

festival of the Masons, taken from the Druids, is celebrated on midsummer day.

Customs will often outlive the remembrance of their origin, and this is the case with respect to a custom still practised in Ireland, where the Druids flourished at the time they flourished in Britain. On the eve of St. John's day, that is, on the eve of midsummer day, the Irish light fires on the tops of the hills. This can have no reference to St. John; but it has emblematical reference to the sun which on that day is at his highest summer elevation, and might in common language be said to have arrived at the top of the hill.

As to what masons and books of masonry tell us of Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem, it is no ways improbable that some masonic ceremonies may have been derived from the building of that Temple, for the worship of the sun was in practice many centuries before the temple existed, or before the Israelites came out of Egypt. And