

Samuel Marsden to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

FebY 29th 1820

Rev & dear Sir

I am happy to inform you that H. M. Ship Dromedary anchored in the Bay of Islands on the evening of the 27th inst. soon after which the Rev & Mrs Butler and the Settlers came on Board, when I was informed that M^r Kendall was on the eve of his departure for England, and was expected to sail on the 29th. As M^r Kendall had made all his arrangements for Europe I was at a Loss how to act - I must leave M^r Kendall to explain his Reasons for the Step he has taken - He takes Shunghee with him - This I regret, as I should not recommend any more N. Zealanders to be sent to Europe as the Climate is too severe for them - Shunghee has been very kind, to the Settlers since they have been there - I wrote to you very [f] fully before I sailed for N. Zealand - Should my Letters not have arrived before M^r Kendall you will not be able to judge of the State of the Mission when I arrived in Aug^s last. There has been great difficulties in managing this Settlement from the abominable Traffic that has been carried on - M^r Kendall has gained very considerable Knowledge of the Language, as well as the Confidence of the natives - I wish much he had obtained the Permission of the Society, and the approbation of his Colleagues to visit England before he had attempted to leave his Station. I do not feel competent to judge of the Propriety or Impropriety of M^r Kendalls Conduct - so as to warrant me in giving an opinion - I feel for his Family situated as they are. [f] I beg to inform you that I finally settled all the Salaries, up to the 31st of December and drew

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upon you for the same in order that I might settle with the whole when at N. Zealand - I am therefore indebted to M^r Kendall for 9 months Salary which I will thank you to pay him, and I will give the Society Credit for the same in my next Accounts - I have not been on Shore at the Settlement since I arrived, having been prevented by public Buisness, I could not do this - or I should have called a meeting of the Committee and taken their opinion on M^r Kendalls Conduct in going to Europe at the present time - He seems to think the Rev^d J. Butler is not the Superintendent of the whole mission, and those connected with it - I have always considered him in that [f] Light myself - M^r Kendall will not acknowledge any Superior from what he stated to me. No doubt, he will state all the things to you, when you will be able to judge - I have written these few hasty Lines, as I have not had an opportunity to have much Conversation with any of the Settlers yet - I must refer you to M^r Kendall for Information relative to the State of the Natives &c &c, as he is much better able than myself to speak upon this Subject.

I have the Honour to be

Dear Sir

Yours affectionately

Samuel Marsden