

W. H. W. Hall. to Secretary

80

June 17<sup>th</sup>

1815

June 17/15

Com Oct 14/16

Bay of Islands

(Recd. Sep. 10/16)

New Zealand

Rev and Dear Sir

Through the multiplicity of business I can scarcely find time to write, but I have with thankfulness to inform you that we are safely landed upon New Zealand with our Families. The Rev. Mr. Morrison came out with us from Port Jackson and thought it most prudent to settle us near the place where Suaterra lived. — But in a very inconvenient place we are nearly surrounded by high hills so that we can only have the benefit of the Sun a little in the middle of the day — and at such a distance from where the Timber grows that we have great difficulty in getting any. — But we have purchased another piece of Ground consisting of Fifty Acres upon the most eligible place of any in the Bay for which we gave five Acres the property of the Society.



67 June 17/15

But we are too few in number to remove them yet, the Natives would take an advantage of us. I am sorry to inform you that Suaterwa was taken very ill before the vessel left us and a few days after she sailed he died, and two days after his death his wife suspended herself upon a tree and they were buried together, which seemed a very mysterious providence to us, and brought to our remembrance that the judgments of the Lord are a great deep and his ways past finding out, yet we trust the Spirit of the Lord is with us directing us aright. We have had large parties of Natives around us from distant parts of the Country but they have done no further injury than pilfering our property - and I believe I have suffered the most on that account my Tools being the greatest temptation and the most exposed - One day about two months ago when I was drawing up Timber upon the Beach and hauling upon a rope amongst a large party of Natives, that by some means or other my Watch



June 17/18

was pulled out of my pocket, and taken away by  
 a Native unknown to me; as soon as I missed it  
 I bid a reward for it and had it returned the following  
 day all beat to pieces, I have sent to port-Jackson  
 for one, but I am afraid I shall not get a good one  
 from there, and a bad one would be of very little service  
 at New Zealand - Therefore I would be glad if  
 if you could make it convenient to send me by  
 the next conveyance a good silver hunting Watch  
 and deduct the price out of my Salary -

I return my sincerest thanks to your Honourable  
 Committee for authorising Mr. Marden to defray  
 my expenses out, which I have just now obtained  
 a knowledge of, by a letter that had been detained  
 by the Rev. Mr. Fulton -

We are assisted by a Smith and a pair of Lawyers,  
 and the Rev. Mr. Marden has been very attentive  
 to us, in supplying our wants from port-Jackson  
 When we first landed we engaged the Natives to build  
 thatched huts for <sup>us</sup> after their own fashion, which we



67  
went into — and since that I have built two wooden  
Houses besides the Smith Shop — I have also made a Boat  
out of a Canoe that we purchased from the Natives —  
I accomplished it by cutting off both ends, and made  
them up again in a regular manner, I supported  
its sides with additional planking and made it to  
pull with six Cows — We call it the experiment it  
will carry between three and four Tons and sails well,  
I employ as many Natives as I can in preparing Timber  
for fences, and any other such work, as they are able  
to do it — I now consider myself as if I were at home  
in the very Sphere of usefulness, and what my hand  
findeth to do I do it with all my might

The Brig Active is just now going out on her second  
trip to port Jackson — I have been assisting in  
procuring a Cargo of Timber for her, three five  
weeks past, she lays about ten miles from  
the Settlement up a River convenient for taking  
in Timber — and I employ Natives to pull the  
Boat for me, and likewise to fall the Timber



and float it down the River convenient to the Depot  
 and being so much amongst the Natives, I learn  
 the Language very fast, I can converse with them  
 upon any common subject, and I have no doubt  
 but in course of time I shall get the Language  
 complete — I mentioned in a former letter  
 respecting Cloathing being sent out to the amount  
 of my Salary, which if you could make it  
 convenient would be of great service to us —  
 as Cloathing is very dear in Fort Jackson, and  
 I wear mine out very fast among the Timber —  
 and the Natives steal them whenever they can lay  
 hold of them; their Stealing is one of the greatest  
 evils that we have to guard against; but it  
 what we must expect from a people in a state  
 of nature — and may we have grace and strength  
 temporal and Spiritual adequate to our labours.  
 — and may we rely upon Him who alone is able  
 to bear up his people under all their trials —



67 We hope in course of time to be able to send better amounts  
— But we seem as yet to be too small a party, and our  
Mechanics are not proper Characters — If you could  
make it convenient to send out a proper person for  
a Smith, and another Carpenter or two, after the  
~~Settlement~~ is established — would be of great use,  
and after the Settlement is established, we might  
build a small Vessel that would be very useful for  
collecting Timber and other productions of the Country  
for the benefit of the Settlement — But these things  
I leave to your own superior judgement — and may  
the God of all grace direct you and us aright, that  
all may work together for his peoples good and his  
own Glory — I have with thankfulness to  
inform you that about five weeks ago Mr. Hall  
was safely delivered of a Daughter and has had good  
recovery — I have sent a New Zealand Garment  
what the Natives call a pagatey as a curiosity  
to the Rev. Mr. Pratt, which I beg her acceptance



of, as having nothing better to send,  
 and Mr. Hall joins me with our best respects  
 to Mr. Pratt with yourself and all Friends,  
 and remain Dear Sir your most obedient  
 Humble servant and Labourer

in Christ W<sup>m</sup> Hall  
