

June 15/15

to bring forward. The Governor appointed a full bench of magistrates
to meet. I attended with the natives to prove the charges against
the master of the vessel. As the natives story seemed to have
little weight with the bench. I called upon some part of the
Shops Company, and shewly proved from them, that the
captain of the vessel, had purchased the New Zealander, and
had defrauded them by filling up the contents of the quant
pot with wood in which the cut was measured. This being
proved with respect to the pot, one of the magistrates very
sarcastically observed, that the quant pot, might not be exact
Winchester measure, and that the master of the vessel might
have put the wood in it, to make the measure correct—
I was extremely hurt, with such an unjust, and undignified remark
from a magistrate. It convinced me that the bench was determined
to turn to ridicule, what in my opinion was an offence of the
blackest nature. I complained of this magistrate to the Governor
told him how unbecoming it was for any man to speak in
that manner, and much more, when in the act of administering
Justice. I have no doubt, but the Governor highly disapproved
of such conduct—but at the same time I obtained no redress
for the natives. When I returned from New Zealand, I had several
charges against the same master for crimes committed lately
against the natives of New Zealand. The Chief of the north
Cape complained to me that he had sold 150 baskets of potatoes
and 8 Hogs for a musket to the same master—and that
when he went to get his musket, after delivering the above
150 baskets of potatoes and eight Hogs, which were divide
between a vessel called the Jefferson, and the King George
whom the above master commanded, the Chief was detained
a prisoner for 6. Days, till ransomed with 170. Baskets
of potatoes, and five Hogs. The Chief sent with me
an other man mentioned in my public letter to recover