

Mr John King to Secretary

Bay of Islands New Zealand July 6/15 84

Rev. and Dear Sir,

Com. Oct 12/16.

July 6. 1815

(Recd. Sep. 10/16)

It is with pleasure I have this opportunity to send a few lines hoping they will find you in good health as they leaves me my wife and two little boys, when Mr. Marsden was here we made objections against settling at this place but in vain, when he was gone and Quaterra Dead, they thought proper to buy a piece of ground which was level, fit for gardens and fields for corn close by or near an excellent Harbour where most of the ships come, therefore much more advantageous than this for temporel concerns, The Sawyer his wife and child and one man went to the new settlement to live Mr. Hall was going as soon as he had put his house up, as the boards was sawn but on Saturday night the 2nd of June the natives surrounded the Sawyers house (one of the men being at our place) and plundered him of all he had and threatened to kill them, this hath put a stop to it at present, our natives and all our principal friends, was very sorry and vexed when they see the things agoing, when this robbery was known they was very well pleased hoping it will keep us here they laugh at us and say, me tell you no good go Witunghee, take all your things, no believe me, a you see now me no tell lie, all most every Chief wants us to live at their place one or all of us, but in my opinion it is very improper for a single family to live with them at present, if we are under them we can do them no good they want to us how to treat our children and many things we must do which we ought not to do, if under them, besides steal all we have and laugh at us, Feb 25 Mr. Marsden left this place March 3 Quaterra died. next Day his wife hanged herself, we have been in an unsettled state ever since about the new Settlement, therefore little has been done by each of us at present towards settling our selves what has been done is lost but we are saved