

Samuel Marsden to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

March 10 – Parramatta 1816

Rev^d & Dr Sir

I feel very thankful for the abundant Supplies sent out in the Northampton and the Ocean which will remove a very heavy Expense. The same Hoes and Axes that you send out are at this time 8^s & 10^s each which is more than 400 per cent above those sent by you. Some of the Goods sent out in the Northampton were too fine for New Zealand – I have disposed of £100 worth and have given you Credit for the same. I shall at a future Period account with you for the Investment sent out in the Northampton first – I only send a certain Quantity at a time to N. Zealand, that the natives may not be tempted with the Riches of the Missionaries to rob them. When I was at New Zealand, and had settled the missionaries in a populous Village, where they would be safe amongst their friends, before I came away, they wished to remove about ten miles from their then Residence, to the Banks of the River Whytangee, merely because the Situation was beautiful, and the Land rich – here there was no Town, but only a few scattered Huts. To this I would not consent – They thought nit unkind in me, not to allow them to settle in any Place which they thought best, and expressed their determination to follow their own Views – I stated my Reasons for objecting to their removal. The first was the Safety of their Persons and Property – where they were placed, they were safe, where they wanted to settle, they would be in constant danger of being robbed or murdered – it being a very lonely Situation – [f] Another Reason was, the people

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about them were numerous and anxious to be instructed. Mr Kendall here might have as many Children to teach as he could attend to; which he could not have where they wished to settle. After many warm debates upon this Subject; and my telling them that they must take all the Consequences upon themselves, and that I should protest against their Conduct to the Society, they consented to remain where I had placed them. After I left N. Zealand Mr Hall went to live at Whytanghee, and took a Pair of the Sawyers with him. Shortly after they got there, a Party of strange natives came upon them in the night, and took away almost all they had. I think the Value of the whole Property is about £40 which has been stolen by the natives at different times – Mr Kendall tells me he has not lost to the amount of £1. They have applied to me to make up their Losses; but I have not done it yet. They ought to have taken advice, and not to have exposed their Persons and Property to unnecessary danger – Mess^{rs} Kendall & King are now satisfied where they are.. Mr Hall will take no Persons opinion, but his own. No Person is safe in N.S. Wales in retired Situations either from our olwn people, or the natives; and it is not to be supposed that the N. Zealanders will not feel the same natural Propensikties to Theft, and other crimes that are common to men in civil, as well as in savage Life. The above Circumstance may make them a little more cautious. – I told them so sure as ever they went to Whytanghee, so sure they would be robbed, if not murdered – If the Society wish their Losses to be made up to them I will do it, either in whole or in Part – It is probable they may

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state as a Complaint, my deferring to do this till I hear from you – Had Mr Hall gone there to Whytanghee without the danger being pointed out to him I should have felt no hesitation to pay for any loss that he or the Sawyers [f] might have met with. It was an Act of his own, and he ought to suffer a little –

The following is the present Establishment of the Society at the Bay of Islands – Mr Kendall wife & 3 Children & 1 Servant Mr Hall, wife & 2 children – Mr King ditto – Smikth wife & 1 Child 1 Carpenter – 4 Sawyers two of them married and 1 Child – a Mr Carlisle a pious man who came out a free Settler here – He is gone over to assist in agriculture, left his wife in N. S. Wales – Should he like to live at N. Zealand, he will return with the Active and take his wife with him. W^m Carlisle is a very quiet pious man, and will suit the natives well if he should approve of living amongst them – –

It would be well if the Society could get two pious Smiths to go out to N. Zealand. The man who is there, tho a good workman, is not easy to satisfy – he wants £70 per annum or he will not stay – and his Provisions. which is too much. He has £50 per annum now-is a Convict for life and therefore he should be thankful for his present Situation – There are twenty six men women & Children belonging to the Settlement, who are supported by the Society; besides the Captain's of the Active wife, Son and daughter in [?] Sin, who maintain themselves- A Good Boat or Ship Carpenter would also be very useful if one could be met with – I should recommend none to come out, unless married-

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You mention that the Society intend to send out a regular Clergyman to N.Zealand- this will be a good thing- I have thought much upon the subject, and beg to mention a Gentleman whom I think would suit the Situation well, is he can obtain ordination for that purpose [f] M.^r Robert Cartwright, the Brother of my Colleague. He was Consul some years back at Algiers. M.^r Cartwright is a pious man, how seen much of the world. is quick at the acquiring of languages, and speaks several languages. From having such a natural Gift to learn foreign languages he might be, of the most essential Service in arranging the N. Zealand language, along with M.^r Kendall in time; should he be willing to come out and the Society approve of him. I know no man so well qualified for the Situation if he should approve of it himself- I have no doubt of his Ability. I intend to drop him a line upon the subject. He was not married when I saw him, but he must not come here without a wife -

Perhaps he will think me insane to recommend him to such a Situation; but it is a Situation I would accept myself if I was at liberty to do so; and therefore I recommend it to him,- M.^r Cartwright is well known in London and I think it is probable he would come, should he be at Liberty. It will be a great Object to get the language printed- M.^r Kendall will not be able to fin [?] the language himself. but must have some one to assist him who is equal to the task- with my best wishes, and ardent Prayers for the divine Blessing to attend upon all the lonelys [?] undertakings, and my Christian Regards to the Committee

MS. 56/4

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I have the Honor to be

Rev.^d Sir

Your most obed.^t

humble Servant

Sam.^l Marsden

Rev.^d J. Pratt