

## JAMES MEACHAM BATHAM examined.

15. *The Chairman.*] You are Registrar of Deeds for the District of Wellington?—Yes.
16. The title of the Wanganui Industrial School Estate is recorded in the books in your office?—Yes.
17. Have you got certified copies of the deed plans of the subdivisions of the estate deposited in your office?—Yes; Nos. 73, 244, 245, 246, and 261.
18. The deeds and other instruments registered appear in the deeds index, Volume 17?—Yes.
19. Have you a certified copy of the Crown grant recorded in Volume 9, folio 40?—Yes [Exhibit No. 45].
20. There is also a conveyance from the Bishop of New Zealand to the Bishop of Wellington and others, dated 13th May, 1862, registered No. 88,053, No. 150, Deeds Record Book, and registered the 28th March, 1904?—Yes. I produce a full extract of the deed, so far as it relates to the land in this district. It also relates to land in other parts of the colony.
21. Is this the only Crown grant you have registered or deposited in your office?—Yes. We have had a search made, and there is no unregistered grant lying in the office.

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WEDNESDAY, 6TH JUNE, 1906.

## FREDERIC WALLIS examined.

1. *The Chairman.*] You are Bishop of the Diocese of Wellington?—Yes.
2. You are one of the trustees of the Wanganui Collegiate School endowment?—Yes.
3. Who are the other trustees?—There are four others—the Rev. T. B. Maclean, Vicar of Wanganui; Mr. R. E. Beckett, of Marton; Dr. G. E. Anson, of Wellington; and Mr. W. H. Quick, also of Wellington.
4. The trustees have been appointed by the General Synod?—Yes.
5. Do you produce the original grant of the endowment?—Yes. It is dated the 13th October, 1852, and is signed by Sir George Grey.
6. Do you know of any other grant?—I have heard of one, but I have not seen it.
7. Have you heard that the original grant was supposed to have been cancelled and a new grant issued?—I have heard that in an earlier grant than this the land was incorrectly described, so a new grant was issued.
8. The alleged second grant appears to have been dated the 16th of the same month of the same year?—I have never heard of it.
9. The trustees have never surrendered that grant in any way?—No.
10. And it is under the trust declared in that grant that the school is now being carried on?—Yes.
11. When did you first take office as trustee?—As soon as I came to the colony, in 1895.
12. Have the trustees an agent or secretary?—They have two. There is Mr. A. Gualter, who does the work at Wellington, and Mr. E. N. Liffiton, who does the bulk of the work, at Wanganui.
13. Do the trustees meet at stated intervals?—No; just when necessity requires.
14. Are the meetings held in Wanganui?—Up till now the meetings have been held always at Wellington, but we have begun a system of holding meetings at Wanganui. I expect that we shall meet there regularly in future.
15. Do you know what books of account are kept?—I can say nothing much about them. Mr. Liffiton is the best authority.
16. Does he collect the rents?—Yes.
17. And do all moneys coming into the trust come through his hands?—Yes.
18. What other moneys are there?—The chief income is derived from the fees. The endowment income is the smaller part of our total income.
19. The other income is the fees paid by the parents of the boys who attend the school?—Yes; that is our main source of income.
20. To whom are the fees paid?—Through the headmaster or his clerk to Mr. Liffiton.
21. Is there a banking account belonging to the trust?—Yes, at Wanganui.
22. Who operates on the Wanganui trust account?—Mr. Liffiton, under direction from the trustees. It is generally done through Mr. Maclean, the resident trustee at Wanganui.
23. He signs the cheques?—Yes.
24. When payments are made out of moneys belonging to the trust, are these payments sanctioned by the trustees before the cheques are drawn?—Yes, in all cases. May I say that information on these matters can better be given by Mr. Maclean. He does more of the financial work than I do.
25. Are the accounts audited?—Yes. The trustees appoint the auditor.
26. Do the trustees take any part in the management of the school in regard to teaching, or is that left in the hands of the headmaster?—It was left in the hands of the headmaster until the end of 1901; for the money arising from the endowment was not sufficient to meet the expenses incurred on the buildings, and therefore we prescribed the fees, and left the education largely in his hands. Since 1901 we have taken it into our own hands.
27. Do I understand, then, that the whole of the rents from the endowment and all fees and income go into the trust account, and that out of that you pay salaries and for the upkeep of buildings, and so forth?—Yes.
28. And that arrangement has been in force since 1901?—Yes. Prior to that Mr. Empson received the fees himself, and paid the teachers and all the expenses connected with the boarding of the boys.
29. In other words, you farmed the school to the headmaster?—Precisely; we having a general supervision, and giving advice from time to time, and prescribing in all cases the amount of fees.