

Wednesday 20th March 1861.

Special Meeting of the Committee called by circular dated 13th Instant - to "consider Mr. Banks' answer, and adopt measures relative thereto".

Present
Mr. Miles in the Chair

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Daymond
" J. Johnston	" Harrington
" S. Lock	" Bishop
" Wilson	" Worth
" Woods	" Joynt

The Secretary read the Resolution authorizing him to communicate with Mr. Banks respecting a reported promised site by Mr. Hawdon for the purpose of a Mechanics' Institute.

Copy of the Secretary's letter to Mr. Banks was read.
Christchurch Mechanics' Institute
9th March 1861

Fred. Banks Esq.
Sir

The Managing Committee of this Institute having been informed that you are the Agent here for Mr. Hawdon, and that that Gentleman has empowered you to place at the disposal of the Institute a Section of Land in this Town as a site for its permanent Building; the Committee respectfully request that you will be kind enough to favor them with such information as you may think proper referring in any way to Mr. Hawdon's noble offer:

The general Quarterly meeting of the members of the Institute will take place on Wednesday the 27th Instant - and the Committee would feel much gratified in being able to lay before it the facts of this intended gift.

I have the honor to be

Sir
Your most obed. Servant
by order of the Committee
C. W. Bishop
Hon. Secy

Mr. Banks' reply was read - viz:

Copy
Christchurch 9 March 1861

C. W. Bishop Esq.
Hon. Secretary to the
Christchurch Mechanics' Institute
Sir

I have the honor to inform you in reply to your letter of this date that I have received authority from Joseph Hawdon Esq. to grant to the Committee of the Mechanics' Institute for a Pepper Corn, a piece of Land 33 feet frontage by a depth of 135 feet, out of Section N^o. 998 in Tuam Street. On receiving an undertaking from the Committee that a Mechanics' Institute will be erected on the Land I shall be prepared to execute a conveyance of the same.

I have the honor
to be

Sir

Your very obed. Servant
Fred. Banks

Attorney for Joseph Hawdon

A discussion took place, and the difficulty arising upon the smallness of the frontage (33 feet) - it was proposed that to give the whole matter every consideration the business ^{stand} over until the next monthly meeting of the Committee.

Read and confirmed
Wednesday 3rd April 1861

Charles Ulabaster Chairman