

*Deposition of John Besent, 10 November 1813*

(Copy)

Court House Parramatta

Wednesday Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1813

The Deposition of John Besent, relative to the loss of the Parramatta Schooner –  
Being duly Sworn, Depos– That he arrived in March 1812 at the Bay of  
Islands, in the King George (a ship belonging to Port Jackson). That he resided  
on the Island twelve months and during his residence there, he received the  
following account of the loss of the Parramatta Schooner: –

That the Parramatta Schooner, after leaving Port Jackson, put into the Bay of  
Islands in distress for want of Provision and Water. The Natives supplied them  
with Pork, Fish, and Potatoes, as many as the vessel could Stow. After the  
Schooner had received her refreshments, the Natives wanted to be paid for  
them. The people belonging to the Schooner [f] threw the Natives overboard,  
and fired at them, and immediately weigh'd Anchor. The Deponent Saw three  
of the Natives, who had been Wounded with small Shot by the Crew of the  
Parramatta Schooner. A heavy Gale of Wind coming on immediately which set  
into the Harbour blew the Vessel on Shore between Cape Bret [sic] and Terra's  
district where the remains of the wreck laid when the Deponent was at New  
Zealand last March. After the vessel was wreck'd the Natives revenged  
themselves on the Crew for firing at them, and defrauding them of their  
Provisions, and cut them all off.

“Signed”

his

MS. 54/17

*Deposition of John Besent, 10 November 1813*

John + Besent

Mark

Sworn before me

the day above written

“Signed”

Samuel Marsden

A true Copy

J<sup>no</sup> Obee