

MS. 54/9

*S. Marsden to J. Pratt, 23 June 1813*

Parramatta June 23<sup>d</sup> 1813 —

Dear Sir

Since I closed my Letter Captain Parker has come in from the Coast of New Zealand with a full Ship of Sperm Oil, belonging to the House of M<sup>r</sup> Bennett of London— He gives me the most flattering account of Duaterra's Kindness and attention to him—he would have loaded his Ship with fine Potatoes if he could have taken them— Duaterra supplied him abundantly with fire wood, Spars and Potatoes,— All he wanted was brought to his Ship. A great Chief named Terra, and uncle to Duaterra, wants the Europeans very much to go and live with him— A young man, a native of America I conversed with yesterday, who has been living for a year or more with the Natives at New Zealand he left the Island with Cap<sup>n</sup> Parker— He tells me, that there is no danger from the natives that they shewed the greatest Attention to him [f] and also that he would be very glad to go and live at New Zealand, if any Europeans would go with him. I am fully resolved to open a Communication some way or other with these Natives— I have had much Conversation with the Governor about it, and his Excellency I am fully confident will promote this desirable object. The Connection I have formed with the Natives, from several living in my House at different times, will open away [sic] for a further Intercourse with them in time, and I hope to see the Arts of Civilization, and the Gospel of Jesus introduced into this great Island, and the Natives advancing to Peace and

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Comfort. When Captain Parker returns to England which will be as soon as he has refreshed his Ship's Company, I will write to you again – and request Cap<sup>n</sup> Parker to wait upon the Society in order that the Society might ask him any Questions they may think good for their Information – These numerous poor Heathens must not be forgotten in these wonderful [f] days – when God hath stirred up the Hearts of thousands to prepare his way amongst the different nations of the Earth, where his name had not been known –

I have the Honor to be

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup>

humble Servant

Samuel Marsden

Rev<sup>d</sup> J. Pratt –