

Oct. 26/15

Rev. S. Mayhem to Secretary

Private

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Parramatta Oct. 26. 1815

Dear Sir

(Recd. Sep. 5/16, by the Northampton)

(Ans. Sep. 5/16, by the Sir W. Bently)

In former letters I informed you a Society was instituted in the Colony for the Protection of the natives of the South Sea Islands generally: and I was in hopes that it would have been attended with some benefit; the time it was instituted; but I had soon cause to alter my opinion. About twelve months ago when the Cumberland returned to Port Jackson a vessel belonging to this Settlement, which had been trading amongst the Islands; I was informed that the most dreadful murders had been committed on one of the Islands by some of the People belonging to the Cumberland. As Quaterra was here and several more New Zealanders when the Cumberland came in; and as the Cumberland had touched on her outward bound voyage at the Bay of Islands, where she had received two men from Quaterra, and one of them was now killed by an European, he was anxious to know the cause. I therefore called a general meeting of the Society. Some of the members attended, and some did not. At the meeting many objections were started against examining