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31 August Returned to the Bay the Brig Trial Capt.  
Hovele & the Schooner Brothers capt. Burnett.  
Captain Hovele states that on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst.  
an attempt was made by the natives at Mercury  
Bay to take both the vessels. He has favored me  
with the perusal of a letter to Messrs Lidd and  
Blaxcell of Sydney the owners of which the following  
is a copy-

Gentlemen. The following letter is the particulars of  
what transpired on board the Brig Trial under  
my command on the afternoon of the 20<sup>th</sup>  
August 1815 at Trials Harbour New Zealand  
Lat 30.40 Longitude 175.49 East.

At 12.30 P.M. light breeze and fine clear pleasant  
weather. I particularly remarked a number  
of canoes along side both vessels. But from  
the friendly terms we were on with the natives  
and the two chiefs who had constant access  
to both vessels I thought I had no reason