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This will be of infinite Service to the Cause, if the Gentleman  
has counted the Cost. It will be well for him to remember  
that when he leaves England for a savage nation, he  
leaves the goodly Land of Canaan, the Land flowing with  
milk and Honey - I say not this to discourage any  
one, but merely as a Caution. I would go myself were  
I Disengaged, tho' I am fully aware of the Difficulties.  
The Field of usefulness is extensive - and a laborer will  
see the Fruits of his labors every Day. He will  
see the Heathens around him improving in  
Knowledge, and Labour, and <sup>the</sup> way of the Lord  
preparing - I have not seen my Colleagues since  
the arrival of your letter - we will take the first  
opportunity of taking it into Consideration. From  
my former Communications you will learn that I have  
retired from the magistracy - I have now nothing to do with  
the great men, and the politics of this world, which is no small  
relief to me. I have retired from the great, and hope to confer  
no more - I should have been in England by this time, could I have  
obained leave of Absence for Reasons stated in a former letter  
on the subject - As the Cloud rests upon the Ark, I  
shall not move again till I see the Cloud move.  
The Colony is much distressed for the want of Clergy men.  
but as the Executive Authority requires me to remain  
at my Post, I quietly submit. The Supreme Magistrate  
is Gods minister, and I am bound to obey him in all  
lawful Commands. I shall rejoice to see my dear  
Fellow Travellers soon at I return. I have the honor to  
remain Dear Sir your most grateful & obliged Servant  
Rev. J. Pratt  
Samuel Marsden