

MS. 56/66

CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt to Samuel Marsden

Church Missionary House, London

Nov^r 24/[18]17

My Dear Sir

I wrote to you on the 7th of June last; & have since received various communications from you, as under.

Letters dated June 12/14 & Jan^y 13, 18, & 22/17

Your Letter to the President, of Jan^y 22/17

Remarks on the Government Order

Copy of correspondence with Judge Advocate &c

Two Newspapers.

We are pained to find that you have been so opposed, slandered & troubled, by those who ought to have been the first to have assisted you in your arduous undertaking.

Be assured that the Committee are not only thoroughly satisfied with your disinterested and laborious zeal, in forwarding & promoting their plans; but deeply sensible how much the Society is indebted to you for your continued & persevering efforts amidst every obstacle and difficulty. And, whilst we thank you for your past stedfast & resolute courage in defending the missionary cause, we would say, tho' you do find the New Zealand Mission the greatest of all your burthens, no doubt that as your day is so will your strength be, & all our most sanguine hopes will ultimately be realized.

CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt to Samuel Marsden

We have read the letter of which you so justly complain, with much sorrow; but we can hardly say with surprize. Men of this world will of course judge very differently, as to [f] our efforts, from what we do, and they often have their triumph and success, in this their day. We have continually to meet with the same things here. The Apostles & Prophets had the same; & we have reason to be thankful that we are counted worthy to suffer for the name of — — ?

It is our duty, however, to preserve our Integrity & uprightness of conduct, and in cases of necessity, to use such means as the laws give us of maintaining our character.

The Committee have seriously considered the subject, and purpose still to do so, and, if found to be expedient, they will be glad to bring it before the Government here, so that you may not be exposed to similar insults again.

Mr Campbells Letter is rather a singular composition; very weak, but very cautiously expressed; yet he almost betrays himself by his very caution.

We have no doubt that you have been greatly harrass'd by these things, but how mindful are these trials, & how profitable when they work. . ./ the fruits of righteousness. We much approve of your design of taking no further notice of it, when the printer gives up the name of the author. It is the most dignified & suitable conduct which a Clergyman or minister of Ch[ris]t can pursue. It is a hard lesson to perform, "to overcome evil with good"- but it is a most powerful way of vanquishing opposition.

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We are rejoiced to hear that Mr Kendalls Schools have increased to 51, & that you give us good hopes of the ultimately extensive success of this Mission.

I am rather surprized that you have not received more letters than you mention. It is extremely difficult for me, in the increasing extent of our missions to keep up a very constant intercourse with each station. But [f] we have you continually in our hearts & in our prayers.

We send you the Registers up to the present time, & a copy of the report as far as it is printed. You will observe that New Zealand has, in various ways been brought before our friends.

We send also for Mr Kendal [sic] various things which he has requested & which we will thank you to forward to him. We send these things by a Transport; but the navy office will not allow us to send any musquets or Powder by this conveyance. We shall be glad to send that supply you requested, if we are able to do so by another opportunity.

We presented the Memorials which are mentioned in our last letter, respecting the cruelties exercised towards the New Zealanders. Earl Bathurst promised to consult the law officers of the Crown on the extension of Lord Ellenboroughs act to New South Wales; but was not [able] at present to go further.

Mr Vale is in London, but we have not seen him.

You will receive an Investment by the Tottenham for which Government have allowed us free freight. You will see by the Invoices inclosed, to whom these

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Stores are appropriated. What part belongs to the Settlers you will place to their account in part of Salaries. The rest you will please to place to the credit of the Society. We have on this occasion sent the Articles which the Settlers have requested but we wish them not to expect any future supplies of this kind, as from the daily increasing extent of the Society's affairs it is become almost impossible for us to send them. [f]

Having sent this supply by the Tottenham without waiting for your directions we shall forward no other till we learn your wishes on the subject.

With kind regards to Mrs Marsden, I am ever, Dear Sir,

Very affectionately yours,

(Signed) Josiah Pratt