

CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt to William Hall

Church Missionary House

London Sep 12/16

Dear Sir

In a Letter to M^r Kendall, dated the 5th being much pressed for time, I requested him to read to you what I wrote to him. The Ship, I find, is delayed; and I tgherefore take the opportunity of writing a few lines to you.

We were much grieved to receive from you an account of such a calamity as that which had befallen you when your last was written, of the 15th of Jan^y. We were thankful to hear that M^{rs} Hall was recovering, and trust that she is long since quite well. M^r Nicholas who has just been with me, tells me that poor Duaterra said mischief would follow if you exposed yourselves to his countrymen in those quarters.

I know not how you will be situated when this reaches you, but I pray that God may give you all grace to live together in mutual forbearance and love. A great field mis before you. You have been placed in that scene of labour at a very serious charge. You have opportunities for glorifying your heavenly Master afforded to few. Your need of Grace, indeed, is great and peculiar: but "My Grace is sufficient for thee" should lead you to wrestle [f] earnestly in continual prayer, that in your weakness Christ may be glorified. Self must be laid at the foot of the Cross, or it would have been better for you never to have set foot on New Zealand, nay never to have been born.

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The Com[mittee] desire to do every thing in their power to render you comfortable, and to assist you in your labour. They entrust the management of the whole undertaking to M^r Marsden, and the other friends in N.S. Wales, who are associated with him as a Cor[responding] Com[mittee]. Make known also your wishes and wants to us through them: both they and we will assist you to our utmost.

There is not time to prepare the things for which you ask so as to send them by this vessel; but we will send them by another. You must implicitly follow the direction of M^r Marsden and our other friends, as to avoiding private trade and in all other points on which they give you Instruction.

We send out by this vessel (the Sir W^m Bensley) a quantity of Stores: of these our Cor[responding] Com[mittee] will, doubtless, supply you with what will be needful.

Remember me kindly to M^{rs} Hall, & to your companions, and believe me ever affectionately yours,

(Signed) Josiah Pratt