

Intentions to their friends. I have felt it my duty to state the above circumstances as I have been informed the Chiefs are now on board the Commodore; whether Capt. Downie intends landing them at New Zealand, or to take them on with him to England I cannot say if he takes them to Europe against their inclination and any of them die, it will be unfortunate as they are men of great influence in their own country. In consequence of the deaths of some of the New Zealanders who have gone to England and the sore afflictions that all have suffered from the effects of climate, independent of the immense expense and trouble that attended them while in Europe. I have been directed by the Church Missionary Society, not to allow any more to go home, on their account without some very unjust cause.

I have deemed it necessary to make this official communication for my own justification. As Capt. Downie takes these Chiefs upon his own responsibility, should they proceed to England, I have no further observations to make, but only to request you will have the goodness to lay my letter before His Excellency the Governor for his consideration.