

S. Marsden to J. Pratt, 12 October 1814

Parramatta Oct^r 12. 1814

Dear Sir,

I shall now give you a List of the Names of the Chiefs, that are at Parramatta at present, and their Servants –

Duaterra is Chief, and possesses considerable Influence –

Shunghee – Duaterra's uncle commands 17 Districts

Coro-Coro, A warlike Chief on the opposite Shore in the Bay

Toohe – Brother to Coro Coro – a fine young man, of good parts, learns english very fast. his Father was Priest

Parow – Related to old Tippahee – who was shot by Europeans

Repreero – Son of Shunghee – a fine Boy

Warrakee – A common man

Mowhee – ditto – reads and writes the English Language –

Pyhee – Servant to Duaterra –

Tinnana - A fine young man, learning to make nails &c.

Whycattoo A common man -

I shall send you some of the writing of Mowhee he is at this moment taking a Copy of a General Order issued by Governor Macquarie relative to the natives of the South Sea Islands which I intend to inclose –

I have sent a Box with a matt or two in it – You will find two for Lady James Gambier, and one for Lord Gambier. What are not addressed you will take yourself – To shew the Society the Ingenuity of the natives of New Zealand, I have sent a Bust of Shunghee. [f] Some of the Chiefs are much tattooed – I told

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Shunghee one day, I wanted his Head to send to England, and that he must either give me his Head, or make one like it of wood. He asked me for an Iron Hoop, made himself a Tool about five Inches long, like a Plane Iron, and tied an Handle to it— took the End of an old Post, and very soon made the Bust which I have sent in the Box directed to you. The Lines and Marks of the Face are exact— and the whole is a good Likeness of himself. His Face is something fuller, and this was owing to the Post being rather too small, which he took to form the Likeness of himself of. Shunghee is a very fine Character; appears uncommonly mild in his manners, and very polite, and well-behaved at all times— His districts are some distance from the Bay of Islands in the interior, he had begun the Cultivation of Wheat which I had sent to Duaterra—

Coro-Coro lives on the Coast— possesses several war Canoes, he informs me that he takes a trading Voyage sometimes for four moons — and goes in his Canoes from the North, to the South Cape of New Zealand— He describes the South Cape as very cold, and stormy, and at certain Seasons there is much Snow, and Hail— [f] I am often much entertained with the Accounts they give of their Country, and manners.

Toohi is very quick at learning— he is of great assistance to Mr Kendall in the Language— From his natural Abilities, and the Authority of his Friends and Connections, he may prove a great Advantage to the Mission— A few nights ago after Family worship one of my Children told me Toohi could say the Lord's Prayer— I was much surprised at this, and called him to me, and asked him to repeat what he knew— He immediately repeated a considerable Part,

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very distinctly. I explained the meaning of it to him, and he seemed to enter into it very much. Should the Lord in his great Goodness make known to him the way of Life, he would be a great man. After conversing with him for some time upon Religion, I told him he would be a Priest; and since his Father had been a New Zealand Priest, he would be an English one. He was much pleased with what past. He spends much time with Mr. Kendall, who is very partial to him— The Friendship seems to be strong on both sides. The Chiefs coming over to Port Jackson, will I trust lay a firm Foundation for the work of the Mission; and secure the Comfort and Safety of those who may be employed in the work— was I young, and free, I should offer myself to this work— it would be my Joy— and Delight— [f]

We shall sail if all is well in the beginning of next month— At present Bread is very scarce— Wheat is almost two Pounds per Bushel, which will make our outfit expensive— If we were to remain here till after Harvest, when wheat would be cheap, it would not be any saving of Expense, as both the New Zealanders and Ship's Company must have bread while they remain, and the Families of the Missionaries also— I believe I have now given you all the Information necessary at present— I have not drawn as yet for any money for Mess^{rs} Kendall, Hall and King and I believe I shall not by this Conveyance— The Letters, and Box are committed all to the Care of Captain Bunker— I have sent you this by a Passanger [sic], a very quiet man who has lived in this Colony many years, and has always behaved well— His moral Character has been very good— which may be some Satisfaction to his Friends.

MS. 54/61

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I have the honor to be

Rev^d Sir

Your most obed^t

humble Servant

Sam^l Marsden

Rev^d. J. Pratt