

*W. Hall to Thomas Smith, 4 October 1814*

Parramatta October 4<sup>th</sup> 1814

Dear Sir,

I can now inform you with some degree of pleasure that Mr Kendall and myself has visited N. Zealand and that we have found it very much to our satisfaction— the Natives seemed rather strange with us at first but after we made them acquainted with our intensions they became quite familiar with us, and we did not hesitate to go twelve or fourteen miles into the interior of the Country and sleep all night amongst them we stayed at the Bay of Islands Six weeks and went ashore amongst the Natives mostly every day. I told them that I would come and live amongst them and make them large european houses and that I would make Boats and Canoes and they were very much pleased with the idea, and after we had pitched upon a place that we thought the most eligible to begin the settlement upon, the party that it belonged to were very much [f] pleased with us, and seemed very desirous for us to go and live there, and another party that lived at some distance seemed quite offended because we would not go and live upon their District— We brought seven Natives along with us to Port Jackson three of whom are Chiefs— we have treated them very well and they are become very familiar with us, and they will return with us when we return which we expect will be in the course of two or three weeks after this date—the Vessel is now fitting out in this Harbour and going direct for New Zealand— with Mr Kendall and his family John King and his Wife and Child, my Wife and little boy and myself— and Mr Marsden says he will go with us to see New Zealand— We must unavoidably be a great expence upon

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the Society although for my part I have been taken out of my employment these eight months past and have received no assistance in any respect whatever – I have said that I would draw as little upon M<sup>r</sup> Marsden as [f] I could, but on account of the great distance we are from the Society, that we shall be all under the necessity of having immediate support – We go relying upon the Almighty for protection, and we hope under Divine direction likewise – for my part I mean to exert myself in the erection of a hut or house for each family and I hope the Lord will bless us with health, and proportionate our strength to our Labours – I mentioned in a former letter that I should like to have a Gun as a kind of defence as there is nothing the Natives so much dread as the sight of a Gun, and to make it more immediately usefull [sic] it ought to be one that would kill ducks at the distance of 60 yards as the rivers abound with these valuable fowls and my Gun is too short and too light for the purpose – and if you will have the goodness to procure it with a quantity of Duck-shot and send it by the first conveyance I will take it as a particular favour – M<sup>rs</sup> Hall joins me with our best respects to M<sup>rs</sup> Smith –

and remain Dear Sir your most Ob[edien]<sup>t</sup> H[umb]<sup>l</sup>e Serv[an]<sup>t</sup>

In Christ – W<sup>m</sup> Hall