

*William Carlisle to Samuel Marsden*

Bay of Islands April 20th. 1819

Revd and Dear Sir

I wish much to have you advice I intend God willing to make an attempt to convert the adult natives, provided I continue here and [crossed out] able impedement [sic] be thrown in my way. I acknowledge I am unpolished lad and altogether unequal to the Task, but I must say I never before in my life have had such fervent desires such longings for the conversion of the heathen as lately. I have been enabled in prayer to wrestle and plead with my dear Saviour for them, telling him if was his own cause and it his Kingdom was established here, it would be for his own glory. It has been strongly impressed on my mind that unworthy as I am of this great honour yet God will bless my endeavours in promoting his cause. I think that something ought to be done for the adult natives, as well as carrying on the school which is an excellent institution \_ and ought not to be neglected. Im the adults on frequently di [ripped page] ing into Eternity in the misuable state they are in, and I pity them [ripped page]. I firmly believe that if the means made use of by our Lord and by him commanded to his Apostles namely preaching the glorious gospel was used here, that the nation would gladly receive it. what a pity it is, it should be so long neglected. The want of a sufficient knowledge of the language to converse finly with the New Zealanders is to me a great but not insurmountable obstacle, as I depend entirely on God with him all things are possible.\_ I wish to employ a converted and as intelligent a Tahitian, as I can get by way of an Interpreter. for the sum of three years. but do not intend to put the society to any expence [sic], but will

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take his maintenance on myself and pay him out of my own salary. In my first discourse I wish to tell them something of the being [?] and perfections of God. his placing man in a state of holiness, and hapiness [sic], in Paradise, in the garden of Eden. The obligations he was thence under to love, honour, and obey him, mans fall, and ours in him, since which our depravity by nature and total inability to help ourselves. at the same time to open to them the glorious remedy provided in Christ, for punishing lost sinners, to call, unite, and intreat [?] them to come and give up — themselves to him. who bled and died, in order that sinners may be forgiven, and blest by him. and enjoy everlasting happiness with him hereafter. How far I am right I must leave with you Sir to judge. shall be thankful if you will be so kind to let me know what you think of it. and any situations you are pleased [?] to send to me will be received with great pleasure by — — — — — Your much Obligd. Servt.

Wm. Carlisle\_

P.S. The missionary settlers are all well. The natives quiet. and the settlement improving. but much in want of trade, particularly the school. The Active not having arrived. \_\_\_\_W.C.\_[f]

N py. [In reply?] I forward this private note, from which you may judge how Carlisle feels\_

S. Marsden —