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Christmas card from Lord Provost and Lady Provost of Aberdeen

John M. Graham (Reverend Professor and Mrs.)

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THE LORD PROVOST OF ABERDEEN

AND THE LADY PROVOST

(THE REVEREND PROFESSOR AND MRS. JOHN M. GRAHAM)

SEND GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES

FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

TOWN HOUSE
ABERDEEN

DECEMBER, 1953

PROVOST SKENE'S HOUSE.

"This old house, formerly the town residence of Sir George Skene, Provost of Aberdeen 1676 to 1685, restored by the Corporation of the City of Aberdeen, was opened on the Thirtieth day of September, One thousand, nine hundred and fifty-three, by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother."

A stone thus inscribed, in the south wall of the house, was unveiled by Her Majesty, who said:

"It is indeed a pleasure for me to be here to-day and to see in the restoration of this fine house the fulfilment of a dream which I have long cherished.

It is some years now since I first saw Cumberland House, as it was then called, and I can well understand the hesitation which many may have felt when they saw it in those days. Neglected and sad, it may well have seemed fit for nothing but demolition to make way for new buildings. As we look about us to-day we may well rejoice that more imaginative counsels prevailed New and better buildings are the most proper care of all those charged with the progress and reputation of this great city . . . ; but it would be a misfortune indeed if a zeal for the future were to blind us to the value of our inheritance from the past. There is room for what is best in both old and new. We need new and better houses all the time, but it is good also to try and preserve something of what history has left us. I hope that the Museum which is now contained in this ancient house may bring pleasure to many visitors, and that by its new possession Aberdeen may set an example, not, I am sure for the first time, to others who may by chance have similar opportunities."



