

MS. 56/16

CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt to Samuel Marsden

Church Miss^y House London

June 7/[18]17

My dear Sir

I wrote to you fully the 5th & 12th of last September, by the Sir W^m Bensley; which letters I hope you have by this time received. We have since received 2 letters from you dated march 10/16 – 2 dated March 16/16 – one dated March 28/16 – one dated June 7/16 – and since then an advice of 4 Bills amounting together to £249 dated Nov^r 17/14 – We have also heard from New Zealand, direct as you will see by the enclosed letters.

We sent Registers by the same opportunity up to August last, & we now send 56 of each of the subsequent months of last year, to complet the sets. We only send 12 of each month of this year; as we purpose, at the close of the year, to send several sets for the whole year bound; and we should be glad to know how many copies of the yearly volume bound, you could give with advantage to our cause.

The Account of your visit to New Zealand, as published in the Nov^r & Dec^r Registers, has most warmly interested all our friends, & I trust called forth many prayers that the New Zealanders may be taught the way of salvation.

You will observe also, by the Feby Register, [f] that we have lost Mowhee, who is gone, as we are well persuaded, to the heavenly rest. His history has awakened fresh sympathy & feeling for New Zealand. We send 50 copies for

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distribution: some, of course, for New Zealand, which you will please to forward thither.

We have had a conference with some of our Vice Presidents, respecting the aggressions & cruelties of South Sea Whalers, & have determined, in consequ^{ce} of your representations, to present a Memorial to the Gov^t on the subject. It is already prepared, & will, as we hope, be presented in a few days, & obtain some legal & adequate protection for the New Zealanders.

The London Miss^y Society have also prepared, & we believe by this time presented a Memorial, with a similar object in view, grounded on the Documents which you sent to M^r Burder.

We regret to hear of M^r Hall's obstinate conduct. If he only suffered, we sho^d not have so much reason to be sorry for the trouble w[hic]^h he has had at Whytanghee. We find he has been at last obliged, from the ill treatment of some natives, to return to the original Settlement; & we hope that this may teach him more submission to your directions hereafter. [f]

Respecting the making up to him of the goods to the amount of £40 which he has lost, it does not appear to us that it is a case which has any just claim for a remuneration of this kind but we leave it entirely in your hands; & if he has gone on well since, you will probably feel it proper to return to him part at least of the goods which he has lost.

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We have not seen Captⁿ Brabyn, & have been so fully occupied, that we have not had time to make enquiries after him.

Mr Cartwright has not called upon us, & we know not his address. A man of the character which you give him, would certainly be very well qualified for the station of New Zealand.

The Case which Lieut^t Forster refused to take & which you proposed sending by the way of India, had not yet arrived.

We should be glad to strengthen the New Zealand Mission by sending you two pious Smiths, as you request; but we have know not at present either the proper men the means for doing this Our expenditure last year exceeded our income [f] by about £2,000 & we are obliged to adopt every practicable plan for increasing[?] our resources.

You will see in the Registers, a full view of what is doing in every part of the world. Our Annual Meetings become more heavenly & more interesting, every year. We are cheered by the hope that our Saviour is using us as his instruments, in a day when the signs of the approach of his kingdom in every part of the earth become more & more plain. We are persuaded that it is His grace, which has inclined your heart to be willing to make many sacrifices, undertake many labours, & go thro evil report & good report, for the promoting of that kingdom which shall at length be established in all the earth. May we give all the glory to him, & never

MS. 56/16

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weary in his cause, & we shall doubtless have our reward when we meet before his throne.

I am ever, my Dear Sir,

Affectionately Yours

Josiah Pratt