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such having been done, the contract for the erection of the school house has been entered into on the part of the Patrons and the Contractor pending the answer of the Sydney Board. An early answer is therefore requested by

Your obedient servant,
J. Hemmell, Secretary.

The Commissioners of
National Education,
Sydney.

Ed. A.C. W.

49/225,

National Education office,
Sydney 4th October 1849.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo, applying on the part of certain local patrons for aid from the Board, in the establishment of a National school at Wangaratta.

In reply I am directed to inform you that the Commissioners will be happy to cooperate with the Subscribers of Wangaratta by all means in their power consistent with their (pursued)

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published regulations.

3. I beg to enclose Copy of the rules of the Board, and Circulars Nos. 1, 2, and 3 respectively, on compliance with the terms of which, the Board will comply with the request contained in your letter and printed schedule, with the exception of the sum asked for in aid of the Teachers, namely £50.

3. The Board do not feel themselves justified in pledging themselves, in the first instance to a higher annual salary than £40 to the teachers of their schools, whom they contemplate shall be a married couple, subject however to the gratuity at the end of the year, in accordance with Rule 5, Chapter 3 of the published regulations.

4. In the mean time application will be made to the Government for a grant of the land selected by the local patrons, without prejudicing their claim hereafter for a further grant for the purposes of an Industrial School.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

J. Hemmell J. } your Most obedient servant
Secretary, } (Signed) W. C. Wells
L. patrons, Wanganatta } Secretary

E. H. C. J. M.

W,

Copy of printed Schedule enclosed in the last letter from the Local Patrons, Wangaratta, (N.B. This copy should have been inserted before the preceding letter, (signed) W. C. Wells, Secretary)

To the Commissioners of the Board of National Education,

The undersigned being desirous of establishing a Boys' and Girls' school under the direction of the Board of National Education, and being willing to act as Patrons thereof, have to request that the Board of Commissioners will, in pursuance of the regulations of 10th May 1848, be pleased to grant a sum of £100 towards the erection of a School house, agreeably to the annexed plan, and also a further annual sum of £50 in support of the schoolmaster and the undersigned hereby engage to conform to such regulations as have been already published by the National Board, and to such as may be hereafter promulgated by their authority,

(Signed) Francis Murphy
 " John Rogers
 " James Meldrum
 " William Clarke

(Turn over)

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Here follows a sketch of the ground plan,
and a sketch of the elevation of the proposed
building,

Number of children in the district in which
the school is proposed to be erected.

Boys	Girls	Total
43	31	74
of which		
40 are Church of England,		
10 Presbyterians,		
5 Wesleyans,		
19 Roman Catholics,		
<u>74</u>		

School site,

Two half acres.

Proposed Cost of the Building, £119.

Sum proposed to be raised by the local
patrons for the building £50.

Miscellaneous Observations.

The Schoolmaster's house to be built with
the extra funds.

E. H. M. C. M.

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No. 49/350.

National Education Office,
Sydney 12th December 1889.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction
of the Board of National Education to
transmit to you, Copy of the Colonial
Secretary's letter, stating that His
Excellency the Governor has authorized
the appropriation of the land at
Wangaratta, selected by the Local Patrons
for the purposes of National Education.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant.
(Signed) W. C. Willis,
Secretary.

J. Gemmill Esq.
Secretary to the local patrons
Wangaratta

Ed. A. C. M.

Wangaratta 16th January 1890

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of 12th December, together
with a copy of the Colonial Secretary's letter,
stating

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stating that His Excellency the Governor has
been pleased to cause to be conveyed for the
benefit of the National school, the allotments
8 and 9, of block 12, as per plan of the Township
of Wanganatta.

In anticipation of such grant, I have the
pleasure in stating, for the information of
the Sydney Board, that the school house
here is already far advanced towards completion.

In compliance therefore with the instructions
contained in your letter of 4th October,

I beg to enclose a receipt from the
Union Bank in Melbourne as a satisfaction
that the sum raised, is there lodged for
the purposes required. And in conclusion

I would urge that the usual proportionate
sum proffered by the Commissioners in aid of
Education may be transmitted as speedily as
possible to the Union Bank in Melbourne,
and there placed to the credit of school
account.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) J. Gemmill
Secretary,

The Commissioners of
National Education
(Sydney)

Ed. H. C. M.

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Copy of receipt from the Union Bank,
Melbourne, enclosed in the preceding letter,

Union Bank of Australia,
Melbourne 8th January 1850.

Sir,

Your letter of the 5th instant
enclosing a remittance to the credit of the
Treasurer to the National school of
Wangaratta, amounting to Twenty-six
pounds ten shillings and three pence.
(£26-10-3) has come duly to hand, and
this sum has been passed to the credit of
the school account, making altogether
at present in our hands on that account
the sum of Fifty pounds, three shillings
and three pence (£50-3-3)

I am

Sir,

your Obedt. Servant,

(Signed)

J. ^{name}
unreadable

To

Mr. J. Gemmill }
Wangaratta, }
Ovens River, }

E. J. G. M.

189,

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No. 50/62.

National Education Office,
Sydney, 29th January 1850.

Sir,

£50-3-3 I have the honor, by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., enclosing a receipt from the Union Bank in Melbourne for the sum of Fifty pounds three shillings and three pence, on account of the Treasurer of the National School at Wangaratta, and stating that the school house is far advanced towards completion,

£50 2. In reply I am desired to request you will be good enough to transfer Fifty pounds of the amount so paid in, to the credit of the Board of National Education Building Fund, Sydney, when the Board will add thereto £100 One hundred pounds, the original sum pledged by them towards the Building, and expend the same on the Wangaratta school house, and Master's residence. (No charge will be made for the transfer of moneys on account of the Board from, or to any of the Branches of the Union Bank.)

3. The tender for the Building should be submitted to the Board for formal approval.

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and moneys on account of the Building will be paid by the Board on receiving a Certificate signed by a majority of the local patrons that the amounts are due and actually expended thereon, and I am to request you will inform me where, and to whom moneys are to be paid from time to time,

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) W. C. Willes,
Secretary

J. Gemmill Esq.
Secretary,
National School,
Wanganatta

P. S. The surplus funds which you may be enabled to collect will be useful towards procuring the necessary school furniture towards which the Board are pledged by their rules to contribute two thirds.

(Signed) W. C. Willes

G. J. A. C. W.

Continued

W^oWangaratta, Ovens River
8th February 1850.

Gentlemen.

In accordance with that portion of your printed regulations, referring to the appointment of Teachers for the National school. I am directed, by a Majority of the Local Patrons at Wangaratta, to recommend to your notice Mr Henry Howard as a Candidate for the existing vacancy of Schoolmaster in this place.

With regard to Mr Howard's qualifications to fill office, it may be sufficient to remark, that for several months past, he has had the greater portion of our youth committed to his care for Educational purposes and that during that space of time, it appears he has acquitted himself of his trust, with credit to himself, and the like advantage to his pupils. Indeed his system of management, assiduity, and general capabilities have been deservedly appreciated by the parties most interested and it has been chiefly at the instigation of those heads of families, coupled with the testimony of others, who are desirous of seeing merit rewarded that Mr Howard has been induced to ask for that

(Consideration

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consideration on your part, which you may
deem such application to warrant,

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen

your obedient servant
(Signed) J. Gemmill
Secretary

The Commissioners of
National Education
Sydney

We the undersigned local patrons of the
National school, now being established at
Wangaratta, beg to express our entire
concurrence in, and our warm approval of
the recommendation contained in the
foregoing letter, in favor of Mr H. Howard
as a person well qualified to undertake the
instruction of the children of this district.

(Signed) John Rogers
James Meldrum
Wm Clarke

Ed. J. C. M.

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No. 50/90.

National Education Office,
Sydney 19th February 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Board of National Education to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th of February instant, recommending Mr Henry Howard for the situation of schoolmaster of the National School to be established at Wangaratta.

2. In reply I am to state that the Board will of course comply with the recommendation of the local patrons and appoint Mr Howard temporarily although it is expected a married couple will be necessary for the Boys' and Girls' school, before making the appointment definitely, the Board will bid for Mr Howard to apply for the situation in his own handwriting.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) W. C. Wells,

Secretary

J. Gemmill Esq.
Secretary
National school, Wangaratta

W. C. Wells

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Wangaratta, Owen's River
20th February 1850.

Gentlemen,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 29th January, and in reply have to inform you, that, on the part of the Local Patrons connected with this school, I have endeavoured (I trust satisfactorily) to carry out the requirements contained in your communication of the above date.

Enclosed is a copy of the specifications for the erection of the school house, as well as the tender accepted for the work. A residence for a schoolmaster will follow in due course to be paid for from the surplus funds now in hand.

£60

I beg also to forward a certificate signed by a majority of the Local Patrons for the value of sixty pounds already expended on the Building, and for that sum, you will please to forward me a cheque or draft on the Melbourne Bank at an early date.

I have forwarded instructions per last night's mail, that the sum of Fifty pounds three shillings and three pence (£50-3-3) be at once transferred from the Union Bank in Melbourne to the credit of the Board of National Education Building Fund in Sydney.

In conclusion I have to observe that
the

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The school-house on this Township will be quite completed in a fortnight's time,

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,

Your very obt. servant,
(Signed) J. Gemmell,
Secretary,

The Board of National Education,
Sydney. }

Ed. M.C. Jr.

Copy of certificate referred to in the preceding letter, viz.

Wangaratta, District of Port Phillip,
13th February 1855.

We the majority of the Local Patrons of the N. School at Wangaratta, hereby certify that the sum of sixty pounds has been actually expended upon the school building now in course of erection, and is due thereon according to the terms of the contract,

(Signed) Francis Murphy L.P.

Wm. Clarke do.

James Meldrum do.

We beg to say that we think it advisable that the money should be paid by the Board into the hands of Mr. Gemmell the Secretary

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Secretary of the school, and we recommended
this course accordingly.

(Signed) Francis Murphy,
Wm. Clarke,
James Meldrum,

With the preceding certificate was enclosed a
Copy of the Specification, a "Copy of Sureties'
Guarantee," and a "Copy of the Tender accepted"
stating the cost of building to be £119, —

E. J. P. C. P.

No. 50/117,

National Education office,
Sydney 6th March 1850,

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of
the Board of National Education, to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo,
with enclosures, requesting to be furnished
with a cheque or Draft on the Melbourne
Bank for the sum of Sixty Pounds, the amount
certified by a Majority of the Local Directors, to
be already expended on the National School
Building at Wangaratta,

£60.

In reply, I have the honor of complying
with

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with your request, the Draft, as is the practice of the Board, is drawn in favor of a Majority of the Local Patrons, which the Board hope will not be found inconvenient.

3. The amount of local subscriptions £50.3.3 is not yet placed to the credit of the Board, but doubtless this will be the case in a day or two agreeably to your instructions.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) W. C. Wells
Secretary.

J. Gemmell Esq.
Secretary,
National School, Wanganatta.

E. W. L. Jr.

Oving River 30th March 1855.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 6th inst. enclosing a draft for £50 towards payment of Wanganatta National School.

I have now to state for the information of the Board that the Building is completed, and I therefore enclose the certificate of the Local

(Patrons)

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Patrons to that effect, with the request that you will forward the balance therein mentioned without delay. By desire of the Local Patrons I also enclose a plan of the proposed fittings for the school house to be approved of by the Board. The tender for this work will amount to £30. With the sanction of the Board in Sydney, the Local Patrons will here provide and expend one third of that amount, presuming that the other two-thirds will be furnished from the Education funds.

The Local Patrons further propose that the balance of £31 which will still remain to the credit of the Wangaratta National school be at once appropriated in the erection of a residence for the schoolmaster.

By the same Mail I forward Mr. Henry Howard's personal application for the office, for which he is provisionally nominated. I have the honor to be,

Sir,

your very obedient servant,

(Signed) J. Gemmill,

The Secretary

Board of National Education,

Sydney.

Ed. H. C. W.

See next page for Copy of Certificate enclosed in the preceding letter.

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Wanganatta, 18th March 1850.

We the undersigned Local Patrons of the National school now established at Wanganatta beg to recommend to the Board in Sydney the further and final payment of fifty-nine pounds sterling (£59) being the balance of £119 the amount of tender accepted for the erection of school house,

We further have much pleasure in advising that the entire workmanship of the Building in accordance with the plan and specification gives us the most complete satisfaction.

(Signed) James Meldrum
" Francis Murphy
" Wm Black

G. M. M.

No. 50/182.

National Education Office.

Sydney, 10th April 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, enclosing certificate signed by Majority of the Local

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Local Patrons, of the completion of the school house, and requesting payment of the balance of the contract, £59, enclosing plan and Specification for school furniture, and accompanied with a letter of application from Mr. Howard for the appointment of Master of the school,

2. In reply I have the honor to enclose Draft for Fifty nine pounds on account of the school building, and to state that the Board see no objection to the balance of the Money left to the credit of the Wangaratta school building being expended on a Master's residence,

3. With respect to the Furniture I am to acquaint you that the Board consider Thirty pounds ^{to be} an extravagant expenditure for desks and forms, and that ten pounds will be as much as they can feel justified in promising for furnishing a school of the size of that at Wangaratta,

4. The Board have much pleasure in approving the appointment of Mr. Henry Howard as Master of the school temporarily, with a minimum salary at the rate of £40 per annum, to take effect from the date of (the

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the Local Patrons certifying that he has
been actually employed in the situation,
I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant
(Signed) W.C. Wells
Secretary

J. Semmell Esq.
Secretary
National School, Wangaratta
Ovens River, Port Phillip

Ed. G.C. W.

Wangaratta ^{of the} May 1850

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of
your letter of 10th April, enclosing draft
for £59 Fifty nine pounds, as balance of
payment for the Wangaratta schoolhouse

In order to meet the objections raised
by the Sydney Board with regard to the
furnishing of the school house, I would beg
to intimate, that the Local Patrons here, have
simplified the Plan of the fittings in such
a way as to reduce the cost to £13 (thirteen)
and for which sum they have contracted to
have them done, the work to be completed
by the middle of this month,

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I have therefore to request that the Board may forward a Draft for Ten pounds (10£) the aid promised towards this purpose, the Wanganatta Patrons trusting to Local contributions for the balance.

Enclosed is an estimated list given to me by the Schoolmaster, Mr. Howard, of the number of children likely at present to attend the school, and the Patrons desire me to request that the usual complement of books for this number of scholars be at once forwarded for use, the rest to be deducted from the balance now in hand. If the books be forwarded per steamer to the office of Mr. Green, the Mail Contractor in Melbourne, that Gentleman has kindly offered to transmit them to Wanganatta without further charges.

With respect to the residence for the Schoolmaster the balance of funds in hand is so inadequate to such a purpose that the Local Patrons deem it prudent to weigh the matter a little longer.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant

J. Gemmell,

W. B. Wells Esq.
Secretary
National School
Sydney

Ed. P. C. W.

W.

No. 50/269,

National Education Office,

Sydney, 22nd May 1850.

Sir,

£59.

£13.

£10

I have the honor, by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th May instant, containing receipt of draft for fifty-nine pounds balance of payment for the Wangaratta school house, stating that the local patrons have reduced the plan and estimates of the school furniture to fall within thirteen pounds, requesting a Draft for ten pounds towards part payment thereof, and requesting a supply of school books for sixty children, the cost thereof to be deducted from the balance now in hand intended to have been appropriated for the erection of the teaching residence, but stating that as the amount is inadequate for the purpose, the local patrons deem it prudent to weigh the matter a little longer,

I, in reply I am desired to state that the Board are not in a position to disburse any moneys in accordance with the Government regulations, until the sums asked for are due and actually expended, certificates to that effect must be first forwarded to them to enable

them

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them to place the amount in warrant.

3. There is no objection to deducting from the balance now in hand for the proposed payment of the requisite School Books, and I have this day packed up the Books as per list enclosed for the purpose of being forwarded by the first conveyance, as directed, to the care of Mr. Green of Melbourne. I have also enclosed all the requisite Tablets and papers for the proper conduct of the school.

The account will stand thus.

Amount contributed by the local Patrons and paid into the Bank.	}	£50-3-3
Board's quota pledged.		
		<u>£100-0-0</u>
		<u>£150-3-3</u>
Amount forwarded by draft on the 4 th of March.	}	= 60-0-0
do do, 8 th April.		
		<u>59-0-0</u>
		<u>£119-0-0</u>
One third of which is to be locally provided for.	}	= 39-13-4
Balance due to Local Patrons.		
		<u>10-9-11</u>
		<u>£50-3-3</u>

Say Ten guineas which amount is forwarded in Books &c. as per enclosed particulars.

4. As the Local Patrons have made a fresh arrangement to that originally intended, the Board's

Order

W.

Balance is now also withdrawn from account to Wangaratta, but I am to state that the Board will be happy to make good their original pledge to the amount of One hundred pounds, whenever the Local patrons are in a position to avail themselves of it.

I have the honor to be,

Sr.

Your Most obedient servant

(Signed) W. C. Wells

Secretary

J. Gemmell Esq.
Secretary to the local patrons,
National school,
Wangaratta.

Exd. W.C.W.

Tarawonga, the Ovens River

May 22nd 1850.

Gentlemen,

As one of the Patrons of the National school about to be opened at Wangaratta on the Ovens, I desire to mention to you that there were four patrons appointed by the meeting held to establish the school, when your agent Mr. Rudden visited in this neighbourhood. One of these (Mr. John Rogers, a Storekeeper) has for some months left Wangaratta, and does not

now

W,

now reside in the Port Phillip district, and
 two of the remaining patrons are publicans,
 holding general licenses in the Township,
 respectable people of their class, but quite
 uneducated and barely able to sign their names,
 these persons are interested in the establishment
 of the school so far as having children to
 send to it, one of them, Clark, as many as four,
 and I think it is probable that the school fees
 will be fixed, in consequence, at a rate in
 my opinion below that which will be either
 requisite or needful, at the same time I will
 not conceal from you the probability of my
 having sufficient influence over these persons
 to regulate matters as I think fit, but
 wishing to avoid the, at least, appearance of
 dictation upon such a subject, I would wish
 the Board to exercise their right and appoint
 one or more patrons from the respectable residents
 around, though I must say that I know of none
 who would take an interest in the school,
 those most likely, are Mr. George Douthett
 of O'Leary's place, and Mr. John Reid, a brother-
 in-law of my own, both of whom reside within
 a short distance of the Township, I have heard
 that the two Patrons I have mentioned, Clark
 and Meldrum, wish to get a Mr. Crisp, a
 storekeeper (and an illiterate man with five
 children for the school,) appointed a patron in
 place