

## John Moginie CHAMBERS (1862-1918)

*Wises Post Office Directory 1890-1891*

J. M. Chambers, mining agent & importer, 137 Queen St, Auckland

*Wises Post Office Directory 1892-1893*

John M. Chambers, general agent, 137 Queen St, Auckland

*Wises Post Office Directory 1898-1899*

J. M. Chambers, St Stephen's road, Parnell, Auckland

John Chambers, St Stephen's road, Parnell, Auckland

*Industries in New Zealand p335-336 (published late 1890s - John Chambers & Son Engineers and Importers, Fort Street, Auckland*

... established in 1892, when Mr J. M. Chambers came out from England to join his father. He had been for some time connected with Tangyes Ltd., in the Old Country, and came as their representative to New Zealand, so that the present firm are the representatives of the Company in this colony... Mr J. M. Chambers was born in Newark-on-Trent, and came to New Zealand as a child with his father. He went back to England in 1886, and entered the employ of Tangye's, acquiring a practical knowledge of engineering by working in their different shops. He was also for a time with Askham Bros. & Wilson, and with W. A. Sparrow, of London.

*The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand Volume 2 Auckland p369 (1902) John Chambers & Son, Limited.*

... The expansion of the business was so great that, in 1899, it was formed into a limited company, under the title of John Chambers and Son, Limited with Mr John Chambers as chairman, Messrs J. M. Chambers and Seymour Thorne George, directors, and Mr W. Stanley Cooper, secretary...

*New Zealand Times 9 Mar 1918 Obituary*

The death was announced yesterday of Mr John Moginie Chambers, head of the well known New Zealand engineering firm John Chambers & Son Ltd., which has warehouses in all of the main centres of New Zealand. The deceased was 55 years of age, being the son of the late Mr John Chambers, of Auckland. He was born at Newark-on-Trent, Nottingham, England, and came to New Zealand with his parents when an infant. Mr Chambers was educated at the Church of England Grammar School, Parnell, afterwards going to England, where he went through a course of engineering with Tangyes Ltd., of Birmingham. Upon returning to New Zealand Mr Chambers joined his father in business in Fort Street, Auckland. Later he returned to England to complete his engineering studies. He married the daughter of Sir Richard Tangye, while at Home, and has two sons, who are at college in New South Wales, and one daughter. Mr Chambers has been in bad health for a number of years, and latterly spent the winters in New South Wales and the summer at his residence at Khandallah. In his younger days he was an athlete in Auckland, when the big front-wheel machines were the fashion. Mrs Howard Keep, of Birmingham, is a sister of deceased. Mr Chambers was an enthusiastic Mason and

one of the founders of Lodge Te Awamutu, Auckland. He was also a member of the Northern Club and the Auckland Club, and being a genial, warm-hearted gentleman, was highly respected by all who knew him.

*Alexander Turnbull Library New Zealand Biographies 1962 volume 2 p84 – John Chambers*

...In 1893, his son, John Chambers Jun., having returned to New Zealand after being six years in Australia and Great Britain undergoing training as an engineer, joined his father and they established the firm of John Chambers & Son Ltd... In 1903 Mr J. M. Chambers died and the business was carried on by his son until his death in 1918...

*Alexander Turnbull Library Reference TL 3/1/2 7 Jun 1962*

Letter from the Turnbull Library to The Managing Director, John Chambers & Son Ltd., Cr. Jervois Quay and Cable Street, Wellington. Dear Sir, In the hope that some of your older personnel may have knowledge of the descendants of Mr J. M. Chambers, I write for your help in a quest. Mr J. M. Chambers' father (John Chambers) was interested in the New Zealand Iron & Steel Co., formed in 1883, and I find that in 1917 he (Mr J. M. Chambers) held some of his father's records of this company, which went into liquidation in 1886. It is these records that I am seeking, and any suggestion you can give me would be greatly appreciated. We know that Mr J. M. Chambers died in 1918, and that his two sons went to Australia, but their subsequent movements we have not traced. Yours faithfully, Chief Librarian.

*Alexander Turnbull Library Reference TL 3/1/2 19 Jun 1962 - Reply from John Chambers & Son Ltd.*

Attention: Mr C. R. H. Taylor. Dear Sir, We would refer you to your letter TL 3/1/2 of the 7th Jun of this month in which you asked for any information we can give you in regard to the descendants of the late Mr J. M. Chambers. We would suggest that you communicate with his daughter, Mrs Kathleen Caffin, whose address is:- Balrath, Co. Meath, Ireland. As an alternative Colonel Mackey of Russel McVeagh & Co., Solicitors, Auckland may be able to assist you as this concern have acted on behalf of the Chambers' family for many years. We trust this information will be of assistance to you. For John Chambers & Son Ltd R. A. Elliott, Manager.