

Hawkridge Snakebanks
10 June 1838

My dear Sir

I wish you joy of your appointment which I hope will be lucrative as well as respectable –

I write however principally to express my hope that you Messrs Norrie or Bedford or all of you will send your names to become of the committee for the church of England Grammar school –

My reason is this – The greatest benefit that will arise to us Settlers from the school will be by its becoming a supervisor boarding school for our children – now all the present committee altho most respectable and clever men – are interested in the day school only in as much as they all live in Launceston and do at present send all their Sons to a day school – therefore it is possible that that if there be no check, no power to oppose any thing wrong – either from neglect or indifference to the boarding school on their part – the main support of the master and the whole benefit to those who reside in the country may be lost –

By becoming of the committee you not be required to attend except to protest if occasion should require this part of the establishment –

It will also add greatly to the respectability of the establishment to have country names to it –

To say the truth, in observing in the first advertisement, that the committee had not included any Country names – I wrote to them – desiring them to consider whether it would not be advantageous, and appear less exclusive to do so – They or rather the Secretary – in reply desired me make any observations and to become a member – I wrote in consequence many observations, which were (by a letter I received last week from the archdeacon) highly approved by him and the bishop – but I declined being of the committee because I would not seem to have written to them in that wish

I am sure if you approve of the institution you will not repent of acceding to my request

I am yours truly
W Wood

J Leake Esq

You see what a pretty mess the Hobart town committee have got into by to their former principles which all my arguments could not induce them to stand by at first – altho they agreed in opinion previously with me –

At present I doubt their right to again alter the form of the school – The Master too is a traitor -

J Leake Esq
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Campbell town

Transcribed by Monika Heisswolf