

*J. Pratt to S. Marsden, 22 March 1813*

London March 22<sup>d</sup> 1813

(Copy)

My dear Sir,

It is long since we heard of you and our friends, but we hope soon to hear tidings that shall cheer [sic] our hearts.

The bearer of this is Mr Kendall; who takes his passage with his wife and five children in the Earl Spencer. He goes out as a Settler, and we are under an engagement to Government that he shall continue in N.S. Wales for 3 years. He is to act as a School master and his wife as a Schoolmistress. They are to have a grant of Land, and the customary rations from Government. What advantages they may make by their School are to be their own. We have covered all his contingent expences till his disembarkation; from which period, to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1814 he is to receive a salary of £20 per annum, £20 for his wife, and £10 for each child. These sums the Committee request you to pay him, and to draw for the amount on me. He is a most worthy and prudent man. Should he be able to support himself and Family, by drawing less than this sum from the Society it is understood that he will do so: but, should he not be in a condition, at Xmas 1814 to maintain himself and them without some further aid from the Society, the Committee will on your representation to this effect, authorize you to grant him Such further aid. [f] We wish Mr Kendall, of course, to have his eye continually on New Zealand. Lord Bathurst is fully apprised that this is his ultimate destination. Any New Zealanders who may be brought over, and placed with him for instruction during his residence among you, would benefit

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both him and themselves, and you may feel yourself authorized by the Com[mittee] to incur any expence on this account which you may judge conducive to our great object.

The Land granted to Mr Kendall must be disposed of or reserved as his own, when he goes to N.Z. as may then appear expedient.

We have sent out a considerable quantity of Books, with the Society's mark upon them which is meant as a library for the N.Z. Settlement, to be taken out with the Settlers whenever they may go. Mr Kendall has also 50 copies of the early numbers of a little monthly work which the Society is beginning to publish entitled the Missionary Register; which in a brief way and at a low price, will convey a good deal of information on subjects interesting to all concerned in the coming of the Kingdom of our Lord. We purpose to lay by 50 copies monthly; and send them to you for distribution, as opportunity may serve. You may have from Mr Kendall such quantity of the numbers now sent as you can disperse advantageously, the Bible Society has also granted to him some copies of the Scriptures: and will be ready to make to yourself a grant whenever you shall need it. The Religious Tract Society has also sent you a quantity, & supplied [f] Mr Kendall with some.

The Committee beg your acceptance of a bound copy of the Society's proceedings in 3 vol[ume]s and also a copy of a most interesting work, drawn up by Doctor Buchanan at the request of the Com[mittee]. Copies of the same are sent by Mr Kendall for his excellency the Governor, accompanied by a letter from Lord Gambier as president of our Society.

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W<sup>m</sup>. Hall and John King have expressed some uneasiness at being kept so constantly, at manual labour that they have no leisure to learn the New Zealand language &c. I have written to them fully by this conveyance, reminding them that we expected them to support themselves by their labour, till it should please God to open a way for them to N. Zealand; and expecting that, by due parsimony of their time, they might obtain leisure for some acquisition of the language. What may be their circumstances when you receive this we cannot tell; but if little or no change should have taken place, and there should be a pretty near prospect for their departure for N.Z. the Committee will thank you to grant them, so far as it may seem prudent a little leisure at the Society's cost, for the purposes for which they wish it.

We have waited anxiously for the arrival of the Frederick. She did at length arrive, but without her Captain. He was killed in an engagement, in which the Frederick was taken. She was recaptured however and arrived in England. We learnt that Duaterra had been landed from her at N.Z. a fact which, we suppose you have known long since.

Our committee have had frequent deliberations on the subject of maintaining a vessel to navigate in your Seas, on the plan proposed by you. The result is that it is a general conviction among us, that the Society, as a body, cannot engage as owners, in such a vessel. But I am directed to enquire of you [f] whether, in case such a sum of money were given from friends in this country, as would be sufficient when added to what might be raised in N.S. Wales, to provide the said Vessel, it could be put under such management in N S Wales as would

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secure the object. In case it should not be found practicable to establish the vessel on this footing, the Com[mittee] wish to know whether one could not be occasionally engaged to & from N Z to Port Jackson and what would be the probable expence of such a trip.

It would give us great pleasure to hear of your welfare and that of Mrs Marsden and your Family.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Your affectionate Friend

Josiah Pratt

Rev<sup>d</sup> Samuel Marsden