

successors, do hereby grant unto the said George Augustus, Bishop of New Zealand, all that piece or parcel of land containing 250 acres and 32 perches, to hold unto the said George Augustus, Bishop of New Zealand, and his successors, in trust nevertheless, and for the use and towards the maintenance of the said school, so long as religious education, industrial training, and instruction in the English language shall be given to the youth educated therein or maintained thereat. Witness Sir George Grey, &c."

2. That, so far from the conditions of the grant having been carried out by the trustees and others having control over the management of this valuable estate, they have been systematically ignored, and the land let out in large blocks, and the rents devoted towards the maintenance of a "Collegiate School," where the children of well-to-do persons are instructed principally in the dead languages and mathematics. That, your Honorable House having appointed a Royal Commissioner to inquire into the management of this valuable estate, the following report was made by Mr. Hart, the Commissioner:—"This was a grant of about one-third of the then existing town site of Wanganui, to trustees of one religious denomination for the purposes of education. The whole of the land had been laid out in streets and quarter-acre sections, the former of which were shut up by the grant and the latter abolished, and the extension of the town in that direction excluded. The rents of this estate have been appropriated to the erection of a schoolmaster's house and Grammar School, except a small portion to the support of the school, which, though excellent of its kind, is not a fulfilment of the trust contemplated, inasmuch as the class of children apparently intended by the grant to be benefited are not such as can afford to pay the fees necessarily payable to enable them to attend the school. Looking at the magnitude of the grant, and the loss which the people of the place have suffered by the diversion of the land from its original purpose, the Commissioners recommend that the land should, whenever practicable, be laid out again and be rendered available for town purposes, and that the general proceeds should be so appropriated as to give the inhabitants of every denomination and every class a fair share in the benefits accruing from the grant."

That the failure to observe the industrial conditions of the grant, and the general departure from the intention of the granter, has deprived the poorer classes of the borough of a valuable educational provision for their children, and imposed on the rest of the inhabitants the burden of providing in other ways for the support of poor and destitute children. That in consequence of so large a part of the best portion of the borough being let in large blocks, and used as grazing ground, notwithstanding the fact of its having its greatest frontage to the main thoroughfare, the progress of the borough is materially affected. That, in consequence of the streets originally laid off through the estate having been cancelled by the grant, great damage is done to surrounding property, and to the general prosperity of the borough. Your memorialists would therefore earnestly pray that your honorable House would take the above facts into your favourable consideration, and adopt such means for the insuring of the better management of the Wanganui Industrial School Estate as shall secure the inhabitants of this borough the full benefits derivable from so valuable an educational endowment.

(Signatures.)

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—

Superintendent's Office, Wellington, 3rd April, 1872.

I have the honor to forward to you herewith a copy of a memorial signed by the residents of the town and neighbourhood of Wanganui, which I have received from his Worship the Mayor of Wanganui.

I beg to state that I concur in the expressions therein contained, and shall be glad if the General Government will take the opinion of the Attorney-General as to the best means to be adopted in order to carry out the wishes of the memorialists.

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM FITZHERBERT,

Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

To the Hon. WILLIAM FITZHERBERT, Superintendent of the Province of Wellington.

The Memorial of the undersigned, Residents of the Town and Neighbourhood of Wanganui,

*Respectfully sheweth,—*

That your memorialists take much interest in the cause and progress of education, and especially in those educational matters particularly pertaining to their town and district.

That the town of Wanganui possesses within its boundaries a large and valuable educational endowment, but that unfortunately proportionate educational advantages have not been derived from it.

That this endowment, which is known as the Wanganui Industrial School Estate, consists of 250 acres of the town of Wanganui as laid off by the New Zealand Company, including streets and reserves, and was granted by Sir George Grey in the year 1852 to trustees, for certain educational purposes defined in the grant.

That it must be apparent that so large and valuable an estate ought, under proper management, to have been productive of important and tangible advantages in the interest of education.

That, so far from this being the case, your memorialists believe that no beneficial results whatever have accrued to the public from this magnificent grant of 250 acres of town land.

That for a very considerable part of the time which has elapsed since the grant was made no school of any description was kept upon the property, and that even now the school at present established on the estate is not conducted in terms of the grant.

That your memorialists beg to refer your Honor to a report (published in the Parliamentary Blue Books) made by the Commissioner appointed in 1869 to inquire into educational and trust estates, which report, and the evidence taken by the Commission, fully bear out the allegation of your memorialists herein contained.