

on the south side of Victoria harbour, containing in the whole, I believe, some 60 acres, and also the Post-office lots in Government Street, the Harbour Master's lot, and a portion of the Government Reserve. There is also, I believe, a further consideration named in the Indenture of the Agreement, the Public Spring, but of the area of the ground I am not aware.

By Mr. De Cosmos.

Is Beacon Hill Park, as proposed to be handed over to the Crown, of the same area as that originally reserved?—I believe not.

What is the difference?—I cannot say in extent, but can point it out on the map.

Is it smaller than the Original Reserve?—I believe it is.

By whose order has the size of the Park been reduced?—I do not know.

Can you state to the Committee who has possession of a portion of the original Park Reserve?—There is a portion of land recently fenced in on Beacon Hill, which I have heard belongs to Mr. Dallas. There is a further portion not fenced in, which, I believe, was sold to Col. Moody, R. E. There is still a further portion fenced in upon which the house of Mr. Munro stands. Another portion, also fenced in, which I understand belongs to Mr. John Morris, and I believe a few feet of Governor Douglas' fence take in a portion of the Park as originally laid down.

Are you aware of what the area of the Park, as originally laid down, was?—I am not.

Is the School Reserve of its original size?—I believe it is.

In whom is the Title to Church Reserve, Parsonage and Cemetery vested?—In the Hudson Bay Company.

Have the Hudson Bay Company made over the lands as settled by the Arbitrators?—Not to my knowledge.

By Dr. Tolmie.

Have they expressed readiness to do so?—They have, but not exactly the lands the local Government consider should be conveyed under that Indenture, hence the delay.

Has the local Government consented to the transfer of the Church Reserve, Parsonage and Public Cemetery to any religious body?—I am not aware.

Has the local Government recommended such transfer to the Home Government?—I cannot say that it has.

By the Chairman.

Is there any correspondence between the local and Home Government at all on the subject?—Yes.

Does that correspondence on the part of the local Government contain any suggestion recommending the transfer of that land to any particular religious body?—So far as I remember, the suggestions are confined to the manner of transfer, and not to the transfer itself.

Will you state, in brief, what that manner is?—The Trustees and the charges to be imposed upon the Trust.

To what religious body is it purposed to give that Church Reserve, Parsonage, and Cemetery?—To the Church of England for the benefit of the Church situated thereon. The Cemetery to be transferred to the Crown to be vested in Trustees for the benefit of different religious denominations as circumstances may hereafter require.

Did the local Government make any conditions, prohibiting the Trustees from allowing the Reserve to be built upon, sold, or let for secular uses?—None whatever that I am aware of.

Has the Hudson Bay Company transferred the titles of the Reserves to the Trustees?—Not that I am aware of.

Is it expected that each title will be made soon?—I am not able to say, the matter resting between the Imperial Government and the Hudson Bay Company.

Can you not give an approximate date, at which the transfer is likely to be made?—I cannot.

Why is this Church Reserve and Parsonage to be granted specially to the Church of England, to the exclusion of other denominations?—I believe it was the purpose for which it was always intended.

Who intended it?—The Hudson Bay Company.

Not the local Government?—I do not know, I was not an officer of the local Government when the Reserve was made.

Are there any documents in the Public Archives, showing by whom, and at what date the Church Reserve and Parsonage were set apart specially for the use of the Church of England?—I believe so.

In what Department are those documents?—They are with the Governor, in my custody as Colonial Secretary.

How many documents are there?—I do not now remember.

By whom are they signed?—I cannot carry in my mind.

Is Governor Douglas' name attached to any of them?—I believe so.

What date is attached?—I cannot say.

Was it since 1858?—I think so.

Was it since 1859?—I believe it is.

Is the date attached to such document or documents subsequently to 1860?—I don't know.

Can you not form an approximate idea as to the date on those documents?—The documents to which I allude, that is to say, the despatches on the subject, and I am not aware of any other document, I believe embrace a period between 1859 and 1863.

By Mr. Ridge.

Is the question of the appropriation of these Church Reserves still an open one?—I believe not.

When was it finally settled?—I think some two years ago.

Why should there be any correspondence up to 1863, if it has been settled two years ago?—The charges on the Trust were not finally settled.

Did the local Government object to Bishop Hills putting up a residence on the Church Reserve?—I don't recollect that the consent of the local Government was ever asked.