

William Carlisle to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

Bay of Islands Nov. 5 1816

Rev^d Sir,

Sincerely do I hope you may not be offended at my troubling you with this. Having at N.S. Wales communicated my desire to M^r Marsden of joining the Hon[our]b^{le} establishment at New Zealand, with his approbation and M^r Cartwrights. I have entered on the important task the instruction of the Heathen. I have been several months in M^r Kendalls house following my favourite employment teaching the Native Children with M^r Kendall and administering of Medicines to Adults and Children so far as my knowledge lay. I have undertaken also to instruct the natives in Agriculture have had several of them at work for several months preparing the ground for Wheat &c. but I do not wish to be too sanguine. I fully expect it will be a work of years before they are convinced of the utility of it. From experience I can say these benighted Heathens stand very much in want of our help both for Body and soul, and although all at present is darkness, yet I verily believe there is a fair opening for the introduction of the glorious Gospel of our adorable Redeemer. I am much pleased with their behaviour towards us. In general they are friendly and I have always found when I was by myself several miles up the Country that then they were far more careful of me and my little property than at other times. Should the Hon[our]b^{le} Committee accept of my services as a Catechist or Lay settler I should think myself honored in being employed under them in publishing the glad news of the Saviours dying

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love to a perishing world. M^r Marsden and M^r Kendall will make mention of me by this conveyance. When you return an answer to them I should also esteem a Letter from you a particular favor and am Rev^d Sir

Your obedient Servant

W^m Carlisle

The Rev^d Josiah Pratt &c