

MS. 54/24

*W. Hall to J. Pratt, 9 March 1814*

March 9th 1814

Ship Active Sydney Cove

New South Wales

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

I have long waited with anxiety for an opportunity of answering the designs and intentions of the Society – as well as in some measure for discharging my duty – and now I hope a way is opened up for Visiting the Heathen – The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Marsden has come to a determination at last to purchase a Vessel for the purpose of visiting the Islands – and M<sup>r</sup> Kendall and myself are Embarked for New Zealand and in expectation of sailing tomorrow if nothing prevent – We have left our Families at port Jackson untill we return – which we expect will be four or five months – We shall endeavour as much as possible through Gods assistance to conciliate the affections of the Natives by using them well and making them to understand our intentions in the first place we shall put ourselves under the protection of some of the Chiefs and endeavour as much as possible to know what protection we may expect for our Families, and what confidence we can place in them in respect to our Settling there – We intend through Gods assistance to treat them well and set them a good example and likewise to the Societys instructions as much as possible – M<sup>r</sup> Marsden has given us a little property with us that we may have some trade with them in procuring some of their potatoes – and Fish and Timber and Flax and such like articles as may be thought to contribute towards the defraying the expences of the Voyage – John King is not going this time, M<sup>r</sup> Marsden did not think him

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immediately usefull as we were only going to take a view of the place – [f] and the people he thought Mr Kendall and myself could and answer all the purposes – Mr Marsden and me has not been upon good terms of late but it was entirely owing to money matters – I can do very well with Mr Marsden if I never ask him for any money but as soon as I begin to want money our friendship is soon done away – so that I was oblidge[d] [sic] to draw myself from his employ and I have done much better ever since – it has pleased God to bless me and my Family with health so that we have been able to save a little to support my house in my absence, so that I do not intend to ask Mr Marsden for any money in future if I can possibly avoid it – I intend to Rely entirely upon the Society for my Salary or assistance – and you will be so kind as to send me out Property to the amount of the money, in wearing apparel such as printed Cottons, Calicoes, Jeans or good Fustians Common Shirting a good quantity of threads of Colours a little Common Crockery would be very acceptable if Convenient and I hope through the Grace of God we shall in a short time be able to give you a better account of New Zealand. Be pleased to give our best love to Mrs Pratt, Mr & Mrs Smith and all Friends –

and I remain Dear Sir

Your ever faithfull

And Obedient Servant

W<sup>m</sup> Hall