

Parramatta Nov. 6. 1815.

Rev. J. Marsden

(Recd. Sep. 5/16.

[Ans. Sep. 5/16, by the Sir Wm Bunker]

About a week since I closed my letters to you, to send by the northampton, as she was expected then to sail. but finding she has been detained in Caraque^{ve} of a vessel arriving from the South Sea Islands, I deem it necessary to drop you another line. A few days ago a Colonial Vessel arrived from New Zealand, and brought me letters from the Settlers dated Oct. 11. 1815. I am happy to inform you that the Settlers were all well and the Settlement going on very prosperously. At the same time I am sorry to acquaint you, that the Colonial Vessels, as well as some of the whalers treat the Natives exceedingly ill, and may endanger the safety of the men and Settlers who are resident at the Bay of Islands - From the best information that I am able at present to obtain, the last Colonial Vessel must have committed the most dreadful crimes on the Coast of New Zealand. Five men belonging to the vessel were killed in the quarrels they had with the natives, and from their own account, not less than two of the Natives - This happened not far from the River Thames, an Account of which had reached the Settlers at the Bay of Islands, and greatly distressed them. After this affair the Vessel touched at the Bay of Islands on her return to Port Jackson