

Rev. Saml. Marsden to the Secy

21

Rec'd Feb. 5/21

Comd. Feb. 12/21

Bay of Islands April 27<sup>th</sup> 1820

Trs. Mar. 13/21

Dear Sir

On board H. M. S. Porpoise

You will have learned from Mr. Kendall that I arrived in St. John's in N. S. S. Porpoise on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Feb. just at the period Mr. Kendall was embarking for England. I was much surprised at the step he had taken without any previous consultation, either of his colleagues, the Society, or any other person - I cannot see the wisdom of his measure - According to human foresight it was an badly step - Divine providence may overrule all for good: and time will reveal the good or evil attending Mr. M.'s visit to England. However clear Mr. M. might see his way; to me it appeared dark and gloomy - His colleagues had only lately arrived they were neither acquainted with the language, nor the characters, nor the manners of the natives, and on their account his presence was very much wanted - A new settlement was forming under the protection of Shushet - Shushet accompanying Mr. M. distressed the minds of his colleagues, as they considered him, as their principal guardian, and were full of fear for their personal safety when Shushet was gone. Mr. M. left his wife and 8 children wholly at the mercy of the natives, and at an age when they, in a very especial manner require the eye of the parent, to prevent them from wandering amongst the heathens and learning their ways - However he was determined upon returning to England