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In His Majesty's Service

14
Nov: 1. 1813

Com: Nov. 14/14.

(Copy)

Rev. J. Menden to Governor Macquarie.

May it Please Your Excellency

Noticed in mine of Dec. 16/14 - by
the Northampton.

The wanton violence and
cruelties exercised upon the natives of New Zealand,
the Frauds and Robberies committed upon their little
Property, by the Masters and Crews of the different
Vessels which touch there for refreshments, have long
before Your Excellency had the honor to command
these parts of His Majesty's Dominions, called upon
the executive Authority of this Colony for redress, not
only the motives of common humanity and Public
Justice to the much injured New Zealanders, require
that some measures should be adopted to prevent, as
far as may be a repetition of those Acts of oppression
rapine ^{and} murder, which they from time to time suffered
from our people to the eternal disgrace of our name
and Nation - but also the lives and property of His
Majesty's Subjects, which may be exposed to the most
eminent dangers, from the injured and exasperated
natives, when Vessels are compelled to put into their
Harbour for refreshments or any other cause, claims
Your Excellency's most mature consideration - The

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natives of New Zealand have no means of obtaining
Justice but the Law of Retaliation; and to this Law like
all other uncivilized nations, ^{they} will resort, whenever they
feel themselves injured or oppressed. The fatal loss
of the Boyd and the Panamatta, and the murders
of their Captains and crews, and of several crews
belonging to boats of different ^{respects} people, were occasioned
by the unprovoked cruelties of the Europeans. It
rarely happens that an opportunity offers in this
Colony, of bringing the guilty to punishment.
The ships that visit New Zealand, when they have
completed their cargo, proceed ^{very frequently} to Europe or America
very frequently, without touching at Port Jackson.
On this account, those who have injured the
natives of that Island have either been cut off
in the moment of personal **Revenge**, by the enraged
party, or else have escaped with impunity.

Some months ago, I received information that
Mr. Lasco Jones Master of the King George, had acted
with great injustice and cruelty to one of the New
Zealanders (on board the said vessel) which he
took with him from this port, previous to his
landing him at the Bay of Islands. As Mr. Lasco
Jones is now arrived in this port, I humbly solicit
Your Excellency to cause an investigation to be
made

made into the conduct of Mr. Jones, previous to his sailing from this Harbor; and to allow me to produce such Evidences against him, as may tend to circumstantiate the information, which has been communicated to me.

I am fully persuaded Your Excellency has every wish to protect the innocent and punish the guilty; and that the natives of New Zealand will find you ready to afford them all the relief in your power, and to protect, as far as possible, their persons from insult and violence, and their little property from rapine and Plunder. — Though these people may not possess much, yet their little is their all.

Europeans had no right to land on their Island to destroy their plantations of Potatoes and other vegetables, strip them naked of their garments, and ill treat and murder them if they dare to resist such lawless oppression. In addition to the charge which I wish to exhibit against Mr. Lasco Jones, I shall be happy to bring forward two or three respectable Witnesses, who have been at New Zealand, and are acquainted with the Situation of the natives, to state for Your Excellency's information, what they know of the treatment which the New Zealanders have received from the Masters and Crews of vessels. When these informations, or Affidavits, are submitted to Your Excellency's consideration, Your Excellency will then

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Judge what restraints may be deemed necessary
to lay upon such Masters of vessels as leave this Port
for New Zealand, and what instructions to give them
in future. —

Should the natives of New Zealand be treated
with Justice and humanity by the Europeans, and
their persons and property protected from the hands
of fraud and violence, I am persuaded that all
hostilities and murder would cease, on their part,
and a friendly intercourse would soon be open between
them and the settlement which will greatly benefit this
colony. They are a noble race of men and capable of
every mental improvement. They would soon learn our
simple arts and form habits of industry. This I am
fully convinced of from the knowledge I have of
their character and endowments. I trust your
Excellency will see the propriety and importance of
instituting some judicial enquiry against Mr. Jones,
in order that he may not pass with impunity, if
the charge alleged against him be clearly proved.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency

Most Ob. Serv.

To His Excellency
Governor Macquarie

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