

Mr Thomas Kendall to Rev. Basil Wood

Com. of Cor. July 31/10.

Feb. 1/77
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Recd July 11/10
Recd Dec 14/18 by the
Barrow

Duplicate
~~made~~ has
the original

Wrote and Dear Sir,

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I have already communicated to you the particulars of the commencement of the Church Missionary Society's School at New Zealand and its progress in August, September and October 1810, and I have again the pleasure of reporting the state of the establishment during November and December in the same year, and January 1811.

In November and December there was not so great a number of children instructed as in the preceding month. Every method was adopted to gain their attention, which was likely to prove effectual, but as we had no provisions of any sort to give them to eat, it necessarily followed that they must scold out for themselves, and that we could not prevent their falling off. I really was exceedingly distressed in my mind on this account, not then expecting any arrivals from Port Jackson for at least three or four months to come, thus my fears were groundless. Help was near at hand. Mr. Marsden contemplating our wants, had, on account of the long delay of the

Advice at Stukeito engaged the Queen Charlotte to convey us
 supplies on her passage from Port Jackson to the Marquesas, and
 her unexpected appearance on the 25th of December put an
 end to any inquietude. A portion of the stores was with the
 consent of my colleagues set apart for the use of the school.
 Altho, the Queen Charlotte was ready to sail from Port Jackson
 at the time Mr. Marsden received our letters informing him
 of the state of the settlement and the school yet he sent me
 some tea, and abundance of fish, Hooks and needles for the
 school. The welcome news was soon published throughout the
 neighbourhood and the native children assembled together
 and manifested their joy by singing and dancing. They immediately
 repaired to the school House when they remain day and night;
 repeat their lessons with cheerfulness and are content with
 what is given to them. The Society will I am confident
 be highly gratified with our present prospects, and will
 rejoice with thanksgiving, to hear, that, after so many
 impediments have been thrown in the way of their benevolent
 plan in favour of New Zealand, there are within six months
 after the commencement of the school no less than sixty
 children which constantly attend, and that in this

number. Seventeen Peophans and six Slaves are made daily partakers of their bounty. I believe the number of Scholars may be increased considerably.

It appears to be much in favor of this Plan of the Society that none of the grown up people are averse to having their youths instructed; they believe that education is valuable as it bears upon the temporal interests of mankind. Their commercial disposition, perhaps, induces them to believe this. They are fond of visiting the school, but they do not now trouble us with their presence during the time the children are repeating their lessons or cooking their victuals.

To fill up that part of the day which was formerly employed in procuring fern root we have set the girls to make apparel according to the New Zealand fashion for which purpose they are supplied with portions of flax. Several Boys are engaged in making fences and procuring fire wood, and we shall attempt to teach them to write as soon as Paper comes to hand. We have at present no regular employment for them all.

I have written to Mr Marsden for Supplies for the School in particular, and I have now no doubt but he will send

me all the remaining articles which I want if he can
 possibly procure them by the next return of the steamer. I
 repeat the assurance ^{that} for supporting the School I shall be
 as frugal as possible. A great deal of money might be
 laid out upon the children all at once, but I do not
 really think it necessary. I am of opinion that to aim
 at a gradual improvement of their condition, or in other
 words, to encourage them to improve themselves, the Society
 will find by far the best way. With an handful or two of
 potatoes daily, and occasionally a fish & hock the children do
 at present very well. When we have no potatoes we must
 allow them some rice. We must also patiently overlook
 many things now which if it pleases Almighty God to prosper
 our efforts we shall find it ^{hereafter to attempt} our duty to improve and correct
 both in their Dress, customs, manners and even morals. When
 the Word of God shall be introduced amongst them, and
 sound in their ears, that will form the foundation for
 all that is excellent to be built upon, and while things
 of no less importance in their place are kept in our view,
 it will be well to direct our attention chiefly to such

things as may assist in the attainment of this greatest
 of all objects; this sure guide from a world of sorrow to
 a world of glory. I have the Honor to be

Respect and Dear Sir,

Your faithful servant

Thos. Kendall

Bay of Islands February 1. 1817

Rev B Woodde

or
 Rev J Pratt

These Duplicates of School Accounts & are sent by
Harriet Capron Jones July 29th 1817