

*From CMS Assistant Secretary Edward Bickersteth [to Samuel Marsden]*

Church Missionary House

London, Nov. 9/[18]18

My dear Sir,

Mr Pratt being obliged to go to Birmingham this evening, I write a few lines by the Rev. Rich<sup>d</sup> Hill.

We have just had a full Committee Meeting this day for dismissing a fresh body of labourers to New Zealand. Their names are as under

The Rev. John, & M<sup>rs</sup> Butler, their Son, & a child

Mr Francis Hall, a truly good man,

Mr James & M<sup>rs</sup> Kemp, he is a Blacksmith & has an excellent spirit

Mr Butler is an able, solid man, calculated to be at the head of the New Zealand Mission.

With them the Committee took leave also of Tooi & Teeterree. Their behaviour & character have won the hearts of all. They have now lived with me several Months in the Society's House, & I never saw any impropriety in their conduct, rather quite the reverse. We have had considerable difficulty in preserving their health & fear that this colder climate has seriously injured it.

We hope that the whole Company consisting of nine persons will leave England in about a Month in the Ship Baring, Capt. Lamb. May the blessing of our God go with them & through His mercy may the New Zealanders embrace the Gospel nationally & generally as they have done in Otaheite.

MS. 56/100

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Time will not allow me to say more,

I am,

Ever faithfully & affectionately yours

(Signed) E. Bickersteth