

Thomas Kendall to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

Bay of Islands Dec^r 6. 1816

Rev^d and dear Sir,

I have now received your Letter bearing date August 16. 1815. It was forwarded with the Newspapers and Missionary registers by the Endeavour to this place in february last but taken to Otaheite by mistake. I intend to collect as many curiosities as I can for the Museum and to forward them by the next conveyance to Port Jackson or England.

I thank you for your condescension in considering us as distinct settlers, and not as a collective body, and that every reasonable provision will be made for our living independent of each other. Undoubtedly we shall agree best when we have the least occasion for each others services. We are now I bless God upon peaceable terms with each other, and I really find that a strict attention to the above plan will have the best tendency to preserve peace.[f]

George bruce whom you mention in your Letter would not in my opinion do any good here. The woman he cohabited with is dead. The child is in the Orphan School at Sydney. It is better provided for than he could provide for it.

I have written to my brother, but I really must request you also to write an answer to him respecting his proposal to engage in the Service of the Society at the settlement here. You will see from my Letters that there is at present no fair prospect of Mechanics or Husbandmen rendering themselves independent of the Society in any reasonable time. There is no person who would suit better than my

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brother for the purpose of promoting the knowledge of agriculture. I should be very sorry to discourage him, should Mr Marsden still continue his attempt to carry on his plan & other arrangements of a family nature could be discreetly made. I can give you no further advice. I pray that the Lord may direct Him. [f] I conceive from your Letter no objections will be made to send out my salary in Goods, such as I may write for, provided they are sent through Mr Marsden's Hands. I shall be very content with this method. I shall now have an opportunity to obtain at English Prices such articles as may suit me, which I could not possibly do on investment sent to Mr Marsden. I shall give you as little trouble as possible and shall keep no account current, but shall order as many necessaries at a time as will [exactly] amount to a years Salary – I have not drawn [on] Mr Marsden for any Salary for the present year [as] I proposed nor do I intend it the next.

I am rather straitened for time at present, the Active having returned from Otaheite & about to sail for port Jackson – I have sent for my two daughters by the next conveyance.

I am Rev^d & dear Sir

Your faithful Serv^t

Tho Kendall

Remember a)

School Bell) [f]

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The Catherine was 16 weeks coming from England. The Captain kindly presented me & my colleagues with many European comforts –

My organ plays very well at New Zealand the Climate was not so suitable for it at New Holland. The Catherine Whaler, Captain graham, has returned from England & is now on this coast. I am sorry Captⁿ G. did not see you.