

Morgan Bequest

At a General Meeting of the Nine Trades of Dundee held in Common Hall upon the ninth day of February in the year One Thousand eight Hundred and thirty

Convener Thomson in the Chair

The Minutes of last General Meeting and Minutes of a Meeting of the Convener and Deacons entered in the General fund Court Minute Book were read over and signed.

The Convener stated that he had called the Meeting in consequence of a requisition from twelve members for the purpose of expressing their thanks to Mr Morgan for his handsome and generous donation of two Hundred pounds to the poor of the Trades

William Mathewson moved that the thanks of the Nine Trades be sent by he Convener in their name to Mr Morgan for the handsome and liberal donation to the poor of the Trades and that the Meeting as a mark of their respect and gratitude to Mr Morgan admit him a Member of the Nine Trades and direct the Convener to transmit the freedom to him which was seconded by James Chalmers and agreed to unanimously.

At a General Meeting of the Nine Trades of Dundee held in Common Hall upon the twenty fourth day of February in the year One Thousand eight Hundred and thirty at three o'clock afternoon

Convener Thomson in the Chair

The Minutes of last General Meeting and Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee of the Nine Trades entered in the General fund Court Minute Book were read over and signed.

The Convener reported to the Meeting that he had returned the thanks of the Nine Trades to Mr Morgan for his donation and had forwarded to him the freedom of the Nine Trades and that he had received from Mr Morgan a letter in reply which was read to the Meeting and the following is a copy of it.

“To James Thomson Esquire. Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your polite communication of the 13th inst with the highly valued enclosure. I beg of you to accept of my thanks for the handsome manner you conveyed the sentiments of the Worthy Deacons and request the favour of you to intimate to them that I am proud of the distinction they had conferred upon me: also that they have more than rewarded me for the pittance sent. With the warmest and most lively emotions for the welfare of the Corporations as well as for the happiness of each individual. Allow me the honour to subscribe myself

Sir

Your most obedt & humble Sevant

(signed) Jno Morgan

Edinburgh 17 February 1830

At Dundee the Twenty third day of October Eighteen hundred and fifty five.

At a Special General Meeting of the Members of the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee held this day within the Hall Clement's Lane Dundee this evening at Seven o'clock

Convener Hume in the Chair

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and signed.

The Convener stated that one of the objects of the meeting was to elect a Committee to co-operate with the General Committee and the one appointed by the Town Council to watch over the Morgan bequest & to attend to the steps required for prosecuting the claims of the Town and Trades under John Morgan's settlement when the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee for that purpose viz: James Sturrock, James Smeaton, James Spankie, John Keith, J Z Kay, Andrew Benvie and David Rollo.

At Dundee the Thirtieth day of October Eighteen hundred and fifty five.

At a Special General Meeting of the Members of the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee held this day within the Hall Clement's Lane Dundee this evening at Seven o'clock

Convener Hume in the Chair

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and signed.

The Convener stated that he had called this Meeting in consequence of a requisition by the Convener of the Joint Committee on the Morgan Bequest which Letter and the

accompanying excerpt were read to the Meeting and appointed to be engrossed in the Sederunt Book and which is as follows vizt

“Extract from Minute of a Meeting of the Sub-Committee appointed in regard to the Morgan Bequest held in the Town Hall Dundee on Saturday the Twenty seventh October Eighteen hundred and fifty five twelve o'clock noon.

It was resolved that to raise the funds necessary in the first instance for supporting the claims of the Town, Nine Trades and Inhabitants of Dundee, the Town Council and Nine Incorporated Trades be applied to and respectfully requested to vote a sum for that purpose and further that the Funds of Education in the Town and neighbourhood be selected to subscribe towards the same object the terms of Subscription to be the following:

1. The Town Council and Nine Trades as two parties entitled to appear in the action of Multiple Pending now depending in the Court of Session shall as soon as possible enter appearance and take such other steps as may be deemed proper for attaining the desired object.

2. One half of the amount subscribed by the parties respectively shall be paid up and shall be applied in such manner as the Sub Committee appointed to act in the matter on behalf of the public bodies and others shall think expedient. The Convener of the said Sub Committee to act as Treasurer and the money collected to be paid into a Bank Account in name of the Provost of Dundee, the Convener of the Nine Trades and the Convener of the Sub Committee and to be drawn out on the order of any two if them.

3. In the event of the funds being realised whether under decree of a Court of law or otherwise the subscriptions so far as taken up shall be repaid to the subscribers.

4. Under no circumstances shall the individual subscribers be liable in payment of more than the sums already subscribed by them respectively and this shall be specially communicated to the public bodies and the Agents employed in undertaking the case.

It was agreed that an Excerpt from this Minute containing the foregoing resolution and terms of subscription shall be transmitted by the Convener to the Town Clerk and the Clerk of the Nine Trades for the purpose of being laid before their respective constituents with the least possible delay.

Thereafter it was agreed subject to the approval of the Constituent bodies that Mr David Rollo in conjunction with Mr John Anderson Town clerk shall Act as Agent in Edinburgh for the Claimants in the present case.

Extracted by (signed) P. H. Thoms Convener of Sub Committee.”

After due deliberation it was moved by Mr James Sturrock and seconded by Mr J Z Kay that the Trades contribute One hundred pounds of their funds towards prosecuting the Claim of the Trades and the Town Council on behalf of the Community and in terms of the foregoing Excerpt which was unanimously agreed to and the resolutions embodied in said Excerpt approved of and the convener and the Boxmaster were authorised to pay a Draft on the Trades Bank Account for said amount when required and to follow out the resolutions in the said Excerpt.

At Dundee the Seventh day of July Eighteen hundred and fifty six.

At the Quarterly General Meeting of the Members of the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee held this day within the Hall Clement's Lane this day at three o'clock afternoon

Deacon James Orquhart in absence of the Convener in the Chair

The Minutes of last Meeting was read and agreed.

The Clerk read to the Meeting a Letter from Patrick Hunter Thoms esq. regarding the subscription to assist the Town Council and Trades in presenting their claim on behalf of the Community to the Morgan bequest stating that the subscriptions a list of which was sent amounted to £166.9/- one half of which has been collected (excepting two subscriptions still to be received) amounting to £433.15/1d to which sum less £1.17/- expence of collecting together with interest thereon amounting to £433.15. 1d has been deposited in the National Bank in name of the Provost and the Convener which was appointee to be laid upon the Table...

At Dundee the Twelfth day of May Eighteen hundred and fifty eight.
At a General Stated Meeting of the Members of the Nine Incorporated Trades
of Dundee held within the Hall Clement's Lane this day at three o'clock afternoon

Convener Kay in the Chair

...The Clerk read the Telegraphic Message conveying the decision of the House of Lords in the appeal the Magistrates and Trades against Morris and others regarding the Morgan bequest and validity of the Testamentary Writings which was received with applause and a vote of thanks unanimously carried to Mr Rollo, Clerk, The Edinburgh and London Agents and also Mr Thoms for the interest they had all taken in the matter...