

<資料紹介>

コーンズ商会 (Cornes & Co.) 関係文書について (その三) ——Macclesfield 探訪——

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既発表分は次の通り。

(その一) 『商経論叢』第30巻1号 1994年1月

(その二) 『商経論叢』第31巻3号 1996年3月

(1)

コーンズ商会は、ウィリアム・グレグスン・アスピノール (William Gregson Aspinall, 1822~1879) と、フレデリック・コーンズ (Frederick Cornes, 1837~1927) の両名によって、アスピノール・コーンズ商会 (Aspinall, Cornes & Co.) として、1861年、横浜で創立され、のちアスピノールの引退に伴って、1872年4月1日社名を変更し、コーンズ商会 (Cornes & Co.) となったものである。

アスピノールはイギリスのリヴァプールの出身、そしてフレデリック・コーンズはマクルスフィールドの出身である。フレデリック・コーンズは、マンチェスターの Hollyday Wise & Co. から上海に渡り、上海から来日して1861年にアスピノール・コーンズ商会を創立するのである。

ここでは、コーンズ商会の出身地ともいべきマクルスフィールドについて若干の資料を提示するが、その前に、これまで分かった限りでのコーンズ商会に関係する事項を年表風にまとめておきたい。

- 1837年9月21日 Frederick Cornes イギリスの Macclesfield に絹工場主の子として生まれる。父は John Cornes (1805-1855)。兄 William Wilshaw Cornes (1827-1885) が父のあと、事業を引き継ぐ。
- 1850年8月3日 North-China Herald が創刊。List of Foreign Residents in Shanghai のリストの中に、William Gregson Aspinall, Mercantile Assistant, Mackenzie Brothers & Co. の記載。
- 1857年 Frederick Cornes マンチェスターの Hollyday, Wise & Co. に勤め、そこから上海に派遣され、上海の義記 (Nie-Ke) にあった同社で働いた。なお、この Hollyday Wise との関係は、後に至るまで長く続いた。
- 1859年 神奈川開港
- 1860年4月14日 North-China Herald に Aspinall が広告。1860年5月1日から神奈川で Tea Inspector and General Commission Agent を開業する旨。
- 1861年 この年の China Directory によると、Frederick Cornes は、Holliday Wise & Co. (manager: James Witlow) の clerk ないし assistant と記載。
- 1861年4月1日 横浜で、William Gregson Aspinall と Frederick Cornes の両名、Aspinall, Cornes & Co. を設立。資本金は100ポンド。(North China Herald, 18 May, 1861) 絹並びに緑茶の輸出業。のちには、綿製品も輸出。また、輸入の面では、ランカシャーの綿製品、金属、消費財、石炭、ケロシン (kerosine) などに及んだ。
また、この年の5月1日には長崎で Thomas Glover がグラバー商会を創立している。
- 1861年 リボルバー拳銃の携行に関する論議の際、在神奈川英国

- 代理領事との往復書簡の中に Aspinall の名がある。
(North - China Herald, Jan. 19, 1861)
- 1862年 8 月 ROMEO 号 (403 tons) を絹のみ (For Silk Freight only) を運搬するための London Direct 便として運行。
(The Japan Herald, Aug. 30, 1862)
- 1862年 9 月14日 いわゆる「生麦事件」。9 月 15 日, Aspinall の自宅で Charles Lenox Richardson の検死が行われた。(North - China Herald, Oct. 11, 1862)
- 1863年 9 月 British Steamer SARAH を長崎経由, 上海に向けて運行 (The Japan Herald, Sept. 19, 1863)
- 1863年 9 月 4 日 P&O (The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company) の代理店。9 月 19 日の The Japan Herald に広告。
- 1863年 9 月12日 P&OのSteamer ADEN (812tons) を代理店として運行
- 1864年 Universal Marine Insurance Company, London and Oriental Steam Transit Insurance Company, Commercial Union and Queen Insurance Company の代理店となる。
- 1865年 Frederick Cornes 帰英。ロンドンに事務所を構える。
- 1866年 P&O の代理店でなくなる。P&O は自らの支店を日本に設ける。これ以降, 他の船会社も同様となる。
- 1866年11月26日 横浜大火。
- 1867 - 68年 Aspinall, Cornes & Co. の Raw Silk の輸出量は 1,892 Bales で当時の外国商社の中で第一位, 7% を占めた。
- 1867年年末 Frederick Cornes クリスマスに Stoke, Macclesfield, Liverpool 及び Wales へ旅行。
- 1868年 1 月10日 神戸 (兵庫) 開港の報により, 上地の購入について Aspinall に問い合わせる手紙。

- 1868年2月26日 日本での revolution の報について Aspinall に手紙。
- 1868年 ロイズ (Lloyds) の日本における最初の代理店 (agency) になる。また、神戸支店は1905年以降である。(後の時期ではあるが、Japanese Daily Herald, Aug. 16, 1877) Frederick Cornes の手紙の中では1868年10月17日付けで「Lloyds Agency for Yokohama」が得られた旨 Aspinall に知らせている。また、「P&O Agency at Osaka」も同時に知らせている。
- 1868年7月24日 神戸支店のための土地を入手。「居留地1番」521坪。1,693両1歩。地券状は明治2年2月1日付け。(『神戸開港30年史』上巻, 明治31年刊, 333頁以下。)
- 1868年12月4日 神戸支店を開設 (The Hiogo & Osaka Herald, Jan. 30, 1869)。神戸支店の責任者は Paul Heinemann であった。
- 1869年 8月29日に、Duke of Edinburgh が Galatea 号で来浜。250人を越す在日英国人を代表して Aspinall が接見の榮譽に浴し、挨拶。(英国外務省文書の Sir Harry Parks の書簡。及び The Japan Overland Mail, Sept. 18, 1869)
- 9月14日に80名が参加しての Sir Henry Keppel の Farewell Banquet に Aspinall 出席。(The Japan Times' Overland Mail, Sep. 18, 1869)
- 1869年2月11日 Frederick Cornes が、Macclesfield を訪ねた旨、Aspinall に手紙。
- 1869年3月9日 神戸の土地代金が \$1,200 で済んだことに満足の旨、Aspinall に手紙。
- 1869年11月25日 Frederick Cornes が来春、Alice Bull と結婚する旨、Aspinall に手紙で知らせる。
- 1870年4月7日 Frederick Cornes が Henrietta Alice (Hyde Park Street

の John Pannett Bull の六女, 1847-1928) と結婚。Teddington に住んだらしい (1870年3月7日付け手紙)。6週間の大陸旅行。のち4男2女をもうける。上から順に

Herbert Frederick (1871-1945)

Archbald John (1873-1968)

Julian (1874-1953)

Ewart (1878-1895)

Hugh (1879-1958)

Alice Beatrice (1884-1970)

上の3人はロンドンないし日本でコーンズ商会のために働いた。Herbert Frederick は, 1889年にロンドン支配人, 1891-1899年には神戸に在住した。Archbald John は, 1873年2月11日, ロンドン郊外の Teddington に生まれ, のち Oxford に学び, 1899年には solicitor となり, ロンドン勤務ののち, 1910年来日, 第二次世界大戦の勃発まで神戸のコーンズ商会に勤務。1948年に引退。

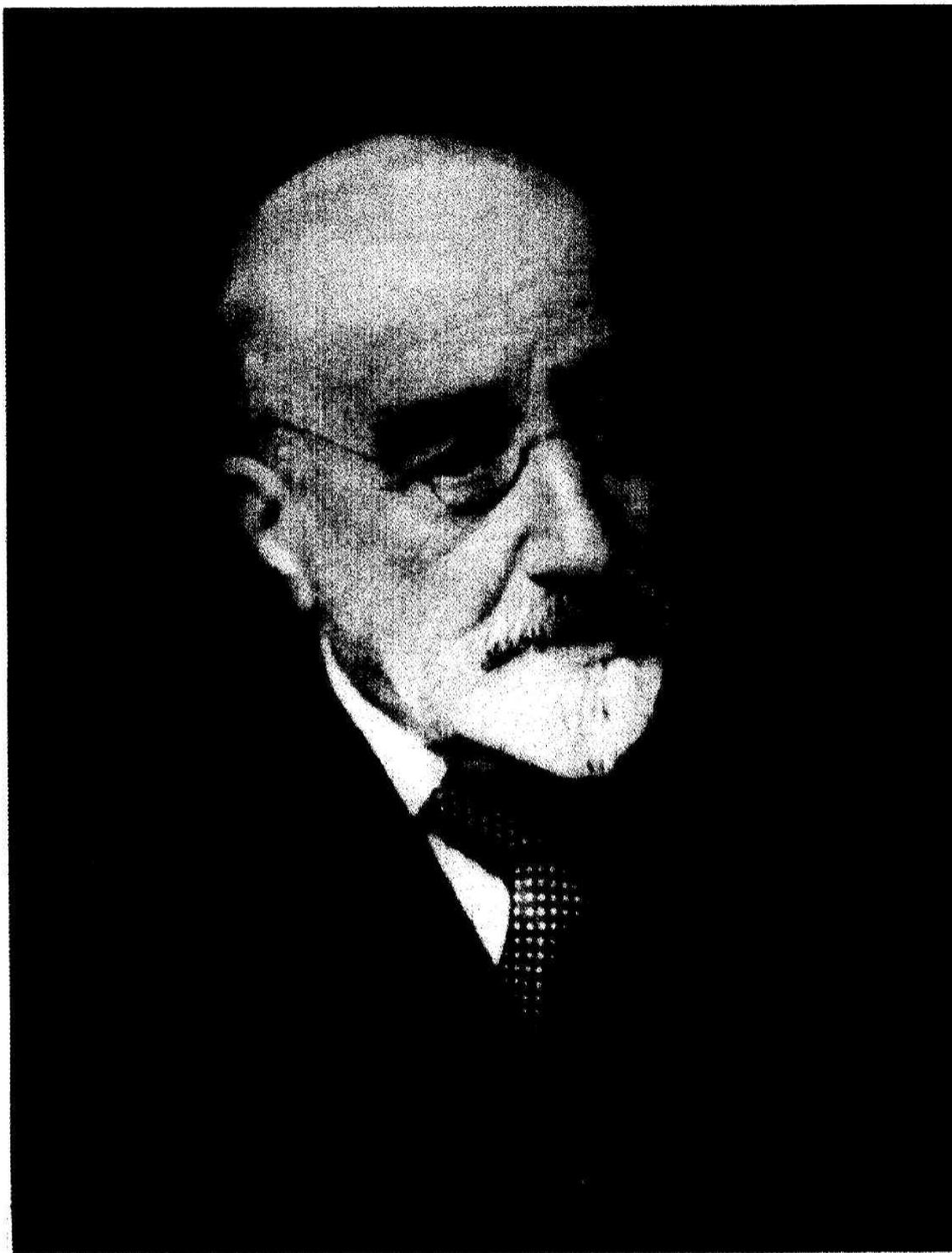
- 1871年1月30日 Frederick Cornes に男児誕生。(1871年2月9日付け手紙)
- 1871年8月8日 Frederick Cornes 10月7日に, 日本に向けて出発する旨の手紙。
- 1871年12月2日 Frederick Cornes ロンドンから横浜に到着した旨の手紙。この頃, Aspinall の健康状態よくない。また, Frederick は, 在日中に神戸, 大阪を訪ねている。
- 1872年3月27日 25日間の船旅でサンフランシスコに到着の旨の手紙。アメリカの茶の市場を調査。
- 1872年3月 Frederick Cornes 英国に帰る。(5月3日の手紙はロンドン発信になっている。3月末~5月初めの手紙はない。)
- 1872年5月9日 Aspinall はロンドンで静養している旨の手紙。

- その後、Aspinall は輸入した茶の販売に携わっていた。
- 1872年11月22日 Aspinall が痛風で自宅にいる旨の手紙。
- 1873年1月31日 Aspinall がパートナーシップの更新をしない旨を Winstanley に知らせる手紙。
- 1873年2月14日 Lloyds が代理店を、Cornes & Co. に移すことになった旨の手紙。
- 1873年3月31日 Aspinall の引退に伴って、Aspinall, Cornes & Co. を清算。
- 1873年4月1日 Cornes & Co. 設立。同社は、Frederick Cornes, William Henry Taylor, Arthur Winstanley の3名によるもの。(これに関する書類は、現在のコーンズ・アンド・カンパニー・リミテッド(東京)に保存されている。) ロンドンでは、1890年10月1日に設立。Frederick Cornes は、ロンドンの Great Winchester Street の事務所指揮を取る。Aspinall はいったん英国に帰った後、再び来日した。
- 1874年3月7日 Frederick Cornes アメリカに到着。4月初めまでニューヨークに滞在。
- 1875年3月 Frederick Cornes ニューヨークに滞在。4月5日にロンドンに向けて出発。
- 1875年5月14日 Frederick Cornes の手紙。「兄がいうには Macclesfield では、日本の絹は全然使われていない。今作っている製品にはふさわしくないのだ。」
- 1876年3月 Frederick Cornes 4月初めまでニューヨークに滞在。モントリオールを訪問。
- 1876年9月26日 Aspinall から日本に行くとの知らせがあった旨の手紙。
- 1877年1月12日 Teddington の自宅がテムズ河の洪水に会う。
- 1877年9月 このころ、横浜で輸入品がよく売れていることを喜ぶ手

- 紙。
- 1877年12月7日 Cornes & Co. をロンドンで翌年の1月1日からたち上げる旨の手紙。
- 1878年10月4日 City of Glasgow Bank の倒産。影響は軽微の旨。
- 1878年11月1日 Ewart 誕生。
- 1879年10月3日 W. G. Aspinall 横浜で没。57歳。横浜山手外人墓地第9区に墓碑。(The Japan Gazette, Oct. 3, 1879 および The Japan Weekly Mail, Oct. 4, 1879.)
- 1879年10月10日 Aspinall の死亡についての telegram を受け取った旨の手紙。Aspinall の財産問題はのちのちまで Frederick Cornes を悩ませることになる。
- 1881年 資本金 200 ポンド。
- 1882年4月 このころ、朝鮮への進出を考えていた。
- 1883年3月29日 Satow が来訪して、関税の引上げは今年はない旨。
- 1883年4月13日 Taylor が石油の問題で Sir Harry Parks に面会した。
- 1883年8月24日 Satow に1月1日から新たな高い関税が採用されるかと手紙で尋ねたのに対し、すぐということは考えられないこと、交渉が行き詰まっていることを答えてきた旨。
- 1885年4月17日 Frederick の兄, William Wilshaw Cornes, Macclesfield で没。58歳。この会社も Cornes & Co. を名乗っていたが、没する二三年前から John Johnson をパートナーに加え、Cornes & Johnson と社名を変更していた。没後は、John Johnson & Co. になった。
- 1888年 Ben Line of Steamers の代理店となる。
- 1927年8月27日 Frederick Cornes 没。90歳。Hampton Wick の旧居にほど近い、Teddington Cemetary に葬られる。その後は、彼の次男である Archibald John Cornes が第二次世界大戦まで会社を経営。

- 1929年 Extracts from Letters of Frederick Cornes, 1871-76.
(for private circulation)
- 1964年 A. J. Cornes が日本再訪。(Mainichi Daily News, 1964年1月29日に記事。91-Year-Old Briton Ends Sentimental Visit To Japan. 彼は, 1900年に初めて来日, 離日後は, Chelmsford, Essex に住んだ。) 1968年96歳で没した。
- 1946年 会社を Wheelcok, Marden and Company Limited に売却。
- 1985年 Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf Company (chairman は, Sir Y. K. Pao.) の傘下に入る。1991年, Y. K. Pao 没。なお, 現在のコーンズ・アンド・カンパニーの所在地は, 〒101 東京都東神田2丁目5の12 TEL 03-5821-1661 である。

[注記] 以上は、『商経論叢』30巻1号所載の年表の誤りを訂正したものである。Frederick Cornes が横浜にいた時期, アメリカに滞在した時期などは今回コーンズの書簡によって確認した。



フレデリック・コーンズ (Frederick Cornes, 1837-1927)
(現在のコーンズ・アンド・カンパニー・リミテッド所蔵のもの)



Foreign Members of the staff of Messrs. Aspinall, Cornes, Co., Yokohama, about 1870

M. Paske - Smith, *Western Barbarians in Japan and Formosa in Tokugawa Days, 1603 - 1868* (first published in Kobe, 1930) (Paragon Book Reprint Corp. New York, 1968, Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number 68 - 30741) p. 224

Frederick Cornes の遺言状 (31 st Oct. 1927)

OFFICE COPY

I FREDERICK CORNES of Rivermead Hampton Wick in the County of Middlesex and formerly of No 8 Great Winchester Street in the City of London Retired Merchant hereby revoke all wills and testamentary instruments heretofore made by me and declare this to be my last will

1. I appoint my sons Herbert Frederick Cornes and Archibald John Cornes and my son in law Harold Moltke Trouncer (hereinafter called "my trustees") to be the EXECUTORS AND TRUSTEES of this my will
2. I give to my dear wife all my watches jewels trinkets and personal ornaments and all my furniture plate plated goods linen glass china books manuscripts pictures prints statuary bronzes musical instruments articles of vertu and all other articles of personal domestic or household use or ornament wines liquors and consumable stores and provisions (except such of the above property as is included in my Marriage Settlement)
3. I confirm the gift made to my said son Archibald John Cornes in my lifetime of the goodwill of the trade and business of Merchants Commission Agents and Public Inspectors carried on by me and my partners under the style or firm of Cornes & Co in London Japan and elsewhere and the proprietary rights in all trade marks chops and tickets used in connection with the said business
4. I bequeath free of duty the several annuities following namely To Mrs Louisa Cornes the widow of my late brother during her life and after her death to her daughters Laura and Julia Andrew in equal shares during their joint lives and to the survivor during her life an annuity of fifty pounds To and equally between my nieces Clara Helen Stevens Lillian Margaret Stevens and Katie Beatrice Stevens or such of them as shall be living at my death and from time to time thereafter during their or her life an annuity of one hundred and fifty pounds To Mrs Louisa Day the widow of my late Gardener during her life an annuity of twenty six pounds
5. I direct my Trustees to set apart and invest in some one or more of the investments hereinafter authorised sums the income from which will be sufficient for answering the annuities hereinbefore bequeathed and I declare that if the annual income of the appropriated funds shall at the time of appropriation be sufficient to satisfy such annuities such appropriation shall be a complete satisfaction of the trust to provide for such annuities and that if the income of any appropriated fund shall at any time and from any cause whatever prove insufficient for payment of any such annuity in full resort may be had to the capital thereof from time to time to make good such deficiency And I declare that as and when any such annuity shall cease the appropriated fund shall sink into and form part of my residuary estate
6. I give devise and bequeath all my real and personal property not hereby otherwise disposed of to my trustees Upon trust to sell call in and convert into money the same or such part thereof as shall not consist of money and so that my trustees shall have the fullest power and discretion to postpone the sale calling in and conversion of the

whole or any part of the premises during such period as they shall think proper and to retain the same or any part thereof in its present form of investment without being responsible for loss and with and out of the moneys produced by such sale calling in and conversion and with and out of my ready money to pay my funeral and testamentary expenses and debts and the legacies bequeathed by this my will or any codicil hereto and make provision for the payment of any annuities so bequeathed and the duty on any legacies or annuities bequeathed free of duty and with the consent in writing of my said wife during her life and after her decease at the discretion of my trustees to invest the residue of the said moneys with power for my trustees from time to time with such consent or at such discretion as aforesaid to vary such investments and to stand possessed of the said residuary trust moneys and the investments for the time being representing the same (hereinafter called "the residuary trust funds") Upon the trusts hereinafter declared

7. My Trustees shall out of the residuary trust funds set apart an investment or investments which shall at the time of such setting apart be of the value of twenty thousand pounds sterling and shall pay the income thereof to my dear wife (who is otherwise well provided for) for her life and after her decease such investments or investment shall again fall into and form part of the residuary trust funds hereinafter bequeathed

8. Subject as aforesaid I bequeath the residuary trust funds to and equally between all my children (including the said Archibald John Cornes) who shall be living at the time of my death in equal shares and if there shall be only one child the whole to be in trust for that one Provided that if any child of mine shall die in my lifetime leaving a child or children who shall survive me and shall attain the age of twenty one years then and in every such case the last mentioned child or children shall take and if more than one equally between them the share which his her or their parent would have taken of and in the residuary trust funds if such parent had survived me and attained the age of twenty one years

9. During the minority of all or any of my grandchildren for the time being presumptively entitled to share in the residuary trust funds my trustees shall pay the income of such presumptive shares to my said wife to be applied by her for the maintenance and education of such grandchildren or if my wife shall be dead my trustees shall apply such income for the purposes aforesaid with power to accumulate any part thereof for the benefit of such grandchildren and on any grandchild becoming absolutely entitled I direct my trustees to forthwith pay over to or appropriate for his or her benefit his or her share of all accumulations of income (if any)

10. My Trustees may at any time or times raise any part or parts not exceeding together one moiety of the vested or presumptive shares of any grandchild of mine under the trusts of this my will and apply the same for his or her preferment advancement or benefit as my trustees shall think fit

11. I declare that the sum of ten thousand pounds being the estimated value of the stocks and securities which I transferred to the Trustees of the Settlement executed on the marriage of my daughter Alice Beatrice and ten thousand pounds of my capital in the business of Cornes and Company which I transferred to my son Archibald John on the first day of April one thousand nine hundred and eleven but not the value of my Trade Marks and the Goodwill attaching to the said business shall be taken in or towards satisfaction of the respective shares of my said daughter and son or his or her issue taking by substitution as aforesaid in my residuary estate and shall be brought into hotchpot and accounted for accordingly
12. As regards any real or leasehold property remaining unsold my trustees shall be at liberty to let or demise the same either from year to year or for any term of years at such rent and subject to such covenants and conditions as they shall think fit and to accept surrenders of leases and tenancies to cut timber to expend money in repairs and improvements and generally to manage the property according to their absolute discretion
13. It shall be lawful for my trustees to purchase any part of my real estate notwithstanding any rule of law or equity to the contrary provided such purchase be made by public auction or if by private contract after the property purchased shall have been valued by a competent person and a price be given for the same in accordance therewith
14. All moneys liable to be invested under this my will may be invested in any of the Parliamentary stocks or Public Funds or Government securities of the United Kingdom or India or any British Colony or dependency or any Province or State of any British Colony or Dependency or on any securities the interest on which is or shall be guaranteed by Parliament or upon freehold copyhold leasehold or chattel real securities in Great Britain (but not in Ireland) or in stock of the Bank of England or in or upon the debentures debenture stock or Guaranteed or preference or ordinary stock or shares of any Railway or other Company a fixed or minimum rate of interest or dividend on which is guaranteed by the Government of India or in or upon the debentures or debenture or rent charge stock of any railway canal dock harbour gas water or other company or body (other than a Mining Company) in England incorporated by Special Act of the Imperial Parliament or any Joint Stock Company in England other than a Mining Company or in or upon the Guaranteed or Preference stock or shares of any such incorporated or joint stock company as aforesaid (other than a Mining Company) which shall have paid dividends upon its ordinary capital for at least three years prior to the time of investment or in or upon the stocks bonds debentures or securities of any Public Body Municipality County Council or Local Authority in the United Kingdom or upon temporary or fixed deposit at any Bank or Banks but not in any stocks funds bonds shares or securities to bearer or transferable by mere delivery or delivery and indorsement though coming within the general description of investments

hereinbefore authorised

15. The power of appointing new trustees conferred by Statute shall for the purposes of this my will be vested in my said wife during her life IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereto set my hand this fifth day of June one thousand nine hundred and fourteen -
- FREDERICK CORNES - Signed by the testator Frederick Cornes as his last will in the presence of us present at the same time who in his presence and in the presence of each other hereto subscribe our names as witnesses - K GRACE TOPPLY 107 Talbot Road Bayswater W Accountant - H A BIANI 8 Gt Winchester St London Wall E C Accountant -
Proved 31st October 1927.

コーンズ文書の原文 (10th May, 1867) 並びにその typescript

London, 10th May 1867

My dear Aspinall,

I have now to thank you for yours of 29th Feb^y - & 15th March, & am sorry to find you are unwell & that such a very gloomy view of things generally. I consider the worst is now well past, & that the position of A.C.C. is just now looking at the trials we have had to pull through the last few years. We have had some unpleasant receipts, but we are not as well out of the wood as we can be. All our sales promises fairly, we have none of them had. Our trade other people, & our trade in outward shipments afloat is reduced to a minimum. We have no interest in doubtful bills of any kind, are on excellent terms with our friends & correspondents, so that altogether I don't think we could be much better off. I am sure you will take this view of our affairs as soon as you get over this temporary fit of the blues from which you appear to be now suffering. Coyle has gone by the mail & will relieve you of all responsibility with respect to goods of A.C.C. I hope you won't have made any more with these prices & his arrival, & then they will have nothing to quarrel at. You may probably have had a chance of bartering some of them against silk during the Luxembourg fair, & if you have, it will have been a happy venture. Coyle looks to have quarrels with A.C.C. so I hope you will be in a house of your own. He will of course inform you of his engagements to Miss Radcliffe - they are to be married directly he returns.

I have been extremely unwell again this last week & laid up in bed in great pain, but I am now pretty nearly all right again & out of the doctor's hands. I went to Mr. Cheate & saw Dr. Harst & Henderson, & have also seen all friends & correspondents here among my town.

and the fact of purchase of such advanced
 information. I am glad to know you are going
 to England for the summer - it is a fine thing to be
 responsible of considerable business, & you could
 not have better credit than my own - I think that you
 I should like you to send me a copy of any credit
 you get for the summer - there is so much difference
 in the making of them - Rayson is over here, but
 I have not yet been able to see him.

I had a visit the other day from Cooper's father
 brother, in consequence of a letter they had sent
 from Herbert written after one of your letters to him
 about the youngster - They seemed very much pleased
 to think he should have to leave us, but I checked
 them up by telling them I thought he would find up
 something else to do in Godokland - They don't want
 him home, as they have no interest to get him going
 employment in England - I have not made any
 arrangement with Spencer, beyond telling him that
 the earliest I should wish him to leave here would
 be October - It would be much better for him to start
 on his own in case of the imperial place or even
 to be opened - I hope you won't hear of any
 more of our fellows or we shall be getting behind
 again with work & I don't see how we are to do
 without either Le Mans, Taylor, Heineken or Wylie.

I am not sorry to hear you think of disposing
 of some of our property for I was perfectly sick
 of land & continued scarcity of money in business.
 It is hard work to make up one's mind to quit
 at these prices, after the ideas we once held -
 I shall be very glad if you can produce the P.O.
 to make a bid for 100 15.

God bless you this mail to your Nephew & Co.
 They have taken Glass' property & are to do their
 business, with Herbert I believe as special agent.

I have got B.C. to send you out window lookloper credits
 for this mail, so that you may not be short of funds
 for next season. They talk things mightily, & would
 not have troubled to send you help unless out for a month
 or two if I had not made them up about it. I very
 much fear you will have a dear sell, & must begin
 of this season, & will be unable to act under Broughall's
 present hints. He will be back from Paris on Monday
 & I will then try to induce him to give a little more
 discretion - all the telegraphic news you will be
 receiving from this side at the beginning of the
 season will tend to high prices, & if so I can't see
 that profit will be made. I believe the sales that
 will pay will be those bought by you in March,
 April, & May, & beginning of June. I don't like to
 wish discouragingly at the beginning of a season
 but I would warn against operations at exorbitant
 prices, simply of operations, where you are banking
 had stock of goods it is a different matter -
 I fancy we shall see an active demand for silk
 spring up in a few days, & that preliminary
 & preparatory questions are in fair way of settlement -
 Before coming to town I went to Manchester &
 had a long talk with Devereux & Henderson -
 Broughall has been fighting Devereux for months
 back about commissions & charges, without coming
 to any terms so that business was at a stand still
 between them - Broughall ~~was~~ ^{asked} me to mediate the
 matter & try if I could not induce Devereux to
 give in & I am glad to say I succeeded in doing so
 & he has now agreed to do business for Broughall
 on same terms as Henderson or any one else -
 Cottons are dearer again this last 10 days & there
 is nothing doing for China - In Manchester they

4

aspects we shall see lower prices for Cotton goods
 in which case I expect Broughall will operate -
 I have not yet recd. the documents for our purchases
 made so long ago - Cannot continue dealing in
 piece, & we are well out of any this last few months -
 £300. but 1000 for the other day & 600 for Scotland
 they have not decided yet whether to send them to China
 or Japan, but in any case I anticipate they will go
 forward on their own sale - If it had not been for
 the big fire, I believe you would have seen them soon
 to \$15 - We were very fortunate in getting so much
 of our stock at the time we did - It is well B.O.
 stopped shipping shipments & that we had no one at
 home & go and from Davenport - they must be all
 dropping money heavily - I shall be glad when
 all our stock of dear goods is brought back and -
 You would be relieved to find we had no interest in that
 last contract of Broughalls at 72 - Carter is
 buying nothing but a few Black hoes & good
 fancy things for Shanghai - I don't think MacP.
 is doing business - He has been in to see me several
 times this week, & leaves tonight for Scotland,
 where he talks of remaining this week & next -
 Davenport being Saturday I think I shall go down
 to your brother Richard's & remain until Monday -
 The weather is glorious & I hope soon to be able to
 get about a good deal shipping it - Mrs Black & the
 cousins of hers in the 51st are coming to do a quick
 tiffin, so that if I don't write to you this afternoon
 he will know the reason why - With my kindest
 remembrances to all & trusting you may be in better
 health

Believe me, dear Aspinall

Yours faithfully

Frederic Cornes

London, 10th May 1867

My dear Aspinall,

I have now to thank you for yours of 28th Feby. (February & 15th March - & am sorry to find you are unwell & taking such a very gloomy view of things generally - I consider the worst is now well past & that the position of A C & Co. are first rate, looking at the trials we have had to pull through the last few years - We have had some unpleasant escapes, but we are now as well out of the wood as we can be - All our silk promises fairly, we have none of this bad Tea like other people, & our risk in outward shipments afloat is reduced to a minimum - We have no interest in doubtful bills of any kind, are on excellent terms with our friends & constituents, so that altogether I don't think we could be much better off - I am sure you will take this view of our affairs as soon as you get over this temporary fit of the blues from which you appear to be now suffering - Coysh has gone by the mail & will relieve you of all responsibility with respect to goods J/a (Joint account) C B & Co. I hope you won't have made any more with them prior to his arrival, & then they will have nothing to growl at - You may probably have had a chance of of bartering some of them against Silk during the Luxemburg panic, & if you have, it will have been a happy venture - Coysh looks to have quarters with A B & Co. so I hope you will be in a house of your own. He will of course inform you of his engagement to Miss Radcliffe - They are to be married directly he returns -

I have been extremely unwell again this last week & laid up in bed in great pain, but I am now pretty nearly all right again & out of the doctor's hands - I went to M/chester (Manchester) & saw Dewhurst & Henderson, & have also seen all friends & constituents since arriving in town - The sales made a/c (account) B & Co. & purchases of silk advised give satisfaction - I am glad to hear you are going on buying for Heinemann - It is a paying business for us & capable of considerable extension - You could not have better credit than Morgans or Finlay Hodgson - I should like you to send me a copy of any credits you get for this business - There is so much difference in the wording of them - Payson is over here, but I have not been able to see him -

I had a visit the other day from Copes father & mother in consequence of a letter they

received from Herbert after receipt of your letter to him about the youngster - They seemed very much grieved to think he should have to leave us, but I cheered them up by telling them I thought he would pick up something else to do in Yokohama - They don't want him back home, as they have no interest to get him any employment in England - I have not made any arrangement with Spence, beyond telling him that the earliest I should wish him to leave here would be October - It would be much better for him to start on his own a/c (account) in Osaka if the infernal place is ever to be opened - I hope you won't disperse any more of our fellows as we shall be getting behind again with work & I don't see how we are to do without either Le Marc, Taylor, Heinemann or Wylie -

I am not sorry to hear you think of dispersing of some of our property, for I am perfectly sick of land & continued scarcity of money in business - It is hard work to make up one's mind to quit at these prices, after the ideas we once held - I shall be very glad if you can induce the P & O. to make a bid for No. 15 -

Goddard goes this mail to join Ross Barber & Co. They have taken Elias' property & are to do their business, with Herbert I believe as special agent - I have got B & Co. to send you out another lot of credits for this mail, so that you may not be short of funds for new season - They take things mighty easily & would not have troubled to send you any more out for a month or two if I had not woke them up about it - I very much fear you will have a dear silk market beginning of this season, & will be unable to act under Broughalls present limits - He will be back from Paris on Monday & I will then try to induce him to give a little more discretion - All the telegraphic news you will be receiving from this side at the beginning of the season will tend to high prices, & if so I can't see that profit will be made - I believe the silks that will pay will be those bought by you in March, April, May & beginning June - I don't like to write discouragingly at the beginning of a season but I would warn against operations at extravagant prices, simply as operations where you are bartering had stock of goods is a different matter -

I fancy we shall see an active demand for silk spring up in a few days, now that Luxemburg & reform questions are in fair way of settlement -

Before coming to town I went to Manchester - I had a long talk with Dewhurst & Henderson.

Broughall has been fighting Dewhurst for months back about commissions & charges without coming to any trms so that their business was at a standstill between them - Broughall asked me to negotiate the matter & try if I could not induce Dewhurst to give in & I am glad to say I succeeded in doing so & he has now agreed to do business for Broughall on same terms as Henderson or anyone else -

Cottons are dearer again this last 10 days & there is nothing doing for China - In Manchester they expect we shall see lower prices for Cottons shortly in which case I expect Broughall will operate - I have not yet recd. (received) the documents for our purchases made so long ago - Camlets continue declining in price, & we are well out of any the last few months - C B & Co. bought a 1000 pair the other day a 60/- for Scarlet - They have not decided yet whether to send them to China or Japan, but in any case I anticipate they will go forward on their own account - If it had not been for the big fire, I believe you would have seen them down to \$ 15 - We were very fortunate in quitting so much of our stock at the time we did - It is well B & Co. stopped shirting shipments & that we had no one at home to go on from Dewhurst - They must be all dropping money heavily - I shall be glad when all our stock of dear goods is brought to an end - You would be relieved to find we had no interest in that last contract of Broughalls at 72/- Carter is buying nothing but a few Black Lustres & odd fancy things for Shanghai - I don't think MacP. is doing business - He has been in to see me several times this week, & leaves tonight for Scotland, where he talks of remaining the next 6 weeks - Tomorrow being Saturday I think I shall go down to your brother Richard's & remain until Monday - The weather is glorious & I hope soon to be able to get about a good deal & enjoy it - Mrs. Black & a cousin of hers are coming to do a quick tiffin, so that if I don't write Le Marc this afternoon he will know the reason why - With very kindest remembrances to all & trusting you may be in better health -

Believe me, dear Aspinall

Yours faithfully

Fredk (Frederick) Cornes

(2)

マクルスフィールド (Macclesfield) は、絹の町 (Silk Town) と呼ばれ、昔から絹織物で栄えたところである。ロンドンからいうと、マンチェスターのちょっと手前になる。1836年に発行されたトマス・モウル (Thomas Moule) の地図 (England Topographer or Moule's English Counties in the 19th Century.) でみると、マンチェスターからマクルスフィールドへは鉄道がつながっているが、ロンドンとは直接にはつながっていないことが分かる。訪ねてみると、マンチェスターの隣り町という感じと、チェシャーの豊かな緑の町という感じとが一体となっているように思った。

コーンズ商会の創業者である、フレデリック・コーンズ (Frederick Cornes, 1837-1927) はこの町で生まれた。父は、ジョン・コーンズ (John Cornes, 1805-1855) である。コーンズ商会の創業者であるフレデリック・コーンズの兄のウィリアム・ウイルシヨウ・コーンズ (William Wilshaw Cornes, 1827?-1885) は、このマクルスフィールドの町で絹織物工場を経営していた。とはいえ、フレデリック・コーンズの商売そのものは、兄の工場にむけて直接に生糸を売っていたというのではなさそうだし、マクルスフィールドと直接の取引関係があったのでもないようである。

兄の W. W. Cornes の工場が、マクルスフィールドの町のどこにあったのかは、確定するのが案外難しいようである。1851年の Directory には、W. W. Cornes が silk manufacture と記載されており、1860年にはマクルスフィールドの Park Lane に家があり、経営していた Park Mill が Wardle street にあったことが知られる。しかし、それ以後の Directory には名前を見出すことができない。後にも記すように、W. W. Cornes は、亡くなる二三年前に共同経営者として John Johnson を加え、社名も Cornes & Johnson と変更している。そして、W. W. Cornes が亡くなった後は、この会社は John Johnson & Co. となったようで、1887年 (Slater), 1890年 (Slater), 1892年 (Kelly) の Directory of Macclesfield and District には、Park Mills,

Wardle Street, John Johnson & Co. と記載されている。そして、この会社は、“30 pieces of figured Teherans”をパリの万国博（5月から11月、フランス革命100周年記念）に向けて生産したという新聞記事（Conrier, 1889年3月23日）があることからすると、それなりに成功していたものと見られる。1889年の夏のこのパリ万国博で、マクルスフィールドの絹織物はさらに名声をあげたのである。

(3)

マクルスフィールドには、silk museum (THE SILK MUSEUM, HERITAGE CENTRE, ROE STREET, MACCLESFIELD, SK 11 6 UT. TEL 0625-613210) があり、また町の中、Old Park Lane に、living museum である PARADISE MILL SILK MUSEUM (OLD PARK LANE, MACCLESFIELD, SK 11 6 TJ) がある。後者は、1981年まで実際に使われていた工場を博物館にしたもので、ここではジャカード織 (Jacquard) の handloom が数多く展示されており、実際に動かしてみせて、パンチカードの仕組みのすばらしさを見学者に理解させるようにできている。

マクルスフィールドと絹との結び付きは、ボタンを通してであった。装飾用の、絹でくるんだボタンを作る仕事が、17世紀の後半には確立されていた。18世紀以前には、ボタンは専ら装飾用に用いられていたのである。マクルスフィールド絹工業の父であるチャールス・ロウ (Charles Roe, 1715-1781) もまた、元来はボタン商人であった。ロウは、この町に最初の絹のより糸工場を建て、また銅の精練工場で富を得た。マクルスフィールドは当初は、ロンドンのスピタルフィールドに向けて、絹のより糸を製造していたのであったが、およそ1790年以降になると、絹の幅広織物が中心になった。すなわち、18世紀の始めには、ボタン作りと絹のより糸生産とがそれぞれ独立の仕事になったといわれている。ちなみにマクルスフィールドの町の Roe Street の旧名は、Spitalfield であった。そしてこの町は、「小スピタルフィールド (little Spitalfield)」と呼ばれ (C. S. Davies, A History of Macclesfield, p. 124), スピタル

フィールドの製造業者はその原料である絹のより糸を、ここマクルスフィールドから入手していたのである。(John Earls, *Streets and Houses of Old Macclesfield*, 1915. p. 87)

マクルスフィールドの町そのものの歴史を語った書物は決して少くはなく、例えば、*A History of Macclesfield*, edited by C. Stella Davies, Manchester University Press, 1961. であるとか、あるいは、*Silk Town: Industry and Culture in Macclesfield 1750-1835*, by Gail Malmgreen, Hull University Press, 1985. などはよく知られた研究である。さらに一般的には、*Streets and Houses of OLD Macclesfield*, by John Earles, 1915. がある。その他に、University of Manchester に提出された Thesis であるが、*The early silk Industry and Demographic Change in Eastern cheshire*, by Craig James Ferguson, 1994 は、18世紀末までの研究としては見逃すことができない。

マクルスフィールドの絹織物工業の初期の歴史をもうすこし見ておくと、絹のより糸の生産という点では、1685年にユグノーの亡命者である Peter Orme が来たことが大きな意味をもったという。そして小規模なりとはいえ、機械によるより糸生産は1735年前後には始まり、水力による機械生産工場は、先に記した Chales Roe によって1743-44年に建設された。その際の技師は恐らく、James Brindley であつたろうと言われている。そしてボリン川 (Bollin River) に沿って水車が並び、幾つかの建物が建てられた。最初、ロウは単独で事業を営むつもりであつたが、絹商人であつた Samuel Lankford と手を組んで生産に入った。それは、多分、1756年前後のことと言われている。この当時の12の工場について、その名を、J. Correy の *The History of Macclesfield*, 1817, p. 55 によって示しておくことと次の通りである。

Greaves & Hulley (Waters)

Jonas Hall (Chestergate)

Braddock & Hall (Church-Side)

William Hall (Chestergate)

Thomas Hall (Barn Street)

John Rowbotham (Waters)

Philip Clewes (Barn Street)

Greaves & Johnston (Newgate)

James Rowson (Dog Lane)

Joseph Simpson (Waters)

James Mayson (Back Street)

こうした初期の歴史のあと、様々の浮沈をかいくぐって、18世紀の末ないし19世紀の始めにマクルスフィールドは、Broad-Silk Weavingの町に成長してゆく。その過程を、Malmgreenの書物(p. 11)は、次のような数字で示している。

マクルスフィールドにおける絹ならびに木綿企業：1794-1834

	1797	1814	1817	1825	1834
紡績業	10	-	41	76	55
製造業	19	34	22	65	54
染色業	7	4	5	8	10
小物類製造 (ボタン、縁飾り、リボン、帽子飾り等)	18	3	9	-	7
帽子業	-	6	15	9	9
綿工場	2	14	9	3	3
合計	56	65	101	161	138

また、同じMalmgreenの書物で人口の変化をみると次の通りである(p. 6)。

マクルスフィールドの人口増加, 1801-61

年	人口	男	女
1801	8743	3979	4767
1811	12299	5629	6670
1821	17746	8421	9325
1831	23129	11005	12124
1841	24137	11454	12683
1851	29648	14183	15465
1861	36101	16690	19411

また、やや時代を下ることになるが、1920年代の刊行かと思われるが（出版年の記載なし）、*The Silk Industry of the United Kingdom, Its Origin and Development*, by Sir Frank Warner, London, Drane's Danegeld House. は、660ページの大著であって、イギリス絹工業に関する本格的な書物であるが、本書の中にマクルスフィールドが第七章で取り上げられ、10ページ程が割かれている。本書によると、マンチェスターが *weaving yarn* の主要な市場になり、1834-35年には、マンチェスターの織機が毎週、マクルスフィールドの絹のより糸8,000ポンドを使用したという。(p. 133) また同書は、マクルスフィールドにおいて半世紀の歴史を経て当時に至るまで操業している工場として二三を挙げているが、その中にはコーンズに関連するものは見当たらない。(念のためにこれを掲げておくと、まず1745年、John Brocklehurstが創業し、その子である John Brocklehurst と Thomas Brocklehurst の名を冠した、J. and T. Brocklehurst and sons があり、これは今、1,300人の従業員がある。あらゆる絹製品に優れ、1883年、いまだ *handloom* の時代に海軍のハンカチーフの注文を政府から初めて受注した。その後、*power-loom* になってより後もこの受注は続いている。次に1785年に出来た Park Green Mills は、1811年までは水力で、そしてそれより後は新たな所有者である Daintry and Ryle のもとで蒸気機関が導入された。また、Mr. John Birchenough が創立した会社はその子息と共に経営され、1905年に有限責任となり、1912年に Mr. Bradley Smale の所有になった。この会社は海軍との契約において優れている。さらに、1830年ないし1840年に

Josiah Smale が創立した Josiah Smale and Sons は、今は Mr. Bradley Smale の下にあり、彼は 1909 年に設立された Macclesfield Silk Trade Employers' Association の初代会長であった。最後に、J. F. Jackson の会社も同じく古い。p.135-137)

こうしてマクルスフィールドは silk town として発展してくるのであるが、そのことは同時に様々の社会問題、労働問題を引き起こし、またこれへの対応に迫られることになった。この町では、(1)1794 年にはフレンドリー・ソサイエティとして、Peace & Union Benefit Society が組織された。(2)1796 年に Macclesfield Sunday School が John Whitaker によって始められた。(3)労働組合としては、1826 年に John Prout (handloom weaver) が The Macclesfield Handloom Weavers Association を組織し、ストライキが 1815 年、1832 年、そして 1842 年には「大集会 (Great Turnout)」となるに至った。(4)1831 年には地方でのチャーティスト運動として John West (handloom weaver) による The Macclesfield Political Union が組織され、1838 年には最初のチャーティストの集会がもたれて 1 万 1 千人が集まった。(5)1855 年には、協同組合運動として The Macclesfield Equitable Society が、ロッチデール・パイオニアーズと同じ目的から組織された。(6)1867 年、The Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce が、President, William Coare Blocklehurst のもとに組織された。これは The Handloom Weavers' Association との交渉当事者であった。(C. Stella Davies, A History of Macclesfield, p. 198.) これらのことから、当時のマクルスフィールドの状況はおよそ検討がつくであろう。

こうした中で最も注目すべきは、失業からくる移民 (emigration) の問題である。19 世紀後半には失業問題が深刻になった。元来、weaver は土地を移動する性格をもっているが、この時期、多くがマンチェスターなどの cotton centre に移動していった。しかしもっと多くの人数が海外に移民し、オーストラリア、ニュージーランド、カナダ、アメリカ合衆国へと向かい、若干の旅費が The Macclesfield Emigration Society から支払われた。1860 年代で最もよく知られた移民先は、アメリカのニュージャージーにある「Silk City」である Patterson であった。マクルスフィールドからおよそ 1 万 5 千人の絹関係の

労働者が移民した。マクルスフィールドに近い Bollington の John Ryle は、「パターソン絹産業の父 The Father of Patterson Silk Industry」として知られ、マクルスフィールドの労働者の多くが、パターソンに従ってアメリカに渡り、1880年代にはパターソンの絹工業労働者の多くがイギリス生まれであった。(Mcclesfield Museum の小冊子、SILK MUSEUM IN MACCLESFIELD, by Louanne Collins.)

特に、1870年代後半にはマクルスフィールドの絹工業は、大変な不況の時期を迎えた。1879年5月には、Chamber of Commerceはこの問題を取り上げ、「現在の不況の原因を明らかにし、その救済策を立てるための」会議を開催した。1850年以前には、フランスの製造業者が主な競争相手であったが、1870年代になるとロンドンの市場はドイツのクレフェルト (Crefelt) の絹で満たされた。その価格は低廉で、「マクルスフィールドの weaver がタダで働くのでないかぎり」競争にならなかった。ここから、Chamber of Commerce の president である Edward Clarke は Handloom Weavers' Association の chairman である Joseph Chapman を連れて、ドイツのクレフェルトを調査に訪ねるのである。(C. S. Davies, A History of Macclesfield, p. 201.)

当時の上海、あるいは神奈川在住のイギリス人の中にかかなりの数のマクルスフィールド出身者をみる理由の一端はこうした業況と関連するものと考えられる。もちろん、それより以前に、絹糸絹布に関わる産業がその需給両面に互って国際的な性格を濃厚にもっていたことが挙げられねばなるまい。原料は、もともとはフランスやイタリーから来ていたものが、19世紀になると中国や日本から来るようになり、製品の輸出先は19世紀には重要な問題となった。したがってマクルスフィールドの製造業者は外国と決定的な関係に組み込まれていたのである。上記の Chamber of Commerce では、旅行者や代理店によって次々と、例えば「蚕(かいこ)とその習性」「中国における絹製造」といった表題でレクチャーがなされたのであり、また外国に旅行した人々によるレクチャーも行われていたのである。(C. S. Davies, A History of Macclesfield, p. 200.)

(4)

マクルスフィールドの絹織物工業についての一般的な記述は、W. W. Cornesの事業の背景を知る上では参考になるとはいうものの、その中に直接に W. W. Cornes に関する記述を発見することはできない。そこで、マクルスフィールドの地方紙について見ることにしよう。マクルスフィールドの地方紙について、ロンドンの新聞図書館 (THE BRITISH LIBRARY, NEWSPAPER LIBRARY, COLINDALE AVENUE, LONDON, NW 9 5 HE, TEL 0171-412-7353) でみると、次の四紙がある。

MACCLESFIELD COURIER AND HERALD (1828~1952)

MACCLESFIELD FREE PRESS (1874)

MACCLESFIELD GUARDIAN (1873~1878)

MACCLESFIELD WEEKLY OBSERVER (1858~1871)

これらの中で、最も内容豊富なのは最初のマクルスフィールド・クーリエであり、またその主題別・名前別のカード・インデックスがマクルスフィールド図書館で作成されている。(MACCLESFIELD LOCAL STUDIES, MACCLESFIELD LIBRARY, JORDANGATE, MACCLESFIELD. TEL 0625-422515) ただし、このカード・インデックスは、新聞記事の見出しを拾って作ったもののように、必ずしも内容を十分にカバーしたものとは言い難いようである。

W. W. Cornesの事業活動と社会活動についてみることにしよう。

彼の父は、当時、Wardle & Co. (但し、Directoryでは既に紹介したようにこれを Park Lane の Park Mill と記している。ここでは Macclesfield Courier の追悼記事に従った。) を経営していたが、そのあとをうけて彼は自ら Cornes & Co. を始め、彼が亡くなる二三年前、共同出資者として John Johnson を加え、Cornes & Johnson と社名を変更している。彼は、地方商工会議所 (Local Chamber of Commerce) の初期の主要メンバーであり、また地方議会 (Council Chamber) の一員であり、演説の名手で、Deeds not Words という言葉を好んで使ったという。彼は、1874年、大法官から治安判事 (Commission of the

Peace) に挙げられた。1881年、地方議会の職を辞している。(Macclesfield Courier, 18 April, 1885の追悼記事から) したがって、その葬儀には、市長が参列し、庁舎には半旗が掲げられ、そしてロンドンから、Frederick Cornes その人や、brother-in-law にあたる James Stevens, uncle である George Wilshaw, そして W. W. Cornes の共同出資者である John Johnson 等が参列している。(葬儀の記事, Macclesfield Courier, 25 April, 1885) これらについての原資料と、Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce, Important Conference of Masters and Men, Annual Meeting of the Macclesfield Town Council, Meeting of the General Purpose Committee といった会議における W. W. Cornes の活躍を示す新聞記事を再録しておこう。

(5)

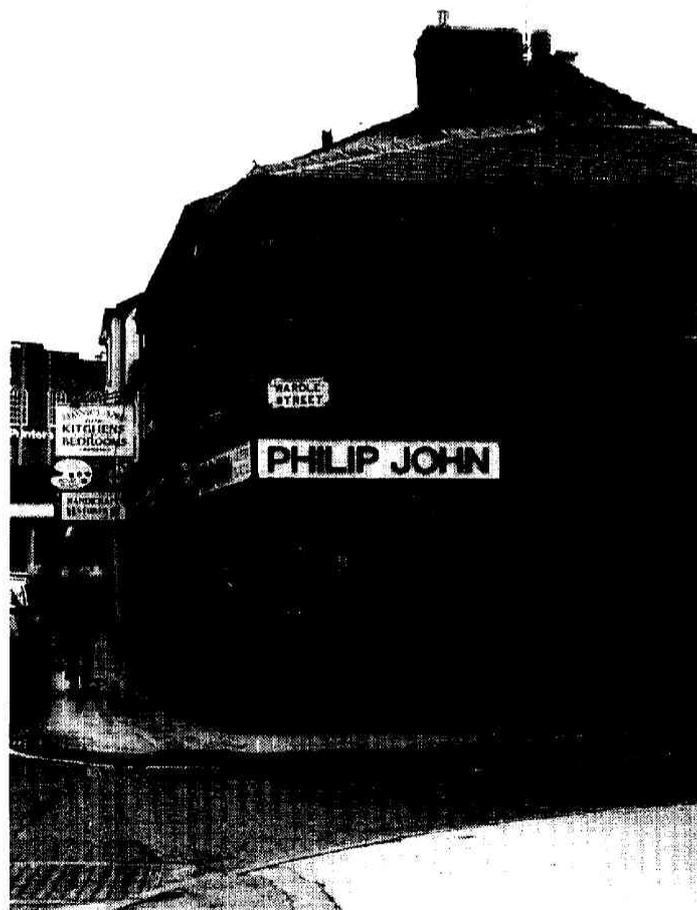
以上、小稿ではフレデリック・コーンズの生地であるマクルスフィールドにおけるウィリアム・ウイリョウ・コーンズの事業について、若干の資料を紹介した。コーンズ商会の周辺を知るためには以上のほかなお幾つかの側面から基本資料に当たる必要がある。(1999. 9)

(補注) 現在のところ、Cornes Paper は、50冊分が整理されている。

それぞれの時期区分は次の通りである。

BOOK	時期	BOOK	時期
1	1864. 10. 31 ; 1867. 3. 16 ~1867. 3. 26	10	1871. 3. 9 ~1871. 9. 22
2	1867. 4. 25~1867. 9. 26	11	1871. 12. 2 ~1872. 9. 24
3	1867. 10. 10~1868. 1. 10	12	1872. 9. 27~1873. 4. 18
4	1868. 1. 17~1868. 3. 16	13	1873. 4. 25~1873. 10. 31
5	1868. 3. 26~1868. 9. 25	14	1873. 11. 7 ~1874. 4. 5
6	1868. 9. 25~1869. 5. 13	15	1874. 4. 24~1874. 9. 18
7	1869. 5. 13~1869. 11. 25	16	1874. 9. 28~1875. 4. 4
8	1869. 12. 3 ~1870. 7. 22	17	1875. 4. 23~1875. 10. 15
9	1870. 7. 29~1871. 3. 9	18	1875. 10. 22~1876. 4. 18
		19	1876. 7. 14~1876. 12. 15

20	1876. 12. 22~1877. 5. 18	36	1882. 3. 10~1882. 8. 18
21	1877. 5. 25~1877. 10. 19	37	1882. 8. 18~1882. 12. 22
22	1877. 10. 20~1878. 2. 21	38	1882. 12. 28~1883. 2. 1
23	1878. 2. 22~1878. 4. 11	39	1883. 2. 2~1883. 4. 13
24	1878. 4. 12~1878. 6. 8	40	1883. 4. 13~1883. 7. 6
25	1878. 6. 11~1878. 8. 2	41	1883. 7. 12~1883. 8. 24
26	1878. 8. 2~1878. 9. 19	42	1883. 8. 24~1883. 10. 11
27	1878. 10. 4~1879. 2. 28	43	1883. 10. 16~1883. 11. 16
28	1879. 3. 7~1879. 9. 5	44	1883. 11. 16~1883. 12. 21
29	1879. 9. 11~1880. 1. 23	45	1884. 1. 3~1884. 2. 22
30	1880. 2. 6~1880. 5. 11	46	1884. 2. 22~1884. 4. 18
31	1880. 5. 13~1880. 8. 13	47	1884. 4. 25~1884. 7. 4
32	1880. 8. 20~1880. 12. 31	48	1884. 7. 11~1884. 10. 24
33	1881. 1. 7~1881. 5. 6	49	1884. 10. 31~1885. 1. 1
34	1881. 5. 13~1881. 8. 18	50	1885. 1. 2~1885. 4. 2
35	1881. 8. 19~1882. 3. 3		



Macclesfield の Wardle Street (March, 1995)
(W.W.Cornes の工場の所在地と思われる場所)

DEATH OF MR. W. W. CORNES, J.P.

It will come with a shock of surprise to many of our townsmen to learn the death of Mr. William Wilshaw Cornes, J.P., which took place last evening at five o'clock at his residence in Park-lane. Though for some years Mr. Cornes's presence has been missing from the scenes which he was wont to visit, and the circles in which it was always welcomed, he was still recognised as a figure in public life, where there can be no question that he at one time held a sway equalled by few gentlemen of local position. Mr. Cornes had long been known as one of the leading silk manufacturers of the town. His connection with the trade dated from his youth. At that period he was fortunate, from his brightness of parts, to have attracted the attention of the late Edward John Stanley, Esq., when studying in connection with the institution which preceded the present School of Art, and his skill as a practical designer enabled him to take a leading position in the London Institute, where he had the privilege of completing his technical education. His father at this time was manager at the celebrated firm of Wardle and Co., to which young Mr. Cornes's talents speedily introduced him. When the firm of Wardle and Co. ceased, the new designation was that of Cornes and Co. The new head of the firm brought energy, ability, and enterprise to bear, and the name became synonymous with good taste and excellence of production. That it has continued to bear to the present time, when the firm is known as Cornes and Johnson, through the introduction a few years ago of Mr. John Johnson, who has throughout proved a most active and useful coadjutor of his senior partner.

Mr. Cornes was a man of active mind, extensive information, and much force and facility of expression. He was a leading figure during the early days of the local Chamber of Commerce, and most valuable on the important deputations which then emanated from that body. He was an effective platform speaker, his remarks being generally characterised by an unusual amount of incisiveness and humour. His honesty of purpose made him a trenchant critic, and opponents not unfrequently winced under the force and directness of his attack. These qualities were powerfully, and so far as the public were concerned, very acceptably exhibited during the earlier years of his appearance in the Council Chamber as a Conservative representative of No. 3 Ward. The period was an exciting one; party feeling ran high, and Mr. Cornes brought a rhetorical power into debate which gave great piquancy and liveliness to the discussions. There are those yet in the Council Chamber who cannot forget the force and readiness of his retorts. The phrase "Deeds not words," so frequently quoted since, was one of the gauntlets thrown down by him to his opponents, and it proved so effective that it has since been frequently adopted by those who affect to be men of action and independence of judgment. In 1874 Mr. Cornes was raised by the Lord Chancellor to the Commission of the Peace, and so long as his health permitted he delighted once a week to take his seat on the Bench, his presence being generally hailed with pleasure by timorous defendants, as his disposition generally led him to embrace the merciful side of justice. In 1881 Mr. Cornes resigned his position in the Council Chamber, and his public appearances since that time have been rare. His health—never very robust of late years—seriously gave way a few weeks back, and a more dangerous phase set in on Saturday last, which led to most serious anticipations on the part of his friends and relations. He was attended by Mr. Fernie and Mr. Somerville, but little hope was entertained, and death took place last night as stated. Deceased was in his 59th year.

The funeral will take place on Tuesday next at St. George's Church.

FUNERAL OF MR. W. W. CORNES, J.P.—The funeral obsequies of this gentleman, whose death we noticed at length in last Saturday morning's Courier, took place on Tuesday, at St. George's Church. The flag was hoisted half-mast at the Town Hall immediately on the mournful event becoming known, and on Saturday his Worship the Mayor (Mr. W. B. Brookishurst, J.P.) issued invitations to the members of the Council to accompany the remains to the grave as a last testimony of respect to the deceased, who had been a prominent and highly-respected member of the Council. This invitation was numerously responded to, among those present in the funeral procession being the Mayor, Alderman D. Clarke, J.P.; Mr. T. Stringer, J.P.; Alderman Wadsworth, J.P.; Alderman J. Birchenough, J.P.; Alderman W. W. Stancliffe, J.P.; Alderman Wright, J.P.; Alderman J. W. White, J.P.; Mr. R. Brodriok, J.P.; Alderman Smale, Councillors J. I. Brunt, J. H. Briggs, George Fountain, J. Gee, B. Oldham, T. Pickford, S. Clowes, G. Stubbs, D. Ward, C. Rowbotham, E. Bloor, W. C. Pownall, G. Walker, and J. Unwin. The respect entertained for the deceased led to manifestations of mourning and sympathy on the route of procession from deceased's residence in Park-lane to the churchyard. Following the hearse, which was plumeless at the deceased's special request, were three mourning carriages, occupied as follows:—1st, Mr. F. Cornes, of London (brother); Mr. James Stevens (brother-in-law); Mr. George Wilshaw (uncle). 2nd, the Rev. J. Ellison, Rev. R. Hurst (officiating clergymen), Mr. H. M. Fernie (medical attendant), and Mr. Hand (solicitor). 3rd, Mr. John Johnson (business partner), Mr. David Evans (London), and Mr. Nadin (cashier). The bearers were six of the deceased's workmen, namely, J. H. Kves, E. Moores, G. T. Norton, A. Harrison, J. Holloway, and W. Clulow. As the coffin was borne in and out of the church, Mr. Nadin played the "Dead March" on the organ, and amongst the large congregation there were many visibly affected. The coffin was of polished oak, with brass mountings, the inscription being "William Wilshaw Cornes, J.P., died April 17th, 1885, aged 58." Messrs. Swanwick and Stoneley conducted the funeral arrangements with their usual care and decorum.

William Wilshaw Cornes の葬儀の記事

(Macclesfield Courier, 25. April, 1885)

William Wilshaw Cornes の追悼記事

(Macclesfield Courier, 18. April, 1885)

2

THE MACCLES

MACCLESFIELD CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.

A meeting of the Council of this Chamber was held in the Town Hall, on Friday evening last week, but in consequence of its length and importance, we withheld our report until this issue. The president, W. C. Brocklehurst, Esq., M.P., occupied the chair. There were also present the vice-presidents, D. Clarke, Esq. and F. Oliver Esq., Bollington, the Mayor, Messrs. W. Bullock, J. Wright, J. Mellor, J. Stubbs, W. W. Cornes, W. Barker, J. Dawson, W. R. Shatwell, and Edward Eaton.

FINANCES.

The finances of the Chamber were considered, and it was found that after the ordinary expenses were defrayed the financial condition would be much the same as at the corresponding period of last year, viz., about £40 in debt. This, however, it is expected will in future be avoided as it is the intention of the Chamber to give up the offices in Chestergate, thus relieving themselves of the burden of the rent. Several new members were admitted, after which the business was proceeded with.

THE MOSCOW POLYTECHNIC EXHIBITION.

The PRESIDENT having stated that some communication had already taken place with reference to sending samples of the trade of Macclesfield to the Moscow Polytechnic Exhibition of 1872, read a letter sent from the Silk Committee of the Macclesfield Chamber to the Secretary of the Society for the Encouragement of Art in connection with this Exhibition. The letter said that the committee had decided to recommend to the Chamber the desirability of having the trade of Macclesfield represented at the forthcoming Exhibition, and that the committee would be glad to learn, as to the best way of carrying out the propositions and what other parties engaged in other manufactures contemplate doing. The committee considered that samples and the local products could be all that would be required. He (the President) then read the reply from P. Le Neve Foster, Esq., Secretary, which stated that his committee learned with much pleasure the decision of the Macclesfield Silk Committee. The Art Committee considered that the way set proposed would be the best, viz., to send a package of samples of the local products properly arranged, which could, no doubt, form an extremely interesting contribution to the exhibition. The committee, however, stated that instead of sending the package to them it would be better to forward it direct to Moscow, sending it to the charge of Messrs. Elkin and Company, whose address is in the printed prospectus. He (the Secretary) presumed the packages sent would be presented to the permanent museum of Moscow, in which case, he understood, it would go free of charge; at present he could give no information as to what other Chambers were likely to do.

Mr. WRIGHT asked if there was to be a national exhibition of Russian products; if so, how long was it to remain open. He said that this was a most important matter if Macclesfield was to be expected to send down samples of her products, and these to remain permanently the property of the Russian Government.

The PRESIDENT reminded Mr. Wright of the terms of Mr. Foster's letter—"the collection if presented to the permanent museum of Moscow would be forwarded free of charge." The Exhibition opens on the 30th of May, 1872, the 200th anniversary of the Birth of the Emperor Alexander the Great.

Mr. OLIVER—Refer the matter to the Silk Committee. Mr. CORNES differed from the vice-president. The subject had been before the Silk Committee already, and it is now brought before the Council asking to have their opinion verified. The committee felt the desirability of having the staple trade of the town represented at the Moscow Exhibition. No doubt every one of them had read the report in the local paper of the remarks made by the various speakers at the meeting of the Silk Com-

Mr. BULLOCK said if they did that they must pay for their space, but if they communicated with the authorities in Russia as he suggested, saying they were wishful to send some samples, no doubt they would find space for them. It was not necessary for them under the circumstances either to purchase a case or apply for space.

Mr. OLIVER—It seems desirable if Macclesfield is to be represented at all, she should be well represented with a good case of goods, which would receive a good position. There can be no difficulty, I think, about the space, but whether the Russian Government will find the case, it is desirable to ascertain.

The MAYOR said the representation was not so much a matter of money. If represented at all, the town should be represented in the best possible manner.

Mr. BROADBENT said that in 1851, when they exhibited some goods at the London Exhibition, they sent off a case, but the goods were not arranged. Several gentlemen met in London for the purpose; the case was not received, and they had to pay for another case which they got there.

Mr. WRIGHT knew that if their goods were sent in a careless manner, as if the manufacturers were quite indifferent on the subject, the Russian Government might put them in any place, perhaps in a situation where they would not be seen. The Germans and the French would send goods; and though those sent from Macclesfield might intrinsically be worth more, if space and positions were not looked after their goods would very likely look much more paltry than they otherwise might. (Hear, hear.) As the Mayor had indicated, the representation was not so much a matter of money as being well represented, and as the trouble that some of them would require to be at, because if they were represented at Moscow, they must have some one there—a practical man—to place their goods properly in the case, so that they might be shown to the best advantage. If this important matter were left to the Russians, they would make a grievous mistake.

The MAYOR agreed with Mr. Wright; they must either have their goods packed in the case before they left the town, or send some one to Moscow to see them displayed to the best advantage. If they had not a competent person to do this, there was no use of exhibiting their goods at all.

Mr. CORNES remarked that the trade of the town was never better than at the present time, and there never was a better chance than the present of making Macclesfield known—known in a new and proper quarter. He would say—let the silk committee make the enquiries suggested by Mr. Bullock, and they would pledge themselves to do nothing until they had obtained that information; he was sure that even after the 13th of January the exhibition authorities would feel it desirable to have samples of the silk goods of Macclesfield.

After a few other remarks had been made, the subject was brought to a close by a motion of the MAYOR to the effect that the management for the display of the Macclesfield goods at the forthcoming Polytechnic Exhibition at Moscow be entrusted to the Silk Committee, and that the Council recommend the Silk Committee to put themselves in communication with Mr. Mitchell, the British Consul of Trade at St. Petersburg, with a view to obtain all the necessary information.

This was seconded by Mr. OLIVER, and agreed to.

In answer to a question put by Mr. Wright as to whether the Chamber was making itself responsible for any expense in the matter, Mr. CLARKE said that if there was any expense, it should be considered extra and defrayed by subscription.

REPRESENTATION OF COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN THE
INDIAN COUNCIL.

The PRESIDENT read a letter from the Secretary of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, which contained a copy of a memorial from that Chamber, which had been forwarded to his Grace the Duke of Argyll.

2

THE MACCLE

**DEMAND BY SILK WEAVERS FOR THE
ABOLITION OF "ENTERING, TWISTING,
AND TURNING-ON" CHARGES.**

**IMPORTANT CONFERENCE OF MASTERS AND
MEN.**

A recent demand by the broad silk weavers of Macclesfield, for what is regarded in the trade as a very material indirect advance in wages, by the abolition of the charges heretofore made against them for the entering, twisting, and turning-on of their warps, was on Monday evening the subject of friendly discussion at a joint meeting of the Committee of the Masters' Association and delegates from the Weavers' Association, in the Committee Room of The Town Hall. This meeting was held in order that the important question involved might be discussed in all its phases, and with a view, if possible, to a decision being arrived at in which both sides should amicably concur. Mr. W. W. Cornes, the chairman of the Masters' Association, was also selected by the men as chairman of the joint committee, and thus held the honourable and highly responsible position of referee or arbiter between both parties. The masters were represented at the meeting by Mr. J. Birchough, Mr. T. Birchough, Mr. John Smale, Mr. W. Smale, Mr. J. O. Nicholson (hon. secretary to the Masters' Association), Mr. J. Jackson, Mr. W. Pownall, jun., Mr. Rowbottom, Mr. Thompson (from Mr. Brodriek's), Mr. Unsworth (from Messrs. Smale and Sons), &c. The weavers were represented by Mr. Joseph Chapman (Secretary of the Weavers' Association); Messrs. Richard Walter, Thomas Norbury, and George Clarke, outside weavers; and Messrs. James Borsford, James Lees, John Harrop, and Robt. Gosling, inside weavers.

Mr. CORNES having been voted to the chair, on the motion of Mr. Lees, tendered his thanks for this mark of confidence reposed in him, which he regarded very highly, inasmuch as, being a manufacturer, he was naturally peculiarly interested in the result. I can (he said) only promise to pay the most marked and careful attention to the evidence adduced on both sides, and I will repay your confidence in that way, and by giving such an award (if indeed I am necessitated to give an award, which I hope I shall not) as I conceive to be for the best interests of the town and trade of Macclesfield. (Hear, hear.) In accordance with the good understanding which has existed for some considerable time in our trade—that all subjects affecting the interests of the trade should be brought before the joint committee—we are met here to-night. The circumstances which have brought us together are something like this:—A delegate meeting of the weavers was held on the 16th July, and a resolution was unanimously come to affirming their opinion that the time had come for the weavers, inside and outside, to cease paying for the entering, twisting, and turning-on of their warps, and that they felt justified in asking the manufacturers to pay those expenses for the future, these expenses having, as you all know, been entirely borne by the weavers. Mr. Chapman, the able representative of the weavers, supplemented the resolution which he forwarded to Mr. Nicholson, the hon. secretary of the manufacturers, with some remarks of his own; and I must say, after giving them a careful perusal, that the remarks show a great amount of ability, and fully and entirely embody what Mr. Chapman calls the "case" for the weavers. I have thought very seriously over the manner of pursuing this arbitration, and I have decided that the following will be the best course to pursue, because sometimes one is apt to indulge in a lot of talk which is foreign to the point under discussion, and which is mainly caused, I conceive, by the manner in which the meeting has been conducted. To avoid this undesirable result, I propose to take the following course, which I think will meet the approbation of both sides:—I will ask Mr. Chapman to read the resolution in the form and in the words in which it has been forwarded to Mr. Nicholson; I will ask him also to read the whole case as submitted to Mr. Nicholson, and in order that he may have a full and fair opportunity of stating all he can possibly say with respect to this point,

(Hear, hear.) He did not think the millman was getting much less than 30 or 40 per cent. advance. Then take boys and girls of 13 years of age, and he would try to show they were getting 100 per cent. advance. Three or four years ago they were working for 4s or 4s 3d per week; children of the same age now were earning 8s and 8s 6d. Was not that 100 per cent. advance? (Hear, hear.) These were broad facts. Suppose they put it at 50 per cent. all round for the sake of argument; did it not look strange and hard that the weavers should bear all the burden, while everybody was getting higher wages? And as a rule they had gained their advance without any great bother or turn-out. The throwsters had risen their hands without much trouble, and why in the name of goodness should it happen that when the weaver asked for an advance there, should be all this trouble and all this ill-feeling? Then look at all the material which the weavers had to deal with. They could buy nothing belonging to the loom which was not greatly advanced in price; pickers and shears and swivels, everything they used, had risen, and if they wanted a new machine or a new loom, they all knew how the prices had gone up. If they bought a new loom now, they would have to give about a pound more for it than they would six or seven or eight years ago. If they wanted a swivel rack, the cost was about 6s extra for 400's to what they were 12 months ago.

Mr. NICHOLSON—2s 6d on a four hundred.
Mr. WALTERS begged Mr. Nicholson's pardon; he was speaking of what they were now, not what they were last month; those that cost two guineas originally were now £2 8s or £2 10s, while 600's were about 15s more. He put it to the manufacturers whether they could be so hard-hearted, after seeing everything the weavers had to pay for at such a fearful advance, as to think it wrong for them to ask this trifling advance. He said they ought to have as much compassion on the weavers as on any other part of the trade, and he hoped the weavers would have no trouble about it after that meeting. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HARROP, another of the weavers, gave Mr. Chapman the credit of having brought about that meeting. It was through him and the representations he had made at the delegate meeting that they were meeting the manufacturers that evening; otherwise there would have been a date put upon the document, and no meeting of that description would have been called; but as Mr. Chapman put it that it had been the custom that all communications should be addressed to the masters through Mr. Nicholson, they thought it nothing but right to lay their complaints before them in that form. The delegates however were not in a position to alter their propositions if they talked till ten o'clock. (Hear, hear.) All they had to do was simply to show why they went in for that 4 per cent. advance. He believed 4 per cent. was a just calculation, and if they went in for anything the amount was not worth splitting. As a matter of courtesy to the manufacturers, however, they thought it better to meet to endeavour to settle the matter amicably.

Mr. JOHN SMALK asked if they were to understand that the resolution of the weavers was considered binding upon them?

Mr. HARROP—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—That is scarcely fair to the manufacturers nor in accordance with the arrangement understood at the last meeting. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CHAPMAN asked to be allowed an explanation. Of course in reality, assuming the resolution they had come to was not to be altered, there was no necessity at all to meet the manufacturers. But he urged that out of pure respect to the masters—and he was quite in earnest in putting it that way,—as a matter of deep respect to the manufacturers for the manner they had dealt with the men in the past, they must lay the resolution before them. But still, though they made that arrangement, they thought considering what they asked, that it would be like taking two bites at a cherry to alter it. They could not alter it. All they could do was this—Anything the masters had to suggest or to say should receive that proper respect which it deserved, and they would undertake to lay it before a special delegate meeting to be

2

THE MACCLESFIELD

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL.
ELECTION OF MAYOR.

EXCITED PROCEEDINGS.

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation for the election of Mayor, the appointment of committees, and for the transaction of the general quarterly business, was held on Saturday last, the 9th of November. Owing to the altered constitution of the Council and the presence of a large body of Conservative Town Councillors, as the result of the recent municipal elections under the Ballot, the proceedings were unusually animated. There was a large attendance of Councillors, most of the Conservative members ranging themselves in a body on the seats to the left of the chair, the bulk of the Liberal members being seated on the opposite benches. The retiring Mayor (Alderman Wadsworth) presided, wearing the gold chain of office; supported on the right by Alderman Edward Clarke (the Mayor elect) and Alderman Bury, Ex-Mayor; the other Aldermen present were:—W. C. Brocklehurst, M.P., D. Clarke, W. Bullock, F. Jackson, J. Wright, W. Carr, S. Jesper, and James Jackson; the Councillors in attendance being Messrs. Thorpe, Dawson, Hooley, T. Birchborough, John Brunt, J. Taylor, T. U. Brocklehurst, F. Jackson, jun., G. J. Sanford, W. W. Stancliffe, G. Wilshaw, John Walker, W. Taylor, George Cox, Joseph Barker, John Fowler, Edwin Pyatt, Robert Brodrick, W. Frost, John Smale, T. Hine, A. Stringer, W. W. Cornes, J. Stringer, D. Parkinson, S. Plant, A. Hordern, T. Pickford, F. Higon, George Stubbs, Charles Brocklehurst, Richard Stubbs, W. Pownall, J. J. Lovatt, M. Taylor, and W. Smale. The only member of the Council absent was Alderman Higginbotham (through indisposition).

The space below the bar reserved for the general public was crowded throughout the earlier portion of the meeting.

ELECTION OF MAYOR.

This was the first business. Alderman W. C. BROCKLEHURST, M.P., rose and said:—Mr. Mayor and gentlemen—On the last occasion when we assembled in this chamber for the purpose of electing the Mayor for the ensuing year, and when I had the honour and privilege of proposing to you Mr. Wadsworth as a fit and proper gentleman to fill the duties of the office of Mayor for the past year, I ventured to say that I thought the course which had been adopted by the majority of the Council in selecting a gentleman for the office before coming into this chamber, was a judicious and a wise one. It appeared, however, that objection was taken to my approval by my friend Mr. Brodrick, and I think in rather hard terms, for he called the proceeding a "hole and corner" meeting. (Hear, hear.) Now, I think, gentlemen, that the result of the last twenty years has proved that the course has been both a judicious and a wise one; and I think so because it is very desirable, as little as possible, to introduce anything like party feeling on the first onset of the official year. (Hear, hear, and laughter and "Oh, oh," from the Left.) I think so because it is very desirable that we should be as unanimous as possible in upholding the dignity of the head of the town, (hear, hear); and I think so because it is often desirable to accept the inevitable (hear, hear, from the Left), and so long as majorities rule I think it is very wise of the Council to accept from the majority the name of any gentleman who may be fit and proper and desirable to fill the office of Mayor. I therefore feel very happy that such a course has been adopted this year, and I am sure it was from no feeling of a desire to introduce anything like dissension on the part of Mr. Brodrick last year that he took the objection which he did. ("Hear, hear" from

generally. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Brocklehurst has very properly alluded to the exertions Mr. Clarke has made with reference to the commercial community. I myself can bear testimony to the manner in which he exerted himself during our trip to Russia, and I can safely undertake to say that had it not been for Mr. Clarke's aid, we could not have returned with so successful a result to our journey. All these things commend him to your warm consideration. I most cordially second his nomination, and I feel that in electing Mr. Clarke we shall have the benefit of all those various qualities which will become a Mayor, and that during his term of office the interests of the town will not suffer. The Council by unanimously electing him will be able to take credit to itself, and will be conferring a direct benefit on the entire community.

The RETIRING MAYOR then submitted the motion, and it was carried unanimously and with much applause.

The MAYOR ELECT having taken the oath of office, the RETIRING MAYOR took from his own neck the gold chain of office, and placed it upon the Mayor Elect. He said:—I confer this on you with very great pleasure, and hope you will be blessed with health and strength to wear it. I believe I can promise on behalf of myself and the rest of the Council that you shall have our most hearty co-operation. (Applause.)

The MAYOR then took his seat, amid renewed cheers. In returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him, he said he felt they had imposed a rather severe task upon him from the very kind manner in which they had been pleased to nominate and elect him to this high and responsible office of chief magistrate of this borough. The worthy Member had said last year of the present Ex-Mayor that he was to some extent an untried man; the same might be said of him. Still, they were all untried at the commencement of holding these offices. He had held office before at the further confines of the world, though he feared none of the experience gained there would benefit him very much here. It was true his father and brother had held this most honourable office in previous years, and as their respected member had said it was possible that a qualification for the office might run in families. At any rate, he trusted that in this respect he might bear out the hon. Member's prognostications. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the leisure time he might happen to possess, he could assure them it would be a pleasure as also a duty to use it to the very best advantage he possibly could for the benefit of the town. (Applause.) Mr. Brocklehurst had kindly made mention of the recent journey which, in conjunction with himself, and other gentlemen selected by the Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce, he had undertaken, to Russia. He (the Mayor) could not omit to mention in reference to that visit, the great gratification he derived from daily personal communication with Mr. Brocklehurst during that journey. From that close personal communication he derived very great advantage; a more genial fellow-traveller he never met, and the impressions made by the journey were such as would last through life. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Brocklehurst had also alluded to his evidence in favour of the establishment of Tribunals of Commerce. He could assure them these tribunals had proved very beneficial in these countries where they had been adopted, and he believed they would prove equally advantageous in this country. He observed with pleasure that the late Lord Mayor of London had actively interested himself in their introduction. In conclusion, he expressed the great encouragement he felt from the unanimous manner in which the Council had been pleased to elect him, as well as from the various tokens of good nature and confidence which he had received from all sides. On his part, he would promise to do all he could to carry out the duties of the office, and he felt greatly encouraged in the hope of accomplishment of those duties from the fact that he had an audience of his townsmen, who were evidently disposed to assist him to the best of their power. (Applause.)

2

THE MACCLESFIE

MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

COVERED MARKET ACCOMMODATION.

On Monday afternoon a meeting of the General Purposes Committee (which comprises the whole of the Town Council) was held in the Council Chamber to take into consideration the proposed sale of property in Mill-street, Derby-street, and vicinity, with a view to market accommodation.

The MAYOR presided and there were present Aldermen Wadsworth (ex-Mayor) W. Bullock, Carr, D. Clarke, F. Jackson, J. Jackson, and Wright; Messrs. Barker, T. Birchenough, Brodrick, C. Brocklehurst, Brunt, Cornes, Fowler, Higson, Hordern, Hooley, Lovatt, Plant, Pownall, Pyatt, Sanford, A. Stringer, J. Stringer, J. Smale, W. Smale, Stancliffe, M. Taylor, J. Taylor, W. Taylor, Thorpe, Walker, and Wilshaw.

On the motion of Alderman WADSWORTH seconded by Mr. BARKER, Alderman David Clarke was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

The MAYOR said the meeting had been called in deference to a sentiment which had prevailed out of doors, to obtain an expression of opinion from the Council as to the desirability of taking advantage of the sale of property advertised for the following Wednesday, consisting of land and houses belonging to the Earl of Derby in Mill-street, Derby-street and the vicinity, with a view to acquiring a market site and approaches in that neighbourhood. He had himself no opinion to offer beyond stating that a new market was felt to be a great public want; he left it to the Committee, which included gentlemen who had had better opportunities of considering the matter and of forming an opinion, to say whether the opportunity now offered was such an one as ought to be taken advantage of.

Alderman D. CLARKE stated that having heard the opinion expressed by influential inhabitants and large ratepayers outside that this was an opportunity for acquiring a market site which had not occurred in the life time of any individual, it had been thought that the Corporation should at all events have the opportunity of considering as to the desirability or otherwise of acquiring any portion of this property, and hence the present meeting had been called. (Hear, hear.) At first he (Alderman Clarke) thought there might be probably something in the suggestion, but having since seen the plan he confessed there were difficulties in the way caused by intervening property which, even though the property now offered might be obtained at a reasonable rate, might ultimately make this site a very costly one. He had no doubt that the property might be acquired for prices at which in a series of years the Corporation would be no losers by it; but for the purposes of a market there was very little beyond the site which would be of value, and the effect of the property being acquired for such a purpose by the Corporation would be very materially to enhance the price of intervening property. His own opinion therefore after examination was that this property was impracticable for the purpose required.

Mr. MAY having given a brief description of the property,

Alderman CARR said it might be all very well to talk of acquiring this property, if the Corporation were in circumstances to do it. (Hear, hear.) But how were they situated? They were deeply in debt, and if they purchased this property it could not be with a view to its being a profitable present investment, and only with a view to its prospective value as a market site. He did not see, therefore why the Corporation should trouble themselves in the slightest degree about it. What they had to consider was how to get out of present difficulties and endeavour to clear the way before them. (Hear, hear.) The members of the Council knew his

a view of protecting buyers and sellers from the inclemencies of the weather. Alderman Bullock had advocated the abolition of the tolls altogether; they were very small in amount, and it was not the tolls alone which had to be considered. If they had a good covered market there would be a greater temptation for sellers to come into the town, and the benefit to be derived would not simply be from the greater competition, but from the money which they would be sure to spend in some way or other. It was the reckless expenditure which characterised some of these public buildings which he condemned, and which he hoped would never take place in Macclesfield. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. SMALE thought a few pounds judiciously expended upon the old Shambles would make them available as a covered market. As a beginning let them get some screw-jacks and raise the roof.

Alderman CARR said there were no screw-jacks ever yet invented which would raise that roof without its coming to pieces. (Laughter.)

The MAYOR, in winding up the discussion, said his own sentiments ran very much in the direction of previous speakers, particularly those of Alderman Carr. He went in for utilising the property which they already stood possessed of; and he would be glad to see the day when they could afford to deal with this question, and to look this Shambles site in the face. (Hear, hear.) So far as he was enabled to express an opinion, he conceived that there was in the Shambles site which could be utilised at a moderate cost to begin with, and as regards the approaches, it would be for them to consider the best way of finding an entrance to the *enciente* of the building. There was one thing connected with the Shambles site which struck him forcibly. There was at present a positive loss of nearly £200 per annum; capitalise that and it was equal to £4,000 at once. The question was therefore whether they would go on sinking that sum, or do something to render it productive and at the same time provide a convenience which many supposed to be greatly needed. (Hear, hear.) It was also his duty to draw attention to another fact in another direction. At Berlin a large building had been erected for a covered market, by Stralsburg, at a cost of over £300,000, but with all its advantages they could not get the farmers to go into it. They thronged all around it, but they would not go inside. (Laughter.) How were they to get over that? Perhaps our countrymen would be different to these stubborn Germans—(Mr. Stringer: No they won't)—but on the other hand their climate was more severe than ours. There was another view of this market question in Macclesfield which had struck him—Was there any chance of the landowners in the county coming forward to assist in any project for giving shelter to their tenants who come to market to dispose of their produce? He understood that question had been quietly put from one to another—he would like to get an expression of opinion upon it in that Committee. (Hear, hear.)

Alderman CARR wished the landowners would take the charge of the cattle plague rate off their hands; they would then forgive them giving anything towards the market. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BRODRICK moved—“That it is inexpedient for any purchase of the property to take place.” Though he was glad the discussion had taken place, yet with the advance of 3d on the Cemetery rate the ratepayers would have enough to provide for.

Alderman CARR seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

CLOSING OF PRIVATE GRAVEYARDS.

Alderman F. JACKSON said he had another matter to bring forward. He saw by the *Courier* on Saturday last that a gentleman had come down from the Local Government Board in London to make an inspection of the burial grounds in the borough; and that the Mayor and two other gentlemen had met him. As a member of the