

the Keystone Chapter, and the Rose et Croix. To meet and sympathize with those of the survivors who were Freemasons, was the object of the Neptune Kilwinning's communication. These were—

“John Murdoch Johnson, chief officer, a M. M. of the Lodge Union and Crown, Glasgow, No. 103. He behaved with great gallantry on the wreck, making fast the line to each person hauled on board the life-boat, and otherwise exerting himself in saving life.

“Edwin Humphreys, purser, a native of America, and a member of the Star King Lodge, the Washington Chapter, and the Winslow Lewis Encampment, Salem, Massachusetts, honorary member of St. Andrew's Chapter, Glasgow. It was mainly to his exertions that the captain's sister-in-law was saved.

“—Gardiner, chief engineer. He was severely injured on the wreck, and was not sufficiently recovered to permit his attendance in the Lodge.

“Wm. Ortwin, 2nd engineer, member of Lodge Ancient Landmark and Keystone Chapter, Shanghai. He saved the captain's child, a boy about five year's old.

“Wm. Glass Wrench, 3rd engineer, of the Lodge Lindores, No. 104, and Glasgow St. Andrew's Chapter.

“George Marr, 4th engineer, of the Lodge Caledonian Railway, Glasgow, No. 354.

“Having, in the unavoidable absence of the Rt. Wor. Bro. F. Goodwin, opened the Lodge in the presence of about fifty brethren, Past Master Bro. James Robertson, spoke as follows :

“Worshipful Wardens and Brethren : The calamitous circumstances which have led to the present communication of Neptune Kilwinning being still fresh in the recollection of most of us, it is not necessary that I should, in any lengthened oration, expatiate upon them in order to evoke your sympathy in the object of our meeting. The name of this Lodge is suggestive of its mission—the spread of Freemasonry among a class of men whose constant exposure to the dangers of the mighty deep renders it all the more necessary that they should belong to a society whose fraternal sympathy and regard are sure to meet the mariner, either by land or sea, in every quarter of the globe. Composed as our Lodge is, to a large extent, of seamen, sailing under almost every flag and speaking every language, it especially becomes us, on occasions like the present, to give practical effect to our fraternal obligations. Your presence here to-night shows that you are true to your Masonic principles.’ Turning to the officers present, Bro. Robertson continued : ‘Bro. Johnson and surviving Brethren of the *Chusan*, allow me, in name and in behalf of the Lodge Neptune Kilwinning, to offer you our heartfelt congratulations upon your merciful preservation from the sad fate which has overtaken so many of your shipmates on the wreck of the *Chusan*, and to beg your acceptance of this purse of fifty-four sovereigns (afterwards considerably increased), to assist in refitting you for the further prosecution of your hazardous calling. The disastrous circumstances under which you have been brought to Ardrossan will never be effaced from your memory, and associated with these will be your present visit to Neptune Kilwinning. We shall long remember you, and it is our earnest wish that the Great Architect of the Universe may, at all times and under all circumstances, be your shield and deliverer, and may success attend each one of you in your future career.’

“Bro. Johnson, on receiving the purse, acknowledged on behalf of himself and his shipmates the debt of gratitude under which they had been laid to the Lodge Neptune Kilwinning by the overwhelming kindness of which they were the recipients. They could never cease to remember, with the most fraternal feelings, the Brethren of No. 442. Bros. Marr, Humphreys, Ortwin and Wrench, each in the fullness of heart which the proceedings had produced, indorsed with a few but expressive words what had fallen from the chief officer, and made honorable mention of the sympathy which had been extended by the people of Ardrossan to the crew of the ill-fated ship. The name of Bro. Charles Adair was closely associated with the kindness they had experienced.

“The interest in this communication was intensified by the Lodge's recognition of the gallantry of Bro. David Casey, chief officer of the barque *Ada Barton*, of St. John, N. B., in connection with the wreck of the *Chusan*. This Brother was the first to volunteer to go out with the tug-boat, and at a considerable personal risk bore the principal part in hauling the captain's wife and others of the survivors on board the tug,—his exertions being redoubled from his having recognized certain Masonic signs thrown by Captain Johnson while supporting his wife on the wreck. To mark their admiration, therefore, of Bro. Casey's manly conduct, the Brethren of Neptune Kilwinning, his Mother Lodge, presented him with a handsome gold ring, bearing an appropriate inscription. Bro. Casey is a Nova Scotian, hailing from Bay Verte.”—*Keystone*.