

Hugh A. Ross, Esq.

Dear Sir,

Skibo School.

I refer to your letter to me of 1st April last and to my acknowledgment thereof dated 14th April.

I have now had an opportunity of discussing with Mrs Carnegie the question of the ground asked for by the Education Authority for an extension to the School playground. The ground asked for is within the policy wall of Skibo Castle and I am quite sure on further consideration of the matter both you and your Committee will realise to put a playground within the policy wall is not at all practicable.

Mrs Carnegie has been carefully considering the School building and she feels the present building in view of its age and general condition along with the site is not just as up-to-date as she would like and ~~she~~

Mrs Carnegie has therefore authorised me to ~~state she~~ ^{ask the Educational Authority} ~~proposes to bear the cost herself of erecting a new~~ ^{costing about £2,000} two-teacher school at Clashmore and presenting it to the Education Authority. The School would be on a new site entirely apart from the present one and with adequate playground accommodation.

I shall be obliged by your placing Mrs Carnegie's offer before your Committee at the earliest possible moment, in view of the intended repairs to the old school, and advising me whether your Committee would be prepared to accept.

As before a condition would be laid down that the old school building and playground would revert to the ESTATE.

Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, 111
New York City, N.Y., U.S.A. Street.

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school children to be taken to the new school, and
explained that the offer was made entirely for the purpose
of providing for the old school to be used for the
purpose of the new school.

5th January 1940.

Dear Mrs Carnegie,

I have just received your cable this morning with
your good wishes for the new School. I am surprised to hear
of the time taken in letters reaching you especially as some
of your letters came through very quickly.

The opening of the School went off most successful-
ly. Mr and Mrs Gordon Thomson could not wait for the opening,
as Mr Thomson is very busy in Edinburgh, but Mrs Thomson Senior
kindly came up. A Deputation from the County Council com-
prising Mr John Ross, Brora, the Convener, Provost Murray, Mr
Hugh Ross, Director of Education, Mr Argo, County Clerk, and
one or two other members came. The school children marched
across from the old School about five minutes to twelve and
assembled in the large class-room of the new School. The above
members, Mrs Thomson Senior, ourselves and a few of the parents
also met. The Reverend Mr Macleod, Dornoch, opened the pro-
ceedings with prayer, after which I gave a description of your
interest in the old school; how it was built; carried on,
and subsequently handed over by Mr Carnegie and yourself, follow-
ing up with an explanation of your offer for the conveyance of
school

Mrs Andrew Carnegie, LL.D., Contd.

5/1/40.

I then invited the members and officials who had attended and the two teachers to lunch in the Carnegie Hall. Mr Wooley kindly provided a very nice lunch, and this considerably oiled the wheels and put even Provost Murray in an excellent frame of mind. He was very genial on Wednesday.

We have had a very busy time between the various functions at Christmas and in connection with the school, but at the same time it has been all very pleasant.