th May 1976

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter of the 20th May concerning Alexander Dobie.

The information provided in our letter of the 17th May was taken from The Law Lists published by Messrs. Stevens & Sons Ltd of 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4. It was deduced that 1846 was Mr. Dobie's year of admission since his name first appears in that publication. 21 years is a feasible age for admission as it is the minimum age at which a solicitor may be admitted.

You may wish to contact the Publishers directly for the correct interpretation of their terms. We would comment that "Scotch agent" probably means that Mr. Dobie acted as London agent for a Scottish firm of lawyers. According to the current Law List a Parliamentary Agent is one entitled to practise both in promoting and opposing Bills. Should you require further details on the function of Parliamentary Agents, The Society of Parliamentary Agents, Queen Anne's Chambers, 25 Abchurch Lane, Westminister SW1H 9LF may be able to assist.

Yours faithfully

*Maureen Young*  
P. Ryan  
Chief Executive Officer

27 MAY 1976

B91 3LS.

5, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS.

P. Ryan Esq.,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
The Law Society Services Ltd.,  
113, Chancery Lane,  
London. WC2A 1PL.

20th. May 1976

Re., Alexander Dobie.

Dear Mr. Ryan,

I am very much obliged for your letter of 17th. inst. The details you give are most interesting to us. I note that Dobie was admitted a solicitor (in this Country) in 1816 i.e. at the age of 21 years. Do you think that feasible?

Also, would you please explain the meaning of "Scotch Agent" and "Scotch & Parliamentary Agent"?

I apologise for plaguing<sup>you</sup> with these further questions.

Yours sincerely,

(R.G. St. George.)  
Treasurer.





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# The Law Society

Services Ltd.  
 Records & Statistical Dept.

R.G. St. George Esq.,  
 Treasurer,  
 Library and Museum Committee,  
 6, Widney Lane,  
 Solihull,  
 Warwickshire B91 3LS

Our reference HH  
 Your reference  
 Date 17th May 1976

Dear Sir,

Re: Alexander Dobie

Thank you for your letter of the 11th May.

As this department commenced only in 1907, old records are not exhaustive, and, in the circumstances therefore, we are unable to provide detailed information on Alexander Dobie. From the existing Law Lists, we have been able to establish that Mr. Dobie was admitted a solicitor in this country in 1815. He died on the 14th June 1876. It would appear that he initially practised at 33 Bouverie St, Fleet St, London EC. In 1826, he is shown at 5 Palsgrave Place, Temple Bar, described as a Scotch Agent. From 1846-1876, he appears at 2 Lancaster Place, Strand, as a solicitor, Scotch and Parliamentary Agent.

It is hoped that this information will be of some assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,

P. Ryan  
 Chief Executive Officer

20 MAY 1976

*he was then 21 years old.*

*(Dobie was then 21 years old.)*

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B91 3LS.

L. Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warwickshire,  
B91 3LS.

The Secretary,  
Law Society,  
113, Chancery Lane,  
London, WC 2.

11th. May 1976.

Re. Alexander Dobie.

Dear Sir,

I am collecting biographical details of Alexander Dobie who was Scottish by birth and (I think) came from Ayr. He was born in the year 1795 and died in 1876 (aged 81 years). The death certificate from Somerset House describes him as a Solicitor and resident in London (I believe at Lancaster Place) in 1873).

He became prominent in English Freemasonry in the 1830's and so continued until his death.

My object in writing to you is to ascertain if your records reveal details of

- a) When he arrived in London and where he lived?
- b) Did he qualify in England or Scotland and at what age?
- c) Was he in 'general' practice or did he specialise?

Any other details in your possession and not asked for above

P.T.O.

would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(R.G. St. George.),  
Treasurer.

1851  
1875

Copyright Worcestershire Masonic  
Library and Museum Trust

Dear Sir,  
I am writing to you in connection of your  
kindly reply to the letter which I sent you  
on the 15th inst. in regard to the  
loan of the book 'The History of the  
City of London' which is in London  
(I believe, at Lancaster House, London, W.C.1)  
to be loaned to you by the British Library.  
I am sure we are pleased with the result.  
By the way in writing to you I am not aware of your  
address, except details of  
at least the address in London and where in 1875?  
I am sure it will be found on the list and of what  
of the list in 'London' section and the two specialists  
and other details in your possession and not asked for above

Telephone: 041-639-1969

*This is a copy of the original  
which is attached.*

ELLIOT DOBIE

Member Incorporated Society Musicians  
Lecture recitals on Scottish ballads

25, Fairweather Place,  
Newton Mearns  
Glasgow

9/12/1974.

Br. R.G. St. George, P.G.D.,  
6, Widney Lane,  
Solihull,  
Warks.

Dear Brother St. George,

I have your letter of 3rd. December re. the Dobie lineage - and thank you for same - I have for many years been researching for the family and have now completed the family line over three hundred years -

Letters patent and a Crest and Coat of arms was granted by Geo.V in March 1925 to a relative of mine, the late Col. Fraser Dobie.

There is only one Alexander in the line and he was a son of Sir Robert Dobie of Stonehill (Ayrshire) - a little earlier than your stated date - I have as yet no information as to his association with the Craft but I am in fairly regular contact with the Lord Lyon King of Arms who is a member of the Craft and, like myself, serves other Orders - I am taking the matter up with him - and am also hoping to see the old Registers of the Mother Lodge No. 0, Kilwinning - of which I am an Honorary Member and will be assisting ( ) \*M.W. Grand Master on the 21st. of this month in the re-Installation of the Master who, by virtue of his Office, is also Prov. Grand Master of the Ayrshire Province.

If I can get any information I will let you have it at once.

Fraternal regards,

Sincerely,

(signed) F. Elliot Dobie.

\* the word is indecipherable

Telephone: 041-639 1969

# ELLIOT DOBIE

MEMBER INCORPORATED SOCIETY MUSICIANS  
LECTURE RECITALS ON SCOTTISH BALLADS

25 FAIRWEATHER PLACE  
NEWTON MEARNS  
GLASGOW

9/12/1944

Br R & M George PGD  
6 Widney Lane  
Salisbury  
W. Wilts.

Dear Brother Pt George

I have your letter of the 3rd Dec re the Dobie lineage - and thank you for same - I have for many years been researching for the family and have now completed the family tree over three hundred years - Letters patent and a Crest & Coat of Arms was granted by Geo V in March 1925 to a relative of mine the late Col Fraser Dobie. There is only one Almonder in the line and he was a son of Sir Robert Dobie of Stonehill (Argyllshire) about a little earlier than your stated date - I have as yet no information as to his association with the Craft, but

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am in fairly regular contact with  
the Lord High King of Arms who is  
a member of the Craft and like myself  
never takes orders - I am taking the  
make up with him - and am also  
hoping to see the old Register of the Mother  
Lodge No 0 Kilmarnock - of which I am  
an Honorary Member - and will be  
assisting a new M V Grand Master on 21st  
of this month in the Re Installation of the  
Master, who by virtue of his office is also  
Prov. Grand Master of the Clutha Province -

If I can get any information I  
will let you have it at once.

Best regards.

Sincerely

James Doherty

B91 3L8.

(Address as above).

3rd. December 1974.

Br. F. Elliot Dobie,  
P. Substitute G. Master, (S.C.),  
25, Fairweather Place,  
Newton Mearns,  
Renfrewshire, Scotland.

Copy 13. - W.G.  
R.H.A.

Re. Alexander Dobie (1722-1846).

Dear Brother Dobie,

I am writing to you because I feel it is possible that you may be a descendant of your namesake mentioned above.

We are doing some research on the history of Freemasonry in this Province and one of the chief personalities who were concerned with the erection of our Provincial Grand Lodge in 1847 was Br. Alexander Dobie in his capacity of Grand Registrar (United Grand Lodge of England).

In a letter he wrote to a Mr. Lee, dated 23rd. June 1873, x he said "...I am an old Mason, having been initiated in November 1813 in the oldest Lodge in Great Britain, the Kilwinning Lodge in Scotland...". But, in spite of that, there remain doubts as to whether he was referring to Mother Kilwinning No.0 or to one of a number of Scottish Lodges having "Kilwinning" in their titles.

I wrote to Br. Patterson, Secretary, M.L. No.0, but he could not find any trace of Dobie in the Lodge Minutes. In the Treasurer's book, however, the name was mentioned in connection with the issue of (what we in England term as) a 'clearance certificate'. So there is a distinct possibility that he was referring to Mother Kilwinning. x

We have no evidence regarding his family-background, boy-hood, education and how he started to earn his living in his youth. However, he later journeyed to London where he set up practice as a solicitor and must have joined a Lodge in London - for by 1838 he had attained the rank of Junior Grand Deacon, was appointed President of the Board of General Purposes (1842-1846) and Grand Registrar (1847). Later that year he was appointed Provincial Grand Master for Surrey.

If my "hunch" is correct and you are a descendant of the abovementioned distinguished Brother could you supply me with details of his family background etc. and permission to use those details in a projected biographical sketch of Alexander Dobie.

Fraternal regards, Yours sincerely

Treasurer.

*When writing to the Sec'y of M.L. No.0 again  
ask for the date of the entry in the Treasurer's Book.*

The following was taken from "The History of  
Freemasonry in the Province  
of Surrey".

copy sent  
to T.W.G.

By W.Br. H.B.Bailey, PPAGDC (Surrey) (1940)

-----ooOoo-----

ALEXANDER DOBIE. (Born 1795 - died 1876 aged 81 years  
Provincial Grand Master, {1847 to 1871})  
15<sup>th</sup> April

Information about Alexander Dobie is somewhat meagre but his death certificate from Somerset House shows that he was a Solicitor and lived in London and that he died simply of old age. The other solid personal information about him is revealed in his letter to the Surrey Lodge No.416, which he wrote in response to their resolution of profound regret at the loss of so valued a Provincial Grand Master. His letter was as follows:

Lancaster Place,  
23rd June 1873.

Dear Sir and Brother,

On coming to town to-day, I found your letter of yesterday accompanying the Resolution of the Surrey Lodge, regarding my past services in Masonry especially in the County of Surrey. I am an old Mason, having been initiated in Nov. 1813 in the oldest Lodge in Great Britain, "The Kilwinning Lodge" in Scotland and am now on the wrong side of 76, so I think I should make way for others to obtain promotion; besides my health and my memory are not so good as they were and cannot be expected to be so. I can only request, through you, to express to every Member of the Surrey Lodge my sincere thanks for their kindness in passing the Resolution, and that it is very gratifying to me to receive such a Testimonial. In the Province, Unanimity and Brotherly love and Esteem have prevailed ever since my appointment for I have never had a single complaint of any description to investigate, which no other P.G.M. can boast of, during a period of nearly 23 years.

With sincere regards,  
I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

A.Dobie,  
P.P.G.M., Surrey.

Bro. Leew, P.M.,  
Surrey Lodge. (1416) (Redhill.) (dissolved 1834)

There are a dozen Scottish Lodges with the word "Kilwinning" in the title but it has not been possible to establish precisely which one was his Mother Lodge. Moreover, he could not have been more than 18 years of age in 1813 and it is possible that, with failing memory, he confused his year with the year in which the United Grand Lodge of England was formed.

In Masonic rank he was Junior Grand Deacon in 1838, President

p.t.o.

X Brother Kilwinning No. O. (So) meets every month on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues.



of the Board of General Purposes from 1842 to 1848 and again from 1854 to 1856 and Grand Registrar in 1847. In Royal Arch he was Grand Scribe 'N' from 1838 to 1846 and Grand Superintendent, from 1847.

Evidently he was a friend of Col. McQueen, the Provincial Grand Master for Sussex, who said at a meeting of his Provincial Grand Lodge in 1847 "I had hoped on this occasion to have had the honour and advantage of the assistance of Bro. Dobie, the Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Surrey and Grand Registrar of England, but I lament he has had a serious accident in Switzerland".

In 1849 Bro. Dobie joined the Derwent Lodge No. 40 at Hastings and gave them a set of Tracing Boards, which are still in possession of that Lodge. He is also recorded as having presided "on the Throne" at the 'revival' of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire on 17th. August 1847 and "as Grand Master in the Chair" at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on 7th. June 1865.

The year before Alexander Dobie took office saw the great Irish famine and the repeal of the Corn Laws. In the years after his appointment, there were revolutions in many of the Capitals of Europe and, in London, the Chartist meeting on Kennington Common. In 1851, the Great Exhibition was held in Hyde Park and hopes were aroused that commercial rivalry would engross the energies of nations to the exclusion of wars. Alas for these hopes, the Crimean War broke out in 1854 and the Indian Mutiny in 1856, while the Civil War in the United States commenced in 1861. A gleam of human progress came with the end of the latter conflict in 1865, when slavery became illegal throughout the world.

In July, 1848, the Provincial Grand Lodge at the Greyhound Inn, Croydon, decided that the present holders should continue in their offices and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master should be Secretary for the time being. The amended By-laws were ordered to be printed and circulated for discussion at the next meeting (but there is no record of such subsequent discussion). In the following year (October, 1849) again at the Greyhound Inn, Croydon, several officers continued in their posts but W. Bro. Elkins was unanimously elected Treasurer and Bro. Peter Martin was ordered to pay over the balance in his hands. It will be seen below that there was a sequel to this change of Treasurer.

A very important function was held in the Town Hall, Croydon, on 1st. August, 1850. This was to consecrate the Asylum for the Old People in Croydon. The Grand Master (the Earl of Zetland) was unable to attend but the very distinguished company present included the Rev. John Cox, Grand Chaplain; Henry L. Crohn, Grand Secretary for German correspondence; the Rev. Wm. J. Carver, Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; James Bornorandi, of the Alpina Grand Lodge of Switzerland, and the Worshipful Master, Past Master and Wardens of the Grand Stewards Lodge. The Provincial Grand Master officiated. He stated that he would not this day enter upon any duties of the Province but soon after the Harvest he would summon a Provincial Grand Lodge. He proposed that they should

\* This must have been a "Provincial" affair not Grand Lodge (See next page) (Should this reading be length of foundation stone?) (There are no minutes this date)

now adjourn to hear a sermon at St. James' Church, Croydon Common, and then join a procession, consisting of a band, the boys and girls of those Institutions, a band of the Caledonian Anglia and more than 250 Brethren, which would proceed to the Asylum.

On arrival at the Asylum the Provincial Grand Master & Officers went to the Committee room and resumed Provincial Grand Lodge when the Consecration of the Institution was duly carried out. The Rev. George Coles, perpetual curate of St. James' was thanked for the use of his church and also the Grand Chaplain for his able and eloquent sermon delivered in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their widows.

Another interesting function was held at Kingston on September 9th. 1850, when Provincial Grand Lodge was invited to participate in the ceremony of placing the 10th. centuary Coronation Stone of our Anglo-Saxon kings on a new site in the town (where it may still be seen to-day). Provincial Grand Lodge met in the Grand Jury Room at the Shire Hall and the Mayor conducted them to the Town Hall.

About this time there was a period of financial embarrassment of which perhaps a hint appeared in October 1847, when Bro. Peter Martin was ordered to pay over the balance in his hands to the newly elected Treasurer, Bro. Elkins. A Finance Committee was appointed to investigate the matter and eventually reported that there were two main causes of the difficulty. First, a problem seemed to have arisen from the failure of the firm of Bankers in Reigate with whom Bro. Martin had invested Provincial Grand Lodge funds. He explained that a substantial amount of his own money had also been lodged with this bank and that he, too, had suffered severe personal loss. He hoped, therefore, that he would not be held responsible for the loss of Provincial Grand Lodge funds amounting to approximately £70, especially as the new Treasurer had made no effort to take the money into his care since he took office. The loss seems to have been accepted by the Province apart from requiring Bro. Martin to pay over two dividends from the bankruptcy which he had subsequently received. The second complication was that some Lodges were years in arrears with their contribution to Provincial Grand Lodge and some Provincial Officers had not paid their dues of Honour following their appointments. The Finance Committee reported on the defaults and the loss of Provincial Grand Lodge funds through the collapse of the bank, several donations to Masonic charities were made during the period. A five-man Audit Committee had been appointed and duly submitted their report to the Provincial meeting at the Swan Hotel, Chertsey on 19th. August 1852 and again on 3rd. November, 1853, when Provincial Grand Lodge met at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. At the same place on 7th. August 1854, the Audit Committee were able to report that the older Lodges were now almost up to date with their dues to Provincial Grand Lodge. There was a number of distinguished visitors at this meeting and a Provincial Grand Chaplain now appeared in the list of Officers.

In July 1858, a Committee was appointed to consider a suggestion that there should be a Hall in the Province for the "Purposes of Masonry" but their report to the meeting at the Angel Hotel, Guilford, on 11th. July 1859 opposed this suggestion on account of the

expense which would attend "such a move". The Audit Committee reported a balance of more than £100 in the P.G.L. Account. It was at this meeting that a Provincial Charities Committee was formed. It consisted of one member from each Lodge in the Province, to be elected on Installation night, together with the Provincial Grand Master and Deputy as President and Vice-President respectively. The Committee was to report annually to Provincial Grand Lodge.

Again meeting at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on 17th July 1860, Provincial Grand Lodge resolved that five guineas be donated to a testimonial to W.Bro. Thos. S. Newly for his "valuable services as Honorary Surgeon to the Royal Benevolent Institution at Croydon for aged Masons and their Widows, since its foundation". It was agreed that there should now be Provincial Grand Stewards and the fee of Honour was fixed at 10s. 6d., while Aprons, Collars and Jewels were to be provided from P.G.L. funds. Six Stewards were appointed. The Provincial Grand Master gave his usual report on how things were going with the Craft generally. The annual meetings of the next five years dealt with few matters of importance but on the 27th July 1866, at the Angel Hotel, Guilford, the Audit Committee stated that the clothing of the Provincial Officers required reinstatement and recommended that £25 be allocated for that purpose. This indicates that the clothing belonged to Provincial Grand Lodge and was only worn by the Officers concerned at these meetings. Past Officers, who could have been expected to have their own clothing were few. There were no appointments to Past rank in those days and only those who had actually served in the Office concerned could claim to be Past Officers. Even as late as 1884 the Book of Constitutions stated that Provincial Grand Masters cannot appoint Brethren to Past rank in their Lodges. Somewhat earlier it had been laid down that five years service in an office was necessary for this distinction. It was not until the present century that Past ranks were conferred on Brethren although they had not held the Office in question.

The Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was a visitor at the 1867 meeting and, from the healthy balance of £150, a donation of £30 was voted to his Institution and a further £20 in the following year, thus qualifying the Province as a Vice-President. Five guineas was also donated to the "Palestine Exploration Fund" but the aim and object of this fund is not recorded. Past Ranks are mentioned in the minutes of the 1868 meeting and in the record of those present at the 1869 meeting the holders are given a prior place, no doubt by virtue of their service.

An unusual meeting place on 9th July 1870, was the Grandstand on Epsom Racecourse and a vote of thanks to the management was duly recorded. The Grand Secretary (V.W.Bro. John Hervey) was a visitor on this occasion. Three guineas for two Provincial Grand Lodge Collars and donations to the Charities were approved. On 29th July, 1871, at the Masonic Hall, Chertsey, the visitors included V.W.Bro. Major General Studholme Brownrigg and, at the same meeting, the Provincial Grand Master intimated his intention of resigning his office before the meeting of the next Provincial Grand Lodge.

This was held on 27th. April, 1872, in the Public Hall, Reigate. The V.W.Bro. George Harcourt officiated as acting Provincial Grand Master and the names of the Wardens (Bros. Parsons and Dundas) and the Secretary (Bro. Greenwood) are recorded but no other Officers. Seven Master Masons introduced the new Provincial Grand Master, Major General Studholme Brownrigg and his Patent of Office was duly ~~read~~. His decorations were cited, including Commander of the Bath, Legion of Honour and Officer of the Turkish Order of Medjidie. He was then obligated and installed; proclaimed with a flourish of drums and trumpets; and saluted with seven in the East, the like in the West and the like in the South. The other important business of this meeting was the reading of an Address to the Past Provincial Grand Master, Alexander Dobie, which it was agreed should be engrossed on vellum and presented to him. Reference was made to his exceptionally long ~~long~~ period of service as Provincial Grand Master (24 years) and to the increase in the number of Surrey Lodges during that time.

-----oo0oo-----

\* Sir C. J. H. Fealmer had a similar decoration.

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Notice by Alexander DOBIE.

In a paper by Rev. Richard J  
Reece, C.B., M.A., M.D., reproduced  
in AQC Vol. 84 (p. 44-156) on  
"Thomas Harper, a former 'Bro'  
of Grand Master Lodge."

on page 117 is an extract from  
the minutes of Grand Master's Lodge d/d  
17th April 1874 which reads as follows:-

"It was proposed by Mr. Pollock,  
seconded by Mr. Dobie & unanimously  
carried that it be referred to  
the Permanent Committee to purchase  
the Working Board now exhibited  
on the floor."

If this refers to Alexander Dobie  
(Lodge Registrar, P. Col, Surrey) we  
now know that he was a subscribing  
member of Grand Master Lodge, V.C.L.E.

\* I wrote to Secy of G. of L. Lodge & ask for details  
of his membership X ✓

Dobie

Ref. Law Society letter dtd 25/5/76.

1.) They agree that the minimum age for admittance as a solicitor is (was) 21 years.  
(- Dobie was 21 in 1816)

2.) ~~Where~~ Presumably he studied in  
Ayr (Scotland)  
? Did ~~intention~~ <sup>intention</sup> join law  
society list entered as "Jural  
Exam" ~~at 10~~ <sup>at 10</sup> Qualifying

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Copy of letter received from  
W. Bro. Henry G. Seymour, P.G. & B.  
General Librarian, Sorbiton Masonic Library

97, Gloucester Rd.,  
Kingston Hill,  
Surrey. 3/4/74.

W. Bro. R. G. St. George,  
Dear Brother,

Thank you for your letter of 31<sup>st</sup> March  
received this morning. I have advised  
the Library Treasurer of the Position; it  
would seem that your predecessors, as fiscal  
secretary, have collected at the individual  
rate.

In "The History of Freemasonry in the  
Province of Surrey" (1946) there are brief notes  
referring to some of the oldest lodges in the  
Province. I had read "Dobie Lodge No. 889"  
reads:

"Dobie Lodge of Kingston celebrated its  
centenary in 1946; having been consecrated on  
5<sup>th</sup> December 1861\* by W. Bro. Watson, P.G. St. G. in the  
unavoidable absence of the P.G. M., R.W. Bro.  
Alexander Dobie. . . . Other gifts have been  
a silk banner emblazoned with the arms  
of the P.G.M., Alexander Dobie."

Under "Alexander Dobie" appears - born  
1795 - died 1876, aged 81 years. P.G.M. 1847 - 1849.

\*Dobie was at Grand Lodge on 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. (1847) & as G. Registrar, was concerned in  
the "Suspension" of a Brother Dobie Rest. (Albums [N<sup>o</sup> 176 (Nov 1871)])

Information about Alexander Dobie is somewhat meagre but his death certificate from Somerset House shows that he was a solicitor & lived in London & that he died simply of old age.

Here follows a transcription of a letter he wrote to a P. M. of Surrey Lodge No. 416, in 1843 from Lancaster Place. Bro. Lees who wrote the first record of the Prov., stated that he was initiated in Nov. 1813 in the oldest lodge in St. Britain - The Belwinning Lodge, in Scotland.

The account continues: "In Masonic rank he was Junior G. Warden in 1839, President of the Bd. of Gen. Purposes from 1842 to 1848 & again from 1850 to 1856 & Grand Registrar in 1847. In A. A. he was G. Sec. N. from 1838 to 1846 & Superintendent for Surrey from 1847 - He is also recorded as having presided "on the Throne" at the revival of the Prov. G. L. of Wores. on 17<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1847 & "as Grand Master in the Chair" at the W. L. Conv. of G. L. on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1865.

A summons is illustrated by the lodge of Friendship No. 6. at theatched House Tavern St. James St., (London) on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1858 with a heading "Bro. Col. John S. Brownrigg, C. B. (R.G.H. 1872 to 80) W. Master-elect" When Dobie was a candidate for



memberships.

A portrait of Robie in full Masonic regalia is reproduced & the chief compiler might have a look at it that you could borrow.

W. Bro. H.B. Bailey, P.P.A. & O.E. (Surrey)  
"Dene Cot"  
Woodfield Hill  
Coulston, CR 3 3EU

He may also have a copy of the Centenary "History" of no. 889 which I have not in this library.

With best wishes for success in your efforts

Yours sincerely,  
Harry J. Seymour.

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CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON.

Application Number PAS-001267/78

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Saint George Hansover Square

1876. DEATH in the Sub-district of St. Margaret in the county of Middlesex

Form A-504 S.361738 Dd 412938 20' 77 Hw.

Columns :-		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	
433	Fourteenth June 1876 4 Hyde Park Terrace	Alexander Dobie	male	81 Years	Esquire Solicitor	General decline of vital powers old age certified by George Burrows M.D.	W. A. Dobie SON present at the death 4 Hyde Park Terrace Knightsbridge	nineteenth June 1876	W. E. Needham Registrar	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 1978

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953.

Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate. or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.

DA 668605

23 MAY 1978



Pw  
18/4/78

# Surbiton Masonic Library

HEADQUARTERS:  
THE MASONIC HALL, SURBITON.

President

R.W. Bro. The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Shannon

HARRY T. SEYMOUR, P.G.S.L.B., P.P.G.W., L.G.R., L.G.C.R.  
GENERAL LIBRARIAN  
97, GLOUCESTER ROAD,  
KINGSTON HILL,  
SURREY.

W Bro R. G. St. George

3<sup>rd</sup> April 1974

SURREY.

Dear Brother,

Thank you for your letter of 31<sup>st</sup> March, received this morning. I have asked the Librarian Treasurer of the position; it would appear that your predecessors as past Masters have collected at the Individual rate.

In the history of Freemasonry in the Province of Surrey (1875) there are <sup>brief</sup> notes referring to some of the oldest lodges in the Province. That headed "Dobie Lodge No 589 reads -

"Dobie Lodge of Kingston celebrated its Centenary in 1961, having been consecrated on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1861, by W Bro. Watson, P.G. Stnd, in the most suitable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Alexander Dobie. --- Other gifts have been a fine banner emblazoned with the arms of the Provincial Grand Master, Alexander Dobie. ---"

Under "Alexander Dobie" appears  
"Born 1795 - Died 1876, aged 81 years. Prov. G.M. 1847-1871.

Information about Alexander Dobie is scanty but a message and his death certificate from Somerset House shows that he was a solicitor and lived in London and that he died suddenly of

# Surbiton Masonic Library

HARRY T. SEYMOUR, P.G.S.B., P.P.G.W., L.G.R., L.G.C.R.  
GENERAL LIBRARIAN  
97, GLOUCESTER ROAD,  
KINGSTON HILL,  
SURREY.

HEADQUARTERS:  
THE MASONIC HALL, SURBITON.

President

R.W. Bro. The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Shannon

10 Book 9, St. George

31<sup>st</sup> April 1974

SURREY.

Dear Brother,

Thank you for your letter of 31<sup>st</sup> March, received this morning. I have advised the Librarian & Treasurer of the position; it would appear that your predecessors as past masters have collected at the individual rate.

In the history of membership in the "Promissory of Junius" (1072) there are <sup>brief</sup> notes referring to some of the older lodges in the Province. That headed "Dobie" of No. 589 reads -

"Dobie Lodge of Kingston celebrated its Centenary in 1961, having been consecrated on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1861, by W. Bro. Watson, P.G. Stud. in the usual notable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Alexander Dobie. --- Other gifts had been a silk banner emblazoned with the arms of the Provincial Grand Master, Alexander Dobie. ---"

Under "Alexander Dobie" appears "Born 1795 - Died 1876, aged 81 years. Prov. G.M. 1847-1871.

Information about Alex under Dobie is somewhat meagre but his death certificate from Somerset House shows that he was a solicitor and lived in London and that he died suddenly of

old age. Here follows a transcription of a letter he wrote  
to a P.M. of Surrey Lodge No 416 in 1873 from Lancaster Place  
[Bro. Lee wrote the first record of the Progress], stating that he  
initiated in Nov 1813 a - the oldest Lodge in Great Britain, "The  
Kilwinning Lodge" in Scotland.

The account continues:

"In Masonic Rank he was Junior Grand Master in  
1832, President of the Board of General Purposes from 1842 to  
1848 and again from 1854 to 1856 and Grand Registrar in  
1847. In Royal Art he was Grand Scribe N from 1838 to 1846  
and Superintendent for Surrey from 1847. --- He is also  
recorded as having presided "on the throne" as the  
"residual" of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire on  
17<sup>th</sup> August, 1847 and "as Grand Master in the Chair"  
at the Quarterly Communication of Surrey Lodge on  
7<sup>th</sup> June, 1865, ----"

A summons is illustrated by the Lodge of Friendship  
No. 6, at Hatched House Tavern, St James's Street [London]  
on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1858, with heading:

Bro. Colonel John S. Brownrigg, C.B. [Prov. M. 1872-89]  
N. Middlesex

when done was a candidate for membership.

A portrait of a noble in full Masonic  
regalia is reproduced and the chief compiler  
might have a black of it that you could  
borrow. He is Bro H.B. Bailey, P.M. No 1536  
P.P. M.S.C.

of "Genevieve", Woodfield Hill, Tulsea, CR3 3EL

He may also have a copy of the Centenary  
"History" of No 889, which I have not in the  
Library.

With best wishes for success in your  
efforts.

Yours sincerely  
Stanley Chapman

Rev.  
Alexander Dobie  
Hodge in Kelvington  
by H. Carr.  
see p. 306.

mentions  
James DOBIE  
as R.W.M. of  
Beith St. John's Lodge  
(1826.)

} ? relation.

[made an  
Hon. Member at  
Anniversary Meeting  
of M.K.Loo. in Dec. 1826.]

L. Beith Kelwinning  
consecrated (?) by  
H.K.L. 26/12/1454.

→ now named  
ST JOHN KELWINNING K.O. 154.

Secretary = Thos. HUNTER  
10, Jane field Place,  
Beith,  
Ayrshire  
Scotland.