

S. Marsden to J. Pratt, 18 November 1814

Sydney, New South Wales

Nov^r 18th 1814

Rev^d Sir,

I am now embarked on Board the *Active* for New Zealand, along with Mess^{rs} Kendall Hall & King— I have deemed it necessary to take a few select mechanics to assist the Settlers for the present to form their establishment. The Chiefs and their Attendants return with me excepting one young man who remains with my Family at Parramatta, in order that he may improve his mind in useful Knowledge. He is a very fine young man— The Chiefs have been much gratified with their visit to this Colony; and the Inhabitants in general have treated them with Kindness and Respect— His Excellency Governor Macquarie has been very kind and attentive to them— and has given them three Cows and a Bull, one Cow to each Chief— I shall take an entire Horse and two mares for the future Benefit of the Settlement— The Governor has also given the Chiefs each one Suit of military officers Clothing, which has been very acceptable [f] to them. They all seem very grateful. At my Request his Excellency the Gov^r has appointed M^r Kendall to act as a Magistrate which will be a check upon some of the masters and owners of Vessels, and their Crews who visit New Zealand— The General order relative to this Subject I herewith transmit for the Information of the Society— The Governor has directed the Colonial Seal to be put to all these orders I have to give to the Chiefs, in order to shew more particularly what is the wish of the executive Authority in this Colony— As far as human Foresight can

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conjecture there is a fair Prospect for establishing the Mission at New Zealand— I have had many difficulties to contend with, but they seem now to be in a great measure removed— The Society must be aware that the Expences attending this undertaking must be very considerable at the first— I have now drawn upon you for £249.8.0, being the advances of one years Salary to the Settlers— I have also drawn two Sets of Bills one for £200— and the other for 205 towards the outfit of the Vessel— I am not sure that these Bills will be [f] sent to England, should I return in the time I have fixed, as a friend has advanced me that Sum towards this outfit. Nothing will tend so much to civilize the Natives of New Zealand ~~so much~~ as a constant Intercourse with this Colony— I intend the Active to be constantly employed in this Service, for the Safety, and Comfort of the Settlers for some time— I think the natural Productions of the Island will nearly pay the Expences from this time— When I arrive at New Zealand I shall be a better Judge of this matter, and shall then communicate my Ideas to the Society— I leave my Family under the divine Protection. If I should be spared to return to them, I shall be able to provide for all their wants, but if Providence should otherwise determine, I recommend them to the kind Consideration of the Society— as much of my Capital is expended in this work and my Partner has been afflicted for more than three years— Whatever sacrifices I may make at present, I feel it my imperious duty to visit New Zealand— How far I am a Judge of my own Spirit I cannot tell— I shall commit all my affairs into his Hands, and follow where the Lord leads as far as I know— I shall give the

MS. 54/76

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Society a more particular Account [f] the first opportunity. You will excuse my haste and Confusion as the Vessel is now under way.

I have the Honor to be

Your most obed^t hum[ble] Ser[van]^t

Sam^l Marsden

Rev^d J. Pratt

Secretary to the

Church Missionary Society

P.S. The Settlers are all well.