

Samuel Marsden to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

Parramatta July 13th 1819

Rev^d & Dear Sir,

Permit me to introduce to you David Allan Esq^r. who has been for some years past the Head of the Commissariat Department in this Colony and who has been kind enough to take charge of the dispatches for the Society. I beg in a very particular manner to refer you to Mr Allan for every Information the Society may wish relative to their Affairs in this Part of the Globe. Mr. Allan stepped forward at the Risk of his own Life at the time the Philanthropic Society was formed in this Colony to support that Institution, and to protect the injured and oppressed natives of the South Sea Islands. Notwithstanding his high Official Situation as well as my own and others who were friendly towards that Institution we were compelled to relinquish it altogether – I shall leave Mr. Allan to explain the particulars, as they will shew to you [f] the Spirit of the times, and which has not changed to the present Period. As far as can be ascertained from the opposition to the measures of the Church M[issionary]. Society the object was to annihilate the mission altogether. Mr. Allan is well acquainted with the hard Struggles that have been exerted against, and on Behalf of the mission. I am sorry to say, that there are persons in the Colony, from whom the Society ought to have received Support, and to whom the Society have made particular Request [sic] for that Purpose, who run with the Tide. Your Cause will stand, and cannot be overturned: as your Interest in New Zealand has gained too firm a Foundation. It is unnecessary for me to trouble you with particulars, as Mr. Allan can do this much more circumstantially when

Samuel Marsden to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

you see him. The knowledge he has of the Colony, from his high official Situation, and of the Characters in it, as well as of the disposition of the New Zealanders may be of importance to your future benevolent designs to possess. On [f] this Account I have very much wished M^r Allan to wait upon you, which he has been kind enough to say he would do, and to communicate such Facts as he is well acquainted with. At this Remote distance it is always prudent for me to state by Letter what I wish you to know; from the peculiar Circumstances I am placed under. Letters have sometimes miscarried, and I have known mine to fall into the Hands of an Enemy. On this Account it requires much caution to avoid danger from this Quarter— I need add no more, and only beg to subscribe myself

Your very sincere and much

Obliged friend

Samuel Marsden

Rev^d J. Pratt