

Recd. Feb. 23/18, by the Kangaroo.

Mr Joseph Thompson to the Rev. S. Maunders.

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Copy Sydney March 29/18

Recd. Mar 12/18 by the Sabella

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March 22nd - 1817

(Enclosure)

Reverend Sir
Cont. Mar. 9/18

I beg Leave to Inform you that I have been Employ'd in the Sperm Whale Fishery, on the Coast of New Zealand between four & five years I always found Abundance of Sperm Whales to Resort about the Coast from the beginning of November untill the latter end of April when they begin to take off I also beg Leave to give you my Opinion as to what Quantity of Sperm Oil might be Procur'd in One Season by the Brig Active if Properly fitted out for that Purpose - The last Voyage that I made in the Sperm Whale Fishery was in a Ship that carry'd three Boats we Sailed from this Port on the 23rd of November and Arrived on the Coast of New Zealand on the 5th of December following, we left it again on or about the latter end of April after having Procur'd Ninety Six Tons of Sperm Oil, so that I think if the Ship was fitted as a Two Boat Ship that Sixty or Seventy Tons of Sperm Oil might be Procur'd every Season I am also of Opinion that if a Store house was Erected at the Bay of Islands for the Reception of the Oil at the Expiration of the Season that it would be the Means of Enabling the Vessel to bring two Cargoes of Timber to this Port & to Return to

New Zealand in good time to take the Benefit of
each Ensuing Season as the Vessel would be on the
Spot to take in the first Cargo of Timber as soon
as the Oil might be Discharged I will make bold
to say that if the Above mentioned Plan is Adopted
that there is no doubt but what the Brig Active
would be Creditor in her Accounts in three years
time for a Considerable Amount

I am
in
your most Obedt humble Servt
Joseph Thompson

To
The Reverend Samuel Marsden

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The Reverend Samuel Marsden

Parramatta

