

T. Kendall to J. Pratt, 22 January 1816

Bay of Islands New Zealand

22 Jany 1816

Rev^d and Dear Sir,

From my papers sent by this conveyance and perhaps from those of my colleagues Mess^{rs} Hall and King you will observe that we are not acting in christian concert as a body. This will be painful news to yourself, and our Honorable Committee should you think it necessary to inform them. I feel burthened and troubled in my mind to relate any thing of an unpleasant nature of myself or the other Settlers, yet I do not know how to avoid it entirely. I owe a duty to the Society whose servant I am, and it is but fair to state to you how we are going on, as you will be prepared thereby to notice such things as you think necessary in your public instructions. I hope what I shall communicate will be in the spirit of Christian Charity. [f] I am happy to say, that nothing of an immoral nature as it respects the external deportment of your Missionary Settlers especially my colleagues can be connected with these observations, and that the most perfect harmony subsists between the Settlers and the Natives.

Mr Hall has removed from us to a spot which he first pitched upon, on our voyage of investigation. As it is ten miles distant from Tippoona, and it would be impossible for him to leave Mr^s Hall alone he is necessarily excluded, generally speaking, from our Society. I need not repeat my former observations. Mr Hall will be guided by his own judgment. I believe he is doing good where he is. We are

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friendly with each other notwithstanding our different way of thinking. We are better friends by being placed at [f] a distance from each other.

Mr and Mrs King have always been dissatisfied more or less since their arrival at New Zealand. They are also so exceedingly personal, that I think it much better for all intercourse to be dropped between the families, than to be continually disputing about trifles. Mr King is a careful man him self but some of his connections are very extravagant. His friends also have overruled him in respect to making shoes for the people who are necessarily attached to the settlement even for payment. I told him that Mr Hall, himself and me in our capacities as Carpenter, Shoemaker, and Schoolmaster were in duty bound, each to exercise our respective vocations for the good of the whole. But alas! Satan has divided us! We all want too much of our own way. [f]

Should you send out any more Missionaries it would be best to inform them that they must be content to assist in building their own houses and it would be proper to provide shoes &c for their families. It will prevent much vexation of mind for every person to make himself as independent of his colleagues as possible. I can procure Shoes for my family fr^m Sydney.

It becomes my duty to get on as fast as I can with my own work. If my colleagues do not render me all the assistance I need I must bear it with patience. I ought to consider them men of piety. To speak no ill of them, To beg of God to give

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me his Grace to be humble. If my brother will not help me to day, I may perhaps by a conciliatory deportsment procure his assistance tomorrow. [f]

I am Rev^d and D^r Sir

Your faithful Serv^t

Tho Kendall