According to Wangemann, Adam originally intended to transfer the farm Poortjiesdam to the Berlin Missionary Society to administer it on behalf of the community as an educational and church centre. Both Adam and his father were apparently worried that after Frederik's death, their relatives would divide and sell the land. They particularly feared that Adam's two German son-in-laws would do so. Allegedly, Adam was also concerned about the possibility that whites could change his father's will after Frederik's death, and that his relatives would be forced to work for them. The fact that both Frederik and Adam's own son were reputedly heavy drinkers, also caused Adam some concern. Adam's one German son-in-law strongly opposed his initial idea of transferring Poortjiesdam to the Berlin Missionary Society. At a meeting with the leaders of the community on 1 April 1867, the then Director of the society advised that: (i) Frederik should sell all his land to his son Adam. (ii) Adam should allocate specific places of occupation to his relatives. (iii) Frederik should be allowed to stay on the land. (iv) Adam should be the only legal owner of all the farms, his relatives having only occupational rights. This would prevent his son-in-laws from selling the land. Adam was to remain head of the family. Wangemann also promised the community a missionary who would be their friend and adviser. He also insisted that the missionary should enjoy a standard of living similar to other missionaries employed by the Society, who earned £90 per annum, as well as a subsidy for their children and a house. In addition, he requested that three families, who did not belong to the Opperman community, should be allowed to amalgamate with them. This would not only facilitate the work of the church, but would also ease the pressure exerted on them by white farmers. This amalgamation brought the total population of Oppermansgronde to about 400.

Everybody that was present at the meeting agreed to Wangemann's suggestions. That evening, a contract was drawn up between Wangemann and Adam Opperman. Adam gave the Berlin Missionary Society pastureland for 600 sheep, 20 cattle and six horses. This he later enlarged. He also agreed to the transfer of the church building and stand to the Society. In addition, he promised to build a house consisting of six rooms for the use of the missionary, and to keep all the buildings in good repair. The missionary was allowed access to the water from the dam and spring on Poortjiesdam, and was allocated a site for a garden measuring 100 x 100 yards, and a field (150 x 150 yards) below the dam. Adam would pay the missionary £90 per annum as well as a subsidy for his children, but because Adam had to build his house for him, the missionary's stipend would be only £60 for the first two years. As well as the community obtaining the services of a missionary, Adam was granted representation and voting power at the Free State conferences of the Berlin Missionary Society. As in Namaqualand, an alliance with the missionaries secured tenure of land on a communal basis. Clearly, this type of agreement was in the interest of the Missionary Society as well.

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103. Ibid., pp. 333-334.
106. Ibid., p. 336.