

S. Marsden to J. Pratt, 27 October 1815

Parramatta Oct^r 27, 1815

Dear Sir,

I write these few Lines in behalf of Richard Stockwell, a young men who came here a Prisoner in the Ship Earl Spencer along with M^r Kendall, who has had him in his Service ever since. I got the Governor's Permission for him to accompany M^r Kendall to New Zealand upon giving a Bond for him, that he should be delivered up to the Governor of this Colony at any future time he should be demanded. As Richard Stockwell has behaved himself very honestly, and shewn a wish to do every thing he could to gain his Master's Favor, I beg to recommend him to your kind Services— I believe he is a native of Bristol— If you could obtain a Recommendation for him to the Governor of this Colony, for the time being, from any Person in authority, I have no doubt, but the young man would have a mitigation of his Sentence, and in time [f] he may be permitted to return to his native Country and Friends— I will second any Representation, or Recommendation here with the Governor: and use any Interest I may possess at the time for his Pardon. The young man is very usefully employed for the mission at New Zealand, and I agreed to allow him for Clothes &c £15 per annum on the Society's Account— be so kind as to bear this in mind —

I have also another Request to make on behalf of an unfortunate man here, but a man of very good Character, and one who wishes to join the settlers at New Zealand. His name is William Roberts— he was transported to this Colony for 14 years which he has served. William Roberts was tried at the Old Bailey in Sep^r.

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1802 and sentenced for 14 years Transportation. On examining the Records or Indents of the term of years for which every Convict is sentenced to serve, Roberts is entered down in these Records for Life, and he must remain in Bondage all his days unless some Friend will take the Trouble to obtain proper Documents to satisfy the Governor of this Colony that his term of Exile [f] is expired. By an Application to the Keeper of Newgate the Records of his Trial and Conviction can be examined, and if it should appear that William Roberts was only sentenced for 14 years a Certificate of this from M^r Shelton, or whoever is the Head of that Office signed by him, and transmitted to this Colony will obtain this poor man his Freedom. This Fatal error may have been committed by a Clerk thro' mistake in copying the Records. I believe William Roberts was tried before the Recorder of the City of London M^r Silvester – Should his Sentence be only 14 years, M^r Silvester's Signature to the Certificate would have great weight with the Governor here. The young man Eves, whom you mention I shall notice – George Garrett is well – but lives at Sydney along with an officer there – I believe his Conduct is very good – I am intimate with his master, and have never heard him complain of his Conduct. The Rev^d M^r Wilcox was his Friend –

I am

Rev^d Sir

Yours very truly

Sam^l Marsden

Rev^d. J. Pratt