

Rev. Mr.

Com. Oct 14/16

Mr John King to Rev. D. Wilson

Bay of Islands. N. Z July 4 1815

July 4/15

Mr John King to Rev. D. Wilson

It is with pleasure, that I have this opportunity to address you with these few lines, hoping they will find you in good health, as they leaves me, my wife and two little boys In Feb. I sent a Letter which would inform you of our settling at this place under the protection of Duaterra but alas he is no more, it is true, what David said in his Day, it is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man, yea, than in Princes, There has been a great deal said about Duaterra and a great deal expected from him, by some, who I trust wishes well to the natives ~~but~~ but his mind was much prejudiced against us, by some natives of Otahetelee, when at Port Jackson <sup>the</sup> last time Feb. 12 Being Sunday Duaterra attended Divine service tho he did not always attend, after he dined at Mr. Hall's eat as hearty as usual, 13 he was taken ill but came to see us desiring to have the axes made to pay for the Ground we live on, as his people were daily teasing him for the payment, it was not Duaterra's Ground — we visited him daily gave him all the nurrishment we were able — 16 in the morning he was much better, at noon they would not <sup>let</sup> me go to him, he was made secret; 19 Mr. Marsden came from the Ships and after service prevailed upon the Priest to see Duaterra, 23 Mr. Marsden renewed or tried to renew his visit but all in vain untill he was or appeared to be in a great rage and told them if they did not let him see Duaterra he would fetch the big Guns and blow the Town up and set it all on fire, with this the natives permitted M-M to see him and give him a little refreshment, but he was so weak at this time

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that he could not raise his hand to his mouth he said he would  
eat when he was able or had breath enough, being so weak having no kind  
of nourishment since the 18 / 23 M. Marsden seen him for the last time as the  
Active sailed this Day for Port Jackson, March 2 it was reported the  
natives were carrying Duaterra to his burying place, which they  
would have done some time before if he had not prevented them by  
loading a Pistol saying he would shoot them, if they attempted to move  
him, 3 Early in the morning the natives told us Duaterra was Dead,  
M. Kendall and I went to see him, he was surrounded with his nearest  
friends, a number of natives round about weeping and cutting themselves  
untill the blood ran freely down, so we was called up at break of day to  
go and see him, M. Hall and I went with a number of natives to Tippoo-  
they was crying as before and making a doleful noise, so we returned  
about nine o'clock, not long after the natives came and told us that his  
head Wife had hung her self with a peice of green Flax upon a tree  
at a short distance from Duaterra, they all said it was very good  
at N-2- Without doubt he was a well wisher to his own people, and  
to the English, at the same time it is evident he had no knowledge  
of Religion, sowing Wheat, planting corn, making Farms was  
his favourite employ and the topic of his conversation, he wanted his  
people to be like white people to have Bread &ea Sugar Clothing &c  
At the time of his illness and to his Death it seemed to be the most of care  
and talk to take care of us, he advised us to leave N-2- as the people were very  
bad in gennoal, if not leave, it was his care daily to charge his people to take care  
of us & to defend us to their utmost

In this short time we have had many things very disagreeable and distressing  
to beare with not only from blacks but from whites also, at this time  
things are beginning to mend, when things are conducted according to things  
that are honest true just and of good report there is some hope of concord & peace

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There is so much self will and selfishness among us that there is not <sup>2</sup>  
but little room for the will of God and the good of man to be regarded -  
I am <sup>sorry</sup> very to say here has been much disputing, care, staiding, labour  
&c, but not how we might please and serve the Lord, but please and serve our  
selves. I hope and pray that the Lord will be pleased to send <sup>us</sup> a wise and  
able Minister of Jesus Christ, for here is a great Harvest before us -  
This is the first Letter of complaint to England from me, if I forget not. it is  
with reluctance I now begin hoping it will be my lot to do so no more to speak  
in a few words without relating every particular I have to say they have  
behaveed very bad to us they will serve the runaway Trimmers from Part-  
jackson, before us, they made us go without Sugar before the ship came back  
here while nobody else did, as there was fifty lb. in the settlement belonging to the society  
when the ship came back, and in many others instances which I shall omit as  
I dont like to complain, they will let us have nothing, <sup>but what</sup> they can <sup>not</sup> hinder us of -  
Mr Hall and Mendall <sup>quarrel</sup> very much, but the both agree to deprive us of what  
is right when they have got things in their own possession it is with reluctance  
they part with any, --- I have <sup>been</sup> employed in making shoes for our Families  
getting a little acquainted with the Language preparing Flax for making Lanes  
I shall begin to instruct them in spinning as soon as the ship is gone if  
nothing prevents, the 22 of June Quatterra's Mother-in-law brought her  
Grand Daughter to our House desiring she should live with <sup>us</sup> to nurse  
the child to learn to read to sew clean the House to do every thing like  
White People &c. this being the first that has been offered to us we gladly  
received her upon conditions she shall not steal and will endeavour to act  
according to our direction we must feed & cloth her, we could have a great many  
more but they steal all from us they are able, they are not content with a  
bellyfull themselves but want to <sup>lead</sup> all their Party and steal all they possibly  
can of other things besides many lives by plunder the strong plunders  
the weak they have stolen ten cocks and hens, eighteen Turkey from me  
besides things out of the House, altho they behave well as we say, yet we have  
great deal to bear of ruff and indecent treatment they have learned a set of bad

of our countrymen and often use them with obscene actions without shame  
 or a sense of the evil of it, Ever since the Death of Duoterra we have been  
 exposed left to the mercy of all parties both far and near, April 19 A large  
 party came from Wangaroa in a most formidable manner, thirteen  
 large Canoes about four Hundred people, indeed six you may believe me every  
 white man and woman turned pale, the Chief came along the beach in the  
 front of his men came up to us saying he was not angry with us but with our  
 natives, the reason was this, this Chief was up a little time before with a small party he  
 prevailed upon M. Kendall to go with him to see the remaines of the Ship Boyde and  
 her cargo Dollers &c which the Chief spoke of, Racoo Duoterra's father in law. prevailed  
 upon him not to go for fear they should kill him as he had received strict orders to take  
 care of us therefore this Chief was very angry with Racoo brought this large party up to fight  
 Racoo but he being out of the way at this time they was quiet stolen all from us they  
 could and left us the next Day, next week they returned went past our place landed  
 about two miles from us & destroyed a field of Potatoes belonging to our natives killed  
 all the Diggs they could find -- The Wangaroa people are enemies to our natives  
 they dare not come ~~near~~ while Duoterra was living when Dead they came  
 boldly they told us they would not hurt us nor M. Marsden's Ship if it went there  
 but any other ship coming they would take it if they could --  
 a little time back they ~~slayed~~ Sawyer & his wife & child and one man was  
 over at the New settlement living in a new House just built a party of natives  
 surrounded the House <sup>in the night</sup> got in stolen all from them and threatened them so  
 we know not what a Day may bring forth --  
 July 2<sup>nd</sup> the little girl we have living with us refused to repeat  
 the Alphabet saying it was no good I put the Book up saying if she  
 did not like to learn to read I would not make her I soon perceived what  
 was the reason I taken the Bible down, telling her that this was  
 Gods Book, that was not, which she <sup>tried to read</sup> ~~would~~ reading in, it being a spelling  
 Book. I asked her to come to read she came with pleasure she knew four Letters  
 before, at this time learned two more, They are very ~~fond~~ jealous of our  
 God saying M. Hall & M. Kendall & myself praying so much makes our God

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destroy them about this time here as hath a great number died some  
say it is our God kills them, others N<sup>o</sup> God, they drop off very fast the  
weather being wet and cold and having no kind of nourishment, when ill  
they must not sleep nor eat in their Home, There is not one Chief that  
I think I may say not one that wishes us well but what wants us to  
live with him or at his place, either one or all of us but this will  
not do at present they are such rages, and another thing is if we  
are under them we can be of no use to them, they want to instruct  
us how to treat our Children & cooke, and many other things saying it  
is very good in N<sup>o</sup> so that if we was in single families among  
them we could be of no use to them, in my opinion for they are like  
Bears when vexed we should be in too much fear of them not only  
that but it would be too strong a temptation for them they wont  
plunder us no doubt, no doubt they would not kill us, here is no sort  
of punishment in general except when they are mad then they  
destroy all before them when we get any thing back which they  
have stolen they in general want as much for bringing it  
back as it is worth the Chief will scold a little and then all laugh  
together so no more only say it is very bad - I have sent you one small  
one basket, two small flutes, a green stone, made up into a  
small Parcel covered with two news papers I have put them in  
into a box of M<sup>r</sup> Kendall's which he will direct to Rev. J. Pratt  
whose I have no doubt but you will have them safe, the two flutes  
are for your Dear Children it is but a poor present but it, that  
those people are not always idle, nor destitute of Knowledge  
I have sent a small parcel directed to my Father it is one small  
and one small basket for my Mother if you will be so kind as to

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send it to my father I shall be very thankful to you and look upon it as a particular favour it is put in Mr Kendall's box sent to Rev. J. Pratt - Pray excuse my blunders, you will plainly see Sir, how much we need ~~the~~ prayers and direction of our <sup>able</sup> Society you well know that a Congregation without a Minister a flock without a shepard, a servant without a master is not good so here is little good to be expected untill a good shepard cometh to manage us so no more at this time but to wish you good luck in the name of the Lord and pray that the best of blessings may rest upon you and your Family and that great power may attend your Minist to the conviction and conversion of many sinners to God and is ~~my~~ sincere prayer of your most unworthy servant Give my kind respects to Mr. Wilson and his all that are dear to him so I rest

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir  
your most unworthy  
and most obedient servant  
John King

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