

JUBILEE BAZAAR  
PROGRAMME - 1949

ABERDOUR PARISH HALL.

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- - SOUVENIR - -

1892 - 1949

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*JUBILEE BAZAAR*

15th September, 1949

Opened by  
Sir GEORGE OGILVIE FORBES  
of Boyndlie

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## OPENING OF ABERDOUR PARISH HALL

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### SPEECH BY LORD ABERDEEN

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ON Thursday, the village of New Aberdour was *en fete* in honour of the opening of the new Parish Hall by the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Lieutenant of the County, who also, at the same time, opened a bazaar held in aid of the building-fund of the hall.

#### THE PROCESSION TO THE VILLAGE.

Lord Aberdeen arrived by the early morning train from Haddo House at Strichen station, where he was met by the Rev. Mr Birnie, minister of the parish of Aberdour, and secretary of the Parish Hall Committee, who had driven from Aberdour to meet his lordship at the railway station. At Strichen, Lord Aberdeen and Mr Birnie were joined by Mr Sleigh, factor for Mr Baird of Auchmedden, and one of the hall trustees. The party drove in a carriage and pair to Aberdour, near which they were met by a large procession, which was in waiting at Mr Chapman's farm at Woodhead, about a mile from Aberdour. The procession was composed of the band of the 7th (Fraserburgh) Battery of the Banff Volunteer Artillery, under the leadership of Bandmaster Gibb; a detachment of forty men of the Lonmay (C) Company of the 3rd Gordon Highlanders Rifle Volunteers, under the command of Sergt.-Instructor Proven; an escort of over a dozen members, in uniform, of the Fraserburgh Cyclists'

Club, who were joined by several local cyclists; a host of school children, carrying flags and bannerettes; and about 20 conveyances, which were followed by a perfect cavalcade of mounted farmers. On reaching Woodhead (where there was a handsome arch of evergreens, adorned with flags, and bearing the device 'Welcome to Lord Aberdeen'), Lord Aberdeen was received with great enthusiasm, and several gentlemen in the company were introduced to his lordship by Mr Birnie. Amongst those present in carriages were—Mr Ogilvie Forbes of Boyndlie and Mrs Ogilvie Forbes, Miss Maitland, and Mr Holland, Boyndlie House; Mr Barclay, Aberdour House; Mr Lovie, Nether Boyndlie; Mr Murcar, Bankhead, and Mr Watson, Warland, two of the oldest tenants on the estate; Mr Watson, jun., Warland; Messrs Watson, sen. and jun., Lochlip; Mr Chapman, Woodhead; Messrs Cook, sen. and jun., Killyquharn; Mr Watt, Mains of Auchmedden; Mr West, Pennan; Messrs Watson, sen. and jun., South Killyquharn; Messrs Morrison, sen. and jun., Quarryhead; Mr Mitchell, Clinterty; Messrs Rettie, sen. and jun., Coburty; Mr Barron, Mossgerrie; Mr Bruce, saddler, Aberdour; Charles Philip, Woodside; Mr Chalmers, Woodhead; A. Chapman, Whitehill, Gamrie; John Elphinstone, Glasslaw; Mr Chalmers, merchant Aberdour; Mr J. Gerrard, Aberdour; Mr Junor, Auchintumb; Mr Cruickshank, jun., Aberdour; Mr Cruickshank, Ladiesford, and party. Riders—Messrs Taylor, Aberdour; Geo. Irvine, Sauchentree; Messrs Watson, Lochhills; Mr Morrison, Quarryhead; Mr Urquhart, Newbiggings; Mr Gordon, Bridge End; Mr John Chalmers, Woodhead; Mr J. White, Lauchlanstripe; and Mr George Chalmers, merchant, Aberdour. The procession, marshalled by Mr Crabbe, V.S., Mr Murcar, North Killyquharn, and Mr Wm. Gerrard, Aberdour, moved off Aberdour-wards shortly before twelve

o'clock. The cyclists led the van. They were followed by the band, after which came the volunteers, who were immediately in front of the carriage containing Lord Aberdeen, Mr Birnie, Mr Lovie, and Mr Barclay. The other carriages followed, and after them came the riders on horseback; whilst the school children brought up the rear. On entering the south end of the village, the processionists were greeted by a large crowd assembled beside Mogate Cottage, whence a splendid view of the procession winding along the road could be obtained. At the south end of the main street of the village, was an arch of evergreens, spanning the street, each side of which, all the way along, was lined with people. Bunting of every kind was displayed in profusion on the roofs of the houses. At the Commercial Hotel a stream of flags stretched across the street, whilst the north end of the village—in front of the church and beside the Parish Hall—looked quite gay with brilliantly coloured flags of all nations.

#### THE OPENING CEREMONY.

The procession reached the hall (in front of which was a regular bower of evergreens forming a portico surmounted with a large motto bidding Lord Aberdeen 'Welcome') at about a quarter past twelve. The volunteers filing off formed a guard of honour on each side of the entrance to the hall, in which the bazaar was held, and which Lord Aberdeen was about formally to declare open.

Lord Aberdeen on entering the hall, which was densely packed, was received with loud and prolonged applause. Accompanying his lordship to the platform were Mr Lovie, Nether Boyndlie, chairman of the committee; the Rev. Mr Birnie, Mr Ogilvie Forbes of Boyndlie, Mr Mitchell, Clinterty; Mr Chapman, Woodhead; Mr Sleigh, Strichen; Mr

Crabbe, V.S.; Mr Alex. Cameron, Aberdour; Mr Gerrard, Aberdour; Mr Watt, Auchmedden; Mr Rettie, Coburty; Mr Fowlie, Auchlin; and Mr Will, Schoolhouse.

Mr Lovie presided; and the proceedings were begun by the company singing the hundredth Psalm, the singing being led by a choir under the leadership of Mr William Gall. Mr M'Willie, Aberdeen, played the accompaniment on the organ.

The Rev. Mr Birnie then offered an impressive and appropriate prayer, after which the Chairman asked Lord Aberdeen to open the hall and the bazaar.

#### LORD ABERDEEN'S OPENING SPEECH.

Lord ABERDEEN, who was received with loud cheers, said—Mr Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I congratulate you upon the prospect and upon the almost accomplished fact of your new hall. I have been invited to make what has been described as the opening address. Well, that indicates a rather serious and responsible task. I hope you will not expect from me anything very formal—certainly nothing very eloquent—and I can promise that you will not have anything very lengthy. (Laughter.) But short though my remarks may be, they must be of a two-fold character, because this is, in a sense, a double ceremony, since we are opening this bazaar, and in so doing we must open this new hall. Now, as to the bazaar, I suppose some people think, and a good many indeed have said, that they are getting rather wearied of bazaars. (Laughter.) Well, I would advise all such to make up their minds to regard and to recognise bazaars as an institution—as a thing that has come to stay, at least till some better means have been devised of raising money. After all, I do not think that those who speak in this complaining

tone have very much of a grievance, because, though no doubt it is not pleasant to have to part with money, let us recollect that those who organise and carry out a bazaar have got trouble—not for one day only but for many days—in the preparations so necessary for the success of such an affair as that which has brought us together to-day. We feel that we owe very much indeed to the ladies on such occasions for their arduous, patient, and painstaking efforts—efforts which I trust will be successful—that have been carried on, in any way, to prepare for the happy consummation of these labours that takes place to-day. It is not an easy thing, in my opinion, to make an appropriate address at the opening of a bazaar. It does not do to take too formal or solemn a tone; that may seem unsuitable. On the other hand, if it is made an occasion for a jocular speech, that may seem rather flippant. Again, if brevity is resorted to, people may think that the speaker is not impressed with the importance of the occasion. If he is prolix, that is worse, for the audience commences to go away, and no business is done. (Laughter.) The story is told that when Canning the statesman was walking home from church with a bishop—a friend of his own—the bishop, who had preached the sermon, asked Canning what he thought of it. 'It had one great merit,' replied Canning, 'it was brief.' On the bishop expressing his satisfaction that Canning was pleased with the sermon and that the preacher had not been tedious, Canning rejoined, 'Oh, but you were tedious.' (Laughter.) With these various dangers, a speaker is apt to become nervous—especially when he remembers that it is not safe even to resort to brevity. On this occasion, however, I do not think a large amount of speaking is necessary to stimulate interest in this bazaar for the very good reason that the purpose and object commend themselves to

every individual here present. (Applause.) Perhaps some people thought I was somewhat inaccurate in speaking of the hall as being almost an accomplished fact, and they would tell me that it is quite an accomplished fact, except as regards a final coat of varnish and some other small matters. But I was not alluding to the structure of the fabric. I was alluding to the payment of the cost of the hall. I do not, however, mean that the tradesmen are not paid, for I believe that, within a few pounds, those doing the actual work have been paid up. I spoke of the debt that still exists, for I do not think that an undertaking of this kind is accomplished till the last penny has been paid—(applause)—and the paying off of the last penny of debt is the object of this bazaar on the present occasion. I may say in passing that I have been very much impressed and gratified by the interest evoked on this occasion, one form of which had taken the shape of a kind welcome and greeting to the person who has the honour of taking part in these proceedings as the opener of the bazaar. (Applause.) Evidently this day is regarded as a special day in Aberdour and district. Flags were flying from many houses, and quite a procession escorted us up the village, including a very interesting section of school children, the rising generation being well to the front in the form of a large party of scholars, which is a good sign—whilst the grown up members of the community were also present in force. All this augurs well I hope for the success of the bazaar and for the interest taken in the operations conducted in connection with this hall. I do indeed congratulate you, as I have said already, upon this desirable and important addition to the equipment of your village. The advantages of such a hall as this are manifest; and in a short time you will wonder that you managed at all without such a building as this. It is not

only that the hall gives an opportunity for various meetings—social and otherwise; but indirectly, I believe, it tends to the promotion and maintenance of what we may call local public spirit—or *esprit de corps*—a recognition of the fact that all belong to one community, and of the fact that what is of importance to the whole is and ought to be a subject of concern and interest to every member of the community. It may, in short, tend to bring members of a community into closer harmonious relationship. (Applause.) There are some special features about this hall that are to be borne in mind. It is on a comprehensive basis. The committee of management consists of several gentlemen occupying official positions. As regards the management, there are the minister of the parish, two representatives of the heritors or proprietors of estates in the parish, the member of the County Council for the district, and I am sure you have an excellent representative in the person of the chairman—(applause)—a representative of the District Council, and four gentlemen—possibly we may have ladies some day—(laughter)—representing the ratepayers as a body. Now you see at once from these facts that the hall is to be indeed a public hall for the good of the whole parish and district. Mr Birnie has, I understand, applied to the Committee for the use of the hall for religious or Sunday School purposes; and the Committee very naturally and properly gave their consent, considering the active part Mr Birnie has taken in forwarding this movement. (Applause.) I mentioned that the Committee as the governing authority is representative of the whole community of this locality. That ought to ensure the success of this bazaar and the uses to which the hall is to be applied in the future. When I speak of local public spirit, I must explain that I do not refer to any sort of spirit that would imply taking an exclusive interest in our own special locality,



or ignoring to any extent the affairs of the community in the larger sense of the country as a whole. Those who take an intelligent interest in the affairs of their own immediate locality are very often the most patriotic, and show most intelligent interest in the affairs of the nation at large. Studying local politics ought to be a very good education for taking a useful interest in the larger affairs of the country as a whole. Both are good and desirable; and the more we promote such a feeling of interest in the affairs, both of our own locality and of the country at large, the better. (Applause.) One other point in connection with the bazaar I should like to mention. A movement such as this gives an opportunity for harmonious co-operation; and no matter how much we may differ on other topics, that need not interfere with the success of such a gathering, of such an affair, as this. (Applause.) One advantage of bazaars is that they often give to people, severed in some respects, an opportunity of working hand in hand; and such a spirit has been manifested in no small degree in connection with this hall and this bazaar. (Applause.) I hope it will continue. It seems to me unfortunate, though perhaps it is inevitable, that we should lay such stress on our trifling differences; but, so long as we give credit for sincerity, honesty, and good intention, there is no reason why we should abuse each other. (Applause.) In fact, I think that this bazaar has come at a rather opportune time, arriving so very soon—not too soon—after the recent general election. (Applause.) Then the community was in a state of considerable animation; but now we are in a more brotherly spirit, and all are agreed about what has brought us together. In concluding, I need only express my confident good wishes, and I trust that the thoughts and aspirations uttered in our hearing already (in Mr Birnie's prayer)—the appeal to the only source of blessing

and benefit—will be largely realised and fulfilled. We are justified in expecting good results from an enterprise undertaken in such a judicious, cordial, and rational spirit. I beg to declare this bazaar open, and also this hall for the advantage of the inhabitants of Aberdour and the locality, and for the uses it is designed to fulfil. (Loud and prolonged applause, the band playing the National Anthem.)

#### VOTES OF THANKS.

The Rev. Mr BIRNIE moved a vote of thanks to Lord Aberdeen for his extreme kindness in coming to Aberdour and opening the hall and the bazaar. Mr Birnie, in proposing the vote of thanks, said that he was afraid that he might appear in Lord Aberdeen's estimation as one of those that ought to be got rid of, lest by his importunity Lord Aberdeen should be wearied. (Laughter.) But he was sure that Lord Aberdeen took a generous view of the application from Aberdour to grace the present auspicious occasion with his presence. Speaking of the claims that Aberdour had upon the Lord-Lieutenant of the county (Lord Aberdeen), Mr Birnie said that one of his lordship's ancestors was proprietor of Auchmedden, and pleasant memories still lingered in the district as to the way in which Lord Aberdeen's ancestor discharged his duty as proprietor. (Applause.) After explaining in an interesting way how the prophecy of Thomas the Rhymer that so long as there was a Baird in Strichen two eagles would continue to nestle and bring out their young on the rocks at Pennan, had been verified, and having indicated in what respect this prophecy was affected by the action of the Gordon family, Mr Birnie went on to say that Lord Aberdeen's visit to Aberdour was not only, as his lordship had already said, of a two-fold character, but it was of a three-fold nature. He (Mr Birnie) was Chairman

of the Pennan Harbour Committee, who hoped that Lord Aberdeen would be kind enough to pay a visit to Pennan, for it was the hope of the district that, as Lord Aberdeen had occupied a prominent position in the Empire, he would fill a still more conspicuous position at no distant date, as a member of the new Cabinet. (Loud applause.) That being so, it was hoped that his lordship would use his Cabinet influence to bring some assistance to the Pennan fishermen. (Applause and laughter.) One and all of those present had watched with interest the career of both Lord and Lady Aberdeen, who were constantly engaged in works of philanthropy and in deeds of kindness—(applause)—and he (Mr Birnie) could assure Lord Aberdeen of this, that he and Lady Aberdeen would be long remembered in the United Kingdom when all the present company had ceased to be. (Loud applause.)

Lord ABERDEEN acknowledged the vote of confidence. His lordship began by referring to another prophecy of Thomas the Rhymer:—

‘When the heron shall leave the tree,  
The lairds of Gight shall landless be.’

After telling how, when the herons left the trees at Gight, the lands there were parted with by the old lairds of Gight, and became the property of the Gordon family, Lord Aberdeen said, with reference to Mr Birnie’s remarks about Pennan harbour, Mr Birnie had indicated, in a distant way, more influence than he (Lord Aberdeen) had. The question depended upon the Treasury; no matter what Government was in office, the Treasury kept a tight hold of the purse—and quite right. (Laughter.) However, he should be glad to assist the fishermen of Pennan. (Applause.) In concluding,

Lord Aberdeen apologised for the absence of Lady Aberdeen, who, he said, had been in Aberdour before. This was his first visit; and he had been a little jealous before of Lady Aberdeen seeing so much of the country, but now he should be level with her. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr MITCHELL, Clinterty, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Ogilvie Forbes of Boyndlie, who had consented to open the hall and the bazaar should Lord Aberdeen have been unable to do so. (Applause.)

Mr OGILVIE FORBES, in reply, said he was delighted when he heard that the bazaar was to be opened by the Lord-Lieutenant of the County instead of by such a poor substitute as himself. An old proverb said that the end crowned the work. He felt special satisfaction in being present that day, because he had had the privilege of being present at the commencement of the work of the hall, last year they did him the honour of asking him to be one of the openers of the bazaar. He congratulated the parishioners of Aberdour on having such a commodious and beautiful hall, and he hoped that the proceedings that day were an omen of the success and the prosperity of Aberdour, the natural beauties, and the archaeological and the geological points of interest, and the historical associations, of which Mr Ogilvie Forbes enumerated at some length, amid frequent outbursts of hearty applause.

PRESENTATION BY MR LOVIE.

The CHAIRMAN then formally asked the Committee of the hall to accept the illuminated clock which had been erected at his expense at the south end of the hall. Mr. Lovie, in presenting the clock, said that he did so as a small acknowledgment of the many honours that the Aberdour

people had bestowed upon him since he came to reside among them. He had been made a member of the Parochial Board, of the School Board, of the Road Board, and of the County Council, and had been honoured in every way more than any other living man in his time. (Applause and laughter.)

PRESENTATION TO MR LOVIE.

The Rev. Mr BIRNIE, on behalf of the Public Hall Committee, accepted Mr Lovie's handsome gift. They were, he said, very much indebted to Mr Lovie for this parting gift, regarding which, he had it on very good authority, that there was not a better clock in the whole of Buchan. (Applause.) Mr Birnie then presented Mr Lovie, on behalf of the people of Aberdour, with a pony, phaeton, and a set of harness. Mr Lovie, he said, seemed to be satisfied with the reception he had got in Aberdour. He was, and would continue, to be their County Councillor; and he (Mr Birnie) could assure him that the feelings of respect were mutual. Mr Lovie had been a member of the School Board and of the Parochial Board, and had taken a lead in every public enterprise in the district. (Applause.) It was mainly through Mr Lovie's instrumentality that they had got telegraphic communication. The people of the parish were unwilling, therefore, that Mr Lovie should leave the district without some tangible token of the esteem and respect in which he was held. Mr Lovie, now, like everybody else, was getting old; and, with old age creeping on and infirmities increasing, they thought that, instead of his high gig, he would be better of a low phaeton, into which he could easily get with some of his friends. (Applause and laughter.) In name of the parishioners of Aberdour and the surrounding district, he had much pleasure in asking Mr Lovie to accept this token of their respect and good-will. (Loud applause.)

The CHAIRMAN, on rising to respond, was greeted with loud and prolonged applause. He assured his friends that he accepted their handsome gift with very great gratitude; it would be out of place on the present occasion for him to say much more than to express his sincere and heart-felt thanks to all that had contributed to the testimonial. As he was now getting old and stiff—he was sorry to say so—a more acceptable gift than a pony phaeton could not have been found. (Applause.)

Lord ABERDEEN then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Lovie for presiding, saying that, as the Chairman's life was evidently a valuable one, he hoped he would always use the safest conveyance. (Applause and laughter.)

This concluded the ceremony connected with the opening of the hall, and the business of the day at the bazaar stalls then began.

THE STALLS.

The work-stalls were ranged down the middle of the hall. On the east side was a toy-stall, and on the opposite side were the flower and confectionery stalls; whilst the refreshment stall was placed in the west ante-room.

The ladies in charge of the work-stalls were—Mrs Birnie, The Manse, Aberdour; Mrs Junor, Auchintumb; Mrs Will, The Schoolhouse; Mrs Sleigh, Strichen Mains; Mrs Robertson, Ardlaw; Mrs Rettie, Coburty; Mrs. Greig, Aberdour; Mrs Will, Glenquithel; Mrs Irvine, Saughtree; Mrs Gordon, Bridgend; Mrs Stevenson, The Bank, Aberdour; Mrs Watt, Mains of Auchmedden. The lady assistants were Miss L. Cruickshank, Ladysford; Miss Wilson, Mill Farm; Miss Milne, The Manse, Tyrie; Misses Gordon, Bridgend; Miss Stephen, Newton; the Misses Copland, Tyrie. Instead of

being separated, the work-stalls were all joined in one. The decorations were very elaborate and very effective. At intervals along the stalls were upright pillars draped with blue and gold art-muslin. Horizontal bars hung with tapestry, stretched from one pillar to another. On the top of these were gracefully curved arches wreathed with art fabrics; and hung with fairy lamps and Chinese lanterns. At each point where the arches met a large decorated shield was hung. On the stalls themselves there was such a large selection of work of all kinds that to attempt to enumerate the different specimens would be impossible, save in an auctioneer's catalogue. One of the most noticeable articles was an elegant draught-screen—the work of Miss Wilson, Mill Farm. Some pretty oil and water colour paintings of local scenery were sent by Mrs Gowans, Aberdeen, and by Mr J. M. D. Smith, Fraserburgh. Among the larger articles also worthy of mention were some elegant work-tables and fire-screens; whilst the general assortment included such bazaar goods as plaques, silkwork cosies and cushions, antimacassars, specimens of crewel and macramé work, fretwork brackets, and sofa blankets. A feature of the bazaar was the display of knitted goods, which for variety, fineness, design, and finish could not easily be excelled, and for which the parish of Aberdour has always been famed.

At the toy-stall, which was in charge of Miss Gibb, Rosehearty, and Miss Jane Chapman and Miss Annie Chapman, Ironhall, there was an array of goods fitted to delight the eyes and hearts of all the children of the parish, who were, doubtless, equally charmed by the attractions of the confectionery-stall, which was in charge of Miss Mary Milné, Tyrie Manse, who was assisted by Miss Katie Wallace, Mill Farm, Aberdour. Adjoining the sweet-stall was the flower-stall, which was superintended by Mrs Cameron, Aberdour, and

Mrs Murdoch, New Pitsligo. The refreshment-stall, at which luncheons, teas, &c., were provided in excellent style and at a moderate cost, was presided over by Mrs Mitchell, Clinterty; and Mrs Fraser, The Hotel, Aberdour; who were assisted by the Misses Mitchell, Miss Campbell, teacher, Aberdour; and Miss Ogston, teacher, Aberdour.

We must not omit to mention the art gallery, the keeper of which was the Rev. Mr Giles, Millbréx. The exhibition, which was brought specially for the occasion from Glasgow, was unusually complete and interesting, many fine and rare examples of both ancient and modern art being shown. Outside the hall was a shooting gallery, under the charge of Mr M'Willie, which was well patronised during the day.

#### DEPARTURE OF LORD ABERDEEN.

After making a tour of the stalls, at which he made several purchases, and after inspecting the hall, Lord Aberdeen lunched in one of the ante-rooms with Mr Ogilvie Forbes of Boyndlie, the Rev. Mr Birnie, Mr Lovie, and Mr Sleigh. Mr Barclay, Aberdour House, had been invited to join the party, but owing to another engagement he was unable to attend.

Before leaving, Lord Aberdeen expressed to Mr Birnie his great gratification with his visit, and, after examining the hall, his lordship also indicated his warm admiration of the style and of all arrangements of the building.

On taking his departure, Lord Aberdeen was saluted by the volunteers, who were drawn up in front of the hall, and whom his lordship thanked for their attendance, congratulating them upon their military appearance and their public spirit.

Mr BIRNIE then called for three cheers, which were heartily given, for Lord Aberdeen, who, accompanied by Mr Sleigh, then drove off to Pennan, the volunteer band playing 'All Lang Syne.'

#### THE NEW HALL.

The new hall, which will be called the Aberdour Parish Hall, is situated in School Street, on the feu adjoining the Parish Church. The hall is built of ordinary whinstone and has grey granite facings. The building accommodates more than 700 people. The total cost is £600—the smallness of the amount being partly accounted for by the fact that the cartages in connection with the building were given free by the farmers in the district. To raise the £600, a bazaar was held last year, at which a considerable sum was obtained, which, together with subscriptions from various sources, amounted to about £400. A debt of £200 accordingly still remained; and it was with the object of clearing off that sum on the debit side, that the supplementary bazaar was held last week. The hall lies north and south, the entrance being in School Street. On the top of the south gable is erected the beautiful clock presented to the parishioners by Mr Lovie. The clock has a white enamel dial, with the figures in black, and a gold border. As the dial plate is semi-transparent, it will be illuminated at night. Round the dial is the following inscription:—'Presented to the parishioners of Aberdour by Alex. Lovie.' The clock adds much to the exterior appearance of the hall, and is a decided acquisition to the village. From the vestibule of the hall, on the right-hand side, a staircase leads to the gallery, which is capable of holding 100 persons. On the left of the lobby, and facing the gallery stair, is a door leading into the hall kitchen, which is fitted with a commodious cooking range, and with a hot water supply. In the main hall, which is exceedingly spacious and handsome,

is a movable platform at the north end. On each side of the platform is a large ante-room, which gives the whole building a sort of T-shape. The two ante-rooms or wings—one on the east and the other on the west side—are 18 feet square, and are separated from the main building by sliding doors. When necessary, these partitions can be removed, so increasing the total area of the hall by 648 feet. On the other hand, the doors may be slung round on casters, forming an enclosed space consisting of the two ante-rooms and the intervening part of the hall at the north end. The two ante-rooms, which, by the way, are fitted with fire-places and lavatory accommodation, together with the upper end of the larger hall, form a small hall, which, when occasion requires, may be used for social meetings and such-like in the winter months. The architect of the hall is Mr William Ruxton, architect, Aberdeen; and the various contractors are as follows:—mason, Mr William Robb, Aberdour; carpenter, Mr John Philip, Aberdour; slater, Mr Morrison, Fraserburgh; plaster, Mr George Noble, Fraserburgh; plumber, Mr W. Rennie, Fraserburgh; painter, Mr Stuart, Fraserburgh; iron-work and lighting, Mr William Grant, ironmonger.

On the opening day, the hall was beautifully decorated with flags and art drapery fabrics—the windows and the front gallery especially looking very fine. The walls of the hall are coloured terra-cotta, and have a panelling about five feet high running round each side. The cornice work, coloured pale citron and yellow, also is very effective. The decorations on the opening day were in charge of Mr Stuart, painter, whose handiwork was universally admired. Mr Grant, ironmonger, also personally superintended the lighting arrangements, which gave every satisfaction.

No reference to the new hall would be complete without

a word of praise to the popular and zealous minister of the parish, the Rev. Mr Birnie, who is also secretary of the Hall Committee. In season and out of season, Mr Birnie has laboured to secure the success of the enterprise, which was undertaken mainly on his initiative, and which could not have been carried so soon to a successful issue without his advice and guidance. That the Aberdour people are thoroughly sensible of what Mr Birnie has done for them was amply proved by the hearty applause with which the mention of his name by Lord Aberdeen and other speakers on the opening day was greeted.

The pony-phaeton, presented to Mr Lovie, the Chairman of the Hall Committee, was on view during the day. It is an extremely handsome vehicle, with fine lines. It is dark-green in colour, with lighter green lines. In the rear of the conveyance is a silver plate bearing the following inscription:—'Presented to Alexander Lovie, Esq., in recognition of his public services, by the parishioners of Aberdour and friends. August 1892.' The phaeton, it ought to be said, is from the works of Mr Marr, coachbuilder, Turriff.

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*LAST BUT NOT LEAST—*

# William Kennedy

*Butcher*

59 High Street :: New Aberdour

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**THE MAN TO KNOW!!**

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