

*CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt and Edward Bickerstaff [to Samuel Marsden]*

C. M. H. London

March 12/18

My dear Sir.

We wrote to you on the 24th Novr by the Tottenham. I have since received various Communications from you, by Mr. Hassall, [?] Tooi & Teeterree, as under. —

Duplicates of the Dispatches mentioned in our Last,

Copy of a letter from Mr J. T. Campbell dated March 7/17

Your letters dated March 3, 12, 27, 30 & 31/17 & April 2 & 3/17

Copy of Geo. William's Deposition

Copy of Judge Bents Letter April 5th

Your letter to John Mason Good Esqr. dated April 9/17 with the Lieutenant Governors enclosed.

Copy of a letter dated Decr 7/16 to Mr Hall & Mr King.

Letter from Joseph Thompson to yourself dated Mar. 22/17

Letter from Messrs Marsden, Cartwright & Youl dated Mar. 27/17

Letter from Rev. John Youl dated March 29/17

Letter from Rev. Robt Cartwright dated March 1817

Letters from Mr Thomas Kendall dated July 29, Aug 26, Oct 28, Nov. 6&12  
& Dec 6/16

Letter from Mr Kendall to you without a date.

Three accounts of the New Zealand School & List of Articles for Trade

Letter from Mr W. Hall dated Aug. 22.

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Letters from Mr J. King dated Nov. 12/16 to myself & Mr. Wilson

Letter from Mr W. Carlisle dated Nov. 5/16

We have also received the various articles which were sent by the same opportunity.

Tooi & Teeterree came to England at a reasonable opportunity; although, in general we think it has not answered sending persons home from abroad, yet we have every reason to hope that this may be a most important means of benefitting New Zealand. A Clergyman of some property, & considerable Talent & Zeal, the Rev. George Mortimer of Madely in Shropshire, has offered himself, & his fortunes, & his family, to do good to the New Zealanders. He purposes spending 18 months or 2 years in learning Surgery & every thing else which he thinks may make him useful to them. He is delighted to hear of the Arrival of these too young men, & purposes taking them into his family, & using [sic] his utmost exertions to make them a blessing to their Countrymen.

In the mean time we are taking measures, through Mr Saml. Lee, the Society's Orientalist, & a person thoroughly skilled in the knowledge of languages, to have [f] a Grammar of the New Zealand Tongue, a vocabulary, & we hope one of the Gospels translated. So that you will see from this that we are making the best use of Tooi and Teeterree. They have neither of them been quite well, but Tooi is better, & Teeterree we hope is recovering.

We send you herewith a copy of three Resolutions, passed at one of the longest meetings of the Committee that have been held for several years – The Right Honble the President in the Chair, Mr Wilberforce, Mr Babington, & many of

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the principal & most active friends of the Society, were present. We trust that they will encourage you to persevere amid every difficulty; & shew you that we are disposed to do all that we can to assist you, in those Zealous & disinterested labours in which you have been so long engaged.

It may probably be thought right to communicate to Earl Bathurst the evidence proving Campbell to be the Author of "Philo Free."

We hope, however, that long before this letter reaches you, this storm of persecution will have passed away. We can make every allowance for your peculiar situation; and trust that you have been enabled to maintain your purpose of not taking yourself hostile steps against Wm Campbell. We conquer most effectually by meekness and patience.

We are informed that Government have not received any dispatches by the Kangaroo, that no complaints whatever have come to their knowledge against you: so that we trust Campbell's threat of writing to the Bishops was merely designed to intimidate you, without any intention of acting upon it.

We feel with you, that the expences of the New Zealand Mission are considerable; but we also are fully satisfied with your conscientious regard to æconomy in promoting the interests of the Society. While we are anxious that the expenditure should be reduced to as small a compass as is consistent with the real prosperity of the Mission, we have not the smallest wish that you should sustain any personal loss, through your disinterested & zealous attention to our Cause. We fully see the necessity of [f] maintaining the Active, & leave to you the best mode of employing it in the way of trade.

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The New Zealand rope answered perfectly well, & is now in the Society's House on a sound state, after being used ten months on board the Kangaroo.

We hope, God willing, in the course of two years more, to send over a good strong body of missionaries & Settlers; & it may then be very desirable that you should accompany them. We much approve of your plan of supplying New Zealand with Cattle. They will be a great help to the future Missionaries.

We hear that General Sir Thomas Brisbane has been appointed Governor of the Colony. We will endeavour to ascertain this &, through our friends, to communicate with him.

We were much gratified with your testimony in favour of Mr Kendall. His letters to us always breathe an excellent spirit. We wish that we could say the same of Hall & King. Hall's conduct has been very improper; & he has justly smarted for it. It would have been well if he only had smarted.

We must continue to leave this Mission in your hands. We are entirely convinced that the fear of God & the love of the Saviour, will ever influence your heart, & that the power of the Almighty will be displayed in delivering you this own cause, both from open & secret enemies.

The Committee would much regret the necessity of Messrs Hall & King being removed to Port Jackson; but they leave the matter in the hands of yourself & our friends. They wish you to act decisively. They much approve of your letter to them, dated Decr 7/16.

We are happy to find hear that you have found such men, as Carlisle & Gordon to Assist in the New Zealand Mission. We have received a very pleasing Letter

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from W. Carlisle, & very good report of him from W. Cartwright.

On farther considering Wm. Cheap's [?] plan of forming a Colony at New-Zealand, so many obstacles presented themselves to taking such a large body, that it is in a great measure, given up. The thing will, however, be done gradually. We hope to make a good beginning by the close of next year.

In the Account which you rendered in Jany. 1816, there was an error in the casting [?] of £1 against yourself. The things charged to the Society really amounted to £725.8.8 instead of £724.8.8 [f] which you entered. We have given you Credit for the £1.

We leave to your discretion the printing of any further Books that Mr. Kendall may prepare in the New-Zealand Language: we hope, however, to furnish, as we have said, such a Grammar as may be of the first importance in fitting [?] the Spelling.

Since we began this Letter, Teeterree has been much worse; & we fear that his health is in a precarious state. Mr Hassall, & most of the Crew of the Kangaroo, have been seriously unwell. They arrived at an unfavourable season of the year. But, indeed, we find, by several painful proofs, that this Climate is too cold for Asiatics, or Africans; & that there is always a great risk in their coming over. This shews us more than ever, the importance of a Seminary in New South Wales, for the education of the young; though we trust & pray, that great advantages may be gained from Tooï & Teeterree's coming over.

We have had much conversation both with Tooï & Teeterree on the subject of religion; & have endeavoured to ascertain the state of their minds. They appear

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to be both still much attached to their own Country Religion. Tooi is the most sensible, But we think it important to mention to you, that it is the decided opinion of the Committee that no Adult should be baptised, but upon an intelligent profession of Christianity.

We observe that Mr Kendall thinks that it will be necessary, in a great degree, to mention the children that are educated in the School. You will observe from the Special Report of the African Mission page 182-184 that we have found considerable difficulty, & very great expences from Schools so conducted, in that Mission, We merely suggest this for your consideration, and that of our friends with you. If it be necessary to maintain the children, it will be expedient probably to limit the number & to take other steps, that the School may be conducted most æconomically.

Mr Kendall must be supplied with those things which he wants, from the stores sent to you. It would be very in-convenient to us to have more than one account & We shall write to him to this effect.

We hope to be able to write by this opportunity to Mr Cartwright & Mr Youl; but, should We not, we will thank you to present our kindest regards to them, & our best thanks for their letters.

You will have received additional stores by the Totten-ham; but we had not received your Letter as to the mode in which they should be packed. We will attend to your directions in future, & hope that the stores sent by the Tottenham may arrive safely.

We must leave it with you and our friends with you, to find the necessary

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allowances of provisions with Mr. Kendall. We [f] have told him that we refer this as well as other matters connected with this Mission, to you; while we wish him to have every thing requisite both for necessary expences & comfort.

We have paid the arrears of your subscription to the Bible Society up to Christmas 1816, being 3 Guineas for 3 years, & have debited your account that sum.

Respecting the whole expenditure of the New Zealand Mission, we have already given our general views; the Committee do not wish to limit your exertions, by confining you to any particular sum. If there be an adequate cause, & a fair promise of success, we doubt not but that the Christian public will support us to any reasonable extent.

We live in wonderful times; & every where, God is stirring up his people to seek the extention [?] of his Son's Kingdom, by great exertions & extraordinary liberality. Let us take courage; &, amid all the opposition which we meet with at home, & which you have to encounter abroad, go on in the strength & in the spirit of our Lord, & we shall be used as his Instruments on earth, & come to be with him for ever hereafter.

We send letters for Mr. Kendall etc open that you may read them before they are forwarded.

We are, my dear Sir,

Ever faithfully & affectionately yours.

(Signed) Josiah Pratt

Edward Bickerstaff

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P.S. March 16/18. Teeterree continues very dangerously ill, The Doctors think that the great probability is that he will not recover, they advise us to take an early opportunity of sending Tooi back. This is a trying dis-pensation [?], but we must submit to the will of God. It shews us more strongly the necessity of keeping up the Seminary at Parramatta.

We beg be kindly remembered to the other Clergymen who are associated with you.