

Recd. Mar. 9/18

Com. Mar. 12/18

Rev. and Dear Sir,

Com. Mar. 9/18

30 Bay of Islands Nov. 1810

33

Dec. 1810

Chas. Mar. 12/18 by the Doctor

I am now writing confidentially. When the proposal was first made to the Committee by Mr. Marsden to establish a Missionary Settlement at New Zealand, it was thought that the produce of the industry of the Missionary Settlers would upon the commencement of their labours "go very far towards the Support of the Settlement", and "that they would be enabled to render themselves independent of the Society in a very little time." We have now resided nearly two years at this place and to all appearance there is no probability of our obtaining the necessaries of life in any other way than at the expense of the Society. The spot on which we live is barren, and as you will observe from the view is so mountainous that it is quite unsuitable for the purposes of Cultivation, or for Cattle. I objected to landing here at first very strongly to Mr. Marsden, because there were on the other side of the village and in sight of it a more even tract of land with a more fertile soil. But Mr. Marsden thought we should not be safe. He expressed his desire for me to settle here, I therefore thought it my duty to do so. There are also other serious impediments which in my opinion would stand in the way of our easing, in any important degree the burthens of the Society, even should our situation be more favourable for the purposes of Agriculture, and not only this, but which tend to check the main object of