

Telephone:
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9 THE GROVE
HIGHGATE VILLAGE
LONDON, N. 6

July 14th 1931

Dear W. de la Roche.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who live in Highgate for nineteen years, is buried in the graveyard of St. Michael's Church in that village. The foundation arches of a modern church have been built over the grave, which is now in a practically unknown and unvisited corner of a disused churchyard.

Feeling that it was a pity that the grave of one of our great poets should fall into entire neglect I approached the headmaster of Highgate School and the vicar and churchwardens of St. Michael's who are the responsible authorities, and have obtained permission from them to place a stone on the wall which runs along the main road five yards from the grave. I have an estimate from Mr Frank Betchells for an inscription indicating the position of the grave as a reminder to passers-by. The cost of engraving the stone and fixing it will not exceed £25, and I am asking twenty-five people in Highgate and Hampstead whether they will give £1 each to make up this sum. Will you be one of them?

I should not propose to have any names other than Coleridge's on the stone, but to place a note of the subscribers in the keeping of the vicar.

Yours

John de la Roche