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place of Rogers, but I think it would be injudicious to do so, as the parents of children likely to be at school may not be those most likely to judge impartially of the way the school ought to be conducted.

I should be very glad to learn what may be the average of the fees taken at the Country schools, and what mode and time of payment have been found by experience to answer well,

I have the honor to be,  
Gentlemen,  
your most obedient servant,  
(Signed) Francis Murphy,

The Board of  
National Education  
Sydney

Ed. G. C. W.

No. 50/290,

National Education Office,  
Sydney 6<sup>th</sup> June 1850,

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ultimo, intimating the propriety of appointing  
(additional

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additional local patrons for the National school about to be established at Wangaratta on account of one of the original patrons having left the Port Phillip district, suggesting the names of Mr. G. Faithful and Mr. John Reid as gentlemen most likely to interest themselves in the school, and requesting to know what may be the average of the fees taken at the Country schools, and what mode and time of payment have been found by experience to answer well.

2. In reply I am instructed to thank you for the interest which you have manifested for the welfare of the school, and to state that the Board will be most happy to appoint Mr. Faithful and Mr. Reid as local patrons provided those gentlemen will consent to act in that capacity, and I am to suggest that perhaps it will be better to leave the question of their consent to yourself, rather than in the first instance to communicate with them officially on the subject.

3. With respect to the fees derivable from the parents of children attending the National schools, scarcely any average of the fees taken at the Country schools can be given.

You are of course aware that the Board's Circular of instruction on this point leaves (the

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the matter entirely in the hands of the local patrons, who have to discriminate between one penny per head per week and one shilling according to the known means of subsistence of the parent.

At the National schools in Merrewa and Merremundi the fees average 6<sup>d</sup> per head per week paid up while throughout the Hunter River District, scarcely any school again, averages more than one penny or two pence per head paid up, on account of the poverty of the inhabitants. In the Port Phillip district, the Wanganatta school is the first where the subject has been mooted.

I beg to enclose a circular showing the scale of fees fixed upon by the Board for payment by the children attending the National School, Upper Port street, Sydney, and the mode of enforcing payment when necessary. By a prompt adherence to this plan of proceeding, payment of the fees is rarely in arrear, there are nearly 300 children at this school, and the fees derivable therefrom amount to nearly £3 p. week, paid in advance, which are the perquisites of the Teachers.

I have the honor to be,

Francis Murphy, J.

Tarawinee,

Overseer, P. Phillip.

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) W. C. Wells, Secy

Ed. H. C. M.

W,

Wangaratta, 8<sup>th</sup> June 1850

Sir,

In the absence of the Secretary I do myself the honor to forward the enclosed certificate for the amount due for the school fittings and furniture, and to request that the money, Ten pounds, may be forwarded at your convenience to Mr. Gemmell the Secretary the total cost of the school furniture has been fifteen pounds, the balance being found by the Local Patrons,

With respect to the amount withdrawn by the Board (£20) from that promised towards the erection of the school, as mentioned in your letter 22<sup>nd</sup> May, No. 50/269, I beg to say that the Local Patrons did not contemplate that the Books would be paid for beforehand, and that the price of these £10 would be deducted, as you have shown in the account, whereby Twenty pounds are withdrawn from their Control, placing them in a dilemma as to the contracting for the building of the schoolmaster's house, If it would not be utterly inconsistent with the Board's regulations and custom, the Local Patrons would deem it a great advantage if they w<sup>d</sup> be allowed to draw for this Twenty pounds against the expenditure for the Master's residence, making (themselves

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themselves responsible meanwhile, to replace  
the Ten pounds deducted for the Books.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your Most obedient servant,  
(Signed) Francis Murphy.

W. C. Mills Esq.  
Secretary  
Board of Nat. Education

*Ed. H. C. 9/11*

Copy of Certificate enclosed in the preceding letter.

Wangaratta, June 8<sup>th</sup> 1850.

We being the Majority of the Local Patrons of  
the National school at Wangaratta, do hereby  
certify that the sum of Ten pounds incurred for  
school-furniture is due and has been actually  
expended on the work.

(Signed) Francis Murphy  
" James Meldrum  
" Wm Clarke

*Ed. H. C. 9/11*

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River Queens, 13<sup>th</sup> June 1850

Gentlemen,

In consequence of the absence of  
L. Gemmell Esq. Secretary, I respectfully beg  
leave to solicit your permission to use the  
N. S. as a schoolroom until the arrival of  
the Books provided for N. E.

The schoolroom hitherto used, is undergoing  
repairs for a place of worship, consequently the  
tuition of the children is at present closed,

The Local Patrons are very anxious to open the  
N. S. but object to its present use without  
your sanction,

It is supposed that the weight of the  
Books will prevent the mail contractor from  
forwarding them by the Mail, and in  
such case, in all probability it will be  
at least 2 months before they reach here, after  
their arrival in Melbourne,

The absence of the Books is the only  
preventative for the formal opening of the  
N. S. as it has been finished some time,

There are 50 children (on my books) ready  
to enter the National school,

I remain, Gentlemen,  
your obt. servt. to command  
(Signed) Henry Howard,  
Nominated teacher to N. S.  
of National Education

Ed. H. C. W.

Per - tem -

W,

Wangaratta on the Ovens,  
June 18<sup>th</sup> 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 6<sup>th</sup> acquainting me of the mode of collection, and average amount of the school fees, in some of the schools, under the control of the Board of National Education, and of the Board's willingness to appoint Messrs. Reid and Faithful additional patrons of the Wangaratta school, and thanking the Board for the information afforded me, I have now to state Mr. John Reid's acceptance of the office of patron, and that, in consequence of Mr. Faithful's absence from home, I am unable to communicate with him at present, but I have no doubt that he will also acquiesce. At all events perhaps the Board will communicate officially to the Secretary of the school at Wangaratta (Mr. Gemmill) the appointment of Mr. Reid.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

W. C. Miles Esq. }  
Secretary, &c. }your most obt. servant,  
(Signed) Francis Murphy

Ed. J. C. W.

I have to apologize for writing hastily with bad materials at an hour,

W.

No. 50/327.

National Education Office,  
Sydney 19<sup>th</sup> June 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, requesting payment of £10 towards the cost of the school furniture at Wangaratta and requesting that £20 may be placed at the disposal of the local patrons towards the erection of the Teacher's residence, on the local patrons becoming responsible for an additional £10.

In reply I beg to forward cheque for £10 towards part payment of the school furniture, and to state that the Board will have no objection at all to place £20 more at the disposal of the local patrons, towards the erection of the Teacher's dwelling, provided £10 be first locally provided for in terms of the Board's printed Circular No. 3.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient servt.

(Signed) W. C. Wells

Secretary,

J. Murphy Esq.  
Local patron  
The school, Wangaratta

Ed. M. C. M.

W.

No. 50/337,

National Education Office,

Sydney 26<sup>th</sup> June 1850.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst, requesting permission to open the National school house at Wangaratta for the purposes of Education, before the National school books are received for the use of the children, I have the honor by direction of the Board of National Education to state that they must defer answering the question until they hear from the Local Officers on the subject from whom all correspondence connected with their schools must emanate.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servt,

(Signed) W. C. Will,

Secretary,

Mr. Henry Howard,

Rivers Queens

Wangaratta, Port Phillip

Ed. G. L. W.

No. 50/432,

National Education Office,

Sydney 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1850,

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Board,  
 of

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of National Education to acquaint you, that  
in terms of the published Regulations, Section 3,  
Chapter 1, and with the concurrence of that  
Gentleman, the Board have appointed  
Mr. John Reid, local patron of the National  
school at Wangaratta,

I, may I request you will be good enough  
to inform the Board of local patrons and  
Mr. Reid accordingly,

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

your most obt. servant,

J. Gemmill Esq.  
Secretary of the local patrons  
National school, Wangaratta  
Ovens River, Port Phillip

(Signed) W. C. Mills  
Secretary

Ed. W. C. Mills

P. S. The school books will be forwarded  
to Melbourne by the Steamer "Shamrock" on  
Friday next the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, to the care of  
Mr. Greene, Mail Contractor,

(Signed) W. C. Mills  
Secretary

Ed. W. C. Mills

W,

Wangaratta on the Ocean.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> 1850,

Sir,

I do myself the honor to mention a few particulars of the progress of the National school at this place which may not probably reach the Board through the medium of the official correspondent of the local patrons. The school has been opened after a considerable delay, occasioned solely by the want of Books, which it appears have been lying in some store at Melbourne, these last two months unknown to Mr Greene the Mail Contractor who offered to forward them, but the parcel was so large that he was compelled to open it, and only some 2 or 3 dozen of the Books have been sent us by the last Mail for present use, these are not sufficient for the number of children ready to attend the school, but I conceived that it would be better to commence with what we had, and allow other Books to be used as far as may be requisite, until the remaining portion of the parcel should arrive.

I presume this arrangement will be in contravention of the rule which prohibits other Books than those supplied by the Board to be used in the school, unless such be  
(previously

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previously submitted for approval to the Commissioners, and I am prepared, if this course be deemed indispensable, to send a list of the Books used in the school, over and above those supplied from Ireland, which are chiefly of first, second, & third classes,

The patrons opened the school yesterday and I addressed some observations to the parents of the children whom we had assembled for the purpose, as to the nature of the system of Education to be pursued, and as to their own obligations to adhere strictly and conform to the rules of the school and also as to their duty to teach the children at home their own respective creeds, their being no clergymen as yet stationed in this district, The people appeared perfectly to understand the system, and to be quite alive to the advantages which they were obtaining, the larger portion are of the Church of England, and there are, besides, some Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Wesleyans and Baptists, Fifty children were entered for the school at once, the fees from which average about 4<sup>s</sup> per head weekly, which although I consider a low scale, and that several of the parents could afford to pay a higher rate, yet appeared to be the most attainable, when I perceived an unwillingness in some to avail themselves of the school,

(should

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should the fees have been fixed on a higher scale. I propose to give the schoolmaster for the present half the <sup>school</sup> fees, that is to say, 2<sup>s</sup> per head per week for each child which will increase his income by about twenty pounds per annum, making with his allowance of £40 per annum from the Government grant, a salary of sixty pounds per annum, a sum sufficient I think for the present master.

I have no doubt however but that the number of scholars will increase considerably, and that the income of the master will be augmented further by this means, and should my expectations on this head be realized, I consider that it will be desirable to have a boys' and a girls' school, superintended by a well informed and respectable man with a competent wife.

The rule for payment of the weekly fees has been made to suit the convenience of the parents of children, and it is therefore determined that all fees are to be paid monthly in advance, with three days' grace allowed in cases of default.

The schoolmaster's residence is nearly complete and we have drawn for fifteen pounds, having spent the sum of seven pounds ten shillings locally raised, the entire amount for the building

Contract

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£30, contract is I think thirty pounds,

I have the honor to be  
Sir,

your most obedt servt  
(Signed) Francis Murphy,

W. C. Mills Esq  
Secretary,  
National School Board,

Ed. M. G. Jr

D. 25  
Wanganatta, Owens River,  
August 28<sup>th</sup> 1850.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to enclose the  
certificate of the Majority of the Local Board  
of Patrons of the National school, Wanganatta,  
certifying that the sum of seven pounds has been  
collected and paid towards the erection of a dwelling  
house for the schoolmaster, also that the further  
sum of fifteen pounds is now due to the  
Contractor, I have therefore to request that  
the latter amount may be further remitted.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen,

Your Obedt servant,  
(Signed) J. Gemmell.

The Board of  
National Education  
Sydney,

Ed. M. G. Jr

W,

Copy of Certificate enclosed in the foregoing  
letter. — — —

We being the majority of the Local Patrons  
of the National school at Wangaratta, do  
hereby certify that the sum of Fifteen pounds  
is now due for and has been actually expended  
on the erection of a schoolmaster's residence  
on the school allotments, the sum of Seven  
pounds ten shillings has been already paid by  
local subscriptions towards the same.

(Signed) Francis Murphy  
Wm Clarke

Wangaratta,  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1850.

James Meldrum,

Ed. H.C. W.

No. 50/484.

National Education Office,  
Sydney, 10<sup>th</sup> September 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of  
the Board of National Education to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter of 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo,  
requesting payment of Fifteen pounds towards  
payment of the erection of the Teacher's  
residence at the National school at

(Wangaratta)

£15.

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Wangaratta, and to enclose herewith Draft on  
the Union Bank, Melbourne for the  
amount requested,

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obt. servant,

J. Gemmill Esq.  
Secretary.

(Signed)

W. C. Wells

Secretary

National School, Wangaratta  
Ovens River.

E. J. M. M.

No. 50/611.

National Education Office,

Sydney 13<sup>th</sup> November 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction  
of the Board of National Education, to  
enclose for signature, as marked in pencil,  
the accompanying abstract in duplicate for  
payment of £60 towards payment of the  
National School buildings at Wangaratta,  
which I should feel obliged by your returning  
to this office at your earliest convenience,

2. The abstracts with vouchers for the other  
payments already made will be forwarded

(as

W<sup>o</sup>

as soon as the transactions for completing the school arrangements are closed, these formalities are necessary to comply with the Regulations of the Government,

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most obedient servant.

(Signed) W. C. Wills,

Secretary,

J. Murphy Esq.

Wangaratta,

Queen River P. Phillip.

W. C. Wills

Wangaratta, 4<sup>th</sup> Decr. 1850.

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Local patrons to enclose (in duplicate) the abstract and acquittances of the salary of Mr. Henry Howard for the quarter ending 21<sup>st</sup> ultimo; also the vouchers duly signed by a Majority of the Local patrons, and certified by a competent tradesman of the moneys expended upon the works connected with the P. school in this Township,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

W. C. Wills Esq.

Secretary to the Board

of N. Education, Sydney

Your obedient servt.

(Signed) J. Semmell,

W. C. Wills

W<sup>o</sup>

No. 51/17.

National Education office,  
Sydney 16<sup>th</sup> January 1851

Sir,

Herewith I beg to enclose Draft for eleven pounds, one shilling and eleven pence, your salary as teacher of the National School at Wangaratta from 22<sup>nd</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> November last inclusive,

2. In forwarding the abstracts for Decr, let the month be on a separate abstract (£3-6-8) so as not to mix the charges of one year with another.

I have the honor to be  
Sir,

your most obt. servt.  
(Signed) W. C. Wells  
Secretary,

Mr. Henry Howard  
National School  
Wangaratta,  
Port Phillip.

W. C. Wells

W.

Sir,

Wangaratta <sup>21st</sup> January 1851.

I received yours dated 16<sup>th</sup> January on the 24<sup>th</sup> inst. - with enclosed draft for the sum of Eleven pounds one shilling and six pence. In pursuance of your instructions I forward the abstract of salary for the month of December signed by one of the Local Patrons.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Henry Howard  
National Teacher.

Pro - tem -

W. C. Wilby,

Secretary,

B. N. Education.)

Ed W.C.W.

W.

von Heidelberg 230,

Warringa,

B605.

Banyule <sup>the</sup> 29 Oct. 1849.

Gentlemen,

As Local Patrons of the National school initiated at Heidelberg or Warringa we have the honor to request that the Board of National Education will obtain from the Government as a site for a National school in that village lots 11 and 12 of section 3 in village of Warringa. There is little unalienated land in the neighbourhood, in fact none, available for the purpose in view, excepting some allotments in the village, as yet unsold and we are therefore anxious to secure a site at once by grant as the only means of obtaining it, allotments having been already sold by auction @ £60 per acre.

We have applied to his Honor the Superintendent to reserve from an ensuing sale the lots we have named, and we shall lose no time in taking the other steps necessary for the establishment of the school at as early a date as possible.

We have the honor to be,

Board of N. Education }  
 Sydney. }

For the Local Patrons,  
 (signed) Joseph Handson

Edw. W. C. W.

W,

No. 49/299.

National Education Office,  
Sydney 13<sup>th</sup> November 1899.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Board of National Education, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> ulto, requesting that the Board will obtain from the Government Lots 11 and 12 of Section 3 in the village of Warringal, as a site for a National School house,

2. In reply I am desired to state that the Board will be happy to cooperate with the Inhabitants at Middelburg or Warringal, in the establishment of a National school there, by all means in their power consistent with their published Regulations,

3. I beg to enclose copies,  
1<sup>st</sup> published Regulations,  
2<sup>nd</sup> printed Schedule, to be filled in under the respective headings (and returned to this office, signed by the local parties,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Circulars Nos. 1, 2, and 3 as to school fees, Books, and local subscriptions,

4. Before any decided step can be taken

5 Enclosures

W.

by the Board, it will be necessary that the printed blank schedule, herewith sent, should be filled in under the respective headings, and signed by the local patrons, when the Board will be enabled to state whether the funds at their disposal will enable them to contribute their quota, for building and other purposes, in proportion to the amount proposed to be locally subscribed.

5. In the mean time the Board see no objection to immediate application being made to the Government for a grant of the land selected as a site for the school House, and as reference may be made from the Survey office here, to the Survey office at Port Phillip respecting the land, it will be advisable that the local Patrons at Heidelberg apply also to the Superintendent for the site, as a means of forwarding the matter a stage.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obt. servant,

(Signed) W. C. Wills

Secretary.

Joseph Hawdon Esq. J. P.

Local Patron

National School Committee

Banyale, Port Phillip

E. H. C. W.

W,

Gentlemen,

I beg to forward for the consideration of your Honorable Board the minutes of a Public meeting held at Heidelberg on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1849 to consider the expediency of establishing a National school in that District.

Joseph Howdon Esq. in the Chair,

Proposed by Mr. Callow,

Seconded by Mr. Butcher,

That a National school be established at the village of Warringal or Heidelberg; Carried

Proposed by Mr. Callow,

Seconded by Mr. Borland,

That Mr. Howdon, Dr. Martin and Dr. Thompson be Local Patrons of the School,

Carried,

Proposed by Mr. Callow,

Seconded by Mr. Borland,

That Mr. D. C. McArthur be requested to act as Treasurer. Carried,

Proposed by Mr. Butcher,

Seconded by Mr. Borland,

That Mr. Callow, present, be Secretary. Carried.

(Proposed,

W,

Proposed by Mr. Callow,

Seconded by Mr. Butcher,

That a subscription list be opened immediately to carry out the object of the meeting.

Vote of thanks passed to the Chairman,  
(Signed) Joseph Hawdon,  
Chairman.

Wm. Thompson, M. D.,

Charles Callow, Secretary.

To,

The Board of National Education,

Sydney, }  
}

Wm. C. W.

No. 249/315,

National Education Office,  
Sydney, 21<sup>st</sup> November 1849,

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Board of National Education to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, of (without date) forwarding for the consideration of the Board, Minutes of a public Meeting held at Heidelberg on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 1849, to consider the expediency of establishing a National school in  
that

W,

that District, and to refer you to my explanatory letter on the subject, No 119/299, of date 13<sup>th</sup> November instant, addressed to Joseph Hawdon Esq. J. P.

I have the honor to be  
Sir,

Your most obt. servant,  
(Signed) W. C. Wells,  
Secretary,

Charles Callow Esq.  
Secretary to the  
Local Schools,  
National School, Warringa.

Ed. J. C. W.

Melbourne, 21<sup>st</sup> August 1850,

Sir,

With reference to the communications that have passed between us relative to the establishment of a school at Heidelberg,

We have now the honor to enclose an application to the Commissioners of the Board of National Education for a grant towards the erection of a school house at Heidelberg, & also for a salary towards the support of a Master and Mistress.

We have already collected and lodged in the Union Bank of Australia (whose receipt  
for