

Samuel Marsden to CMS Secretary Josiah Pratt

Sydney June 10th 1821

Rev^d & Dear Sir,

I am happy to inform you that M^r Kendall with Shunghee and his Companion have arrived safe and well. All in good Spirits, and have been kindly treated by the Master of the Speke - I am anxious to forward them to New Zealand as soon as possible - The Active is in the River Derwent at the present procuring oil, and I do not expect her till about Sep^r - I have some Intention of taking up the Westmoreland, a Ship of about 400, or 500 Tons to go to Otaheite on King Pomare's Account, if the Master and I can come to Terms, if so I shall agree with him to take Mr Kendall &c to New Zealand - This Ship can be ready in a few days - if I can take up the Westmoreland wholly at Pomare's Expense without Burdening the London Missionary Society with any [f] material expense I shall do it immediately - During my Absence in New Zealand a Plan was laid, which in its Consequence must have seriously affected the Otaheitean Mission, in a commercial and political Sense, if not in a religious Sense - I hope I shall be able to defeat this Plan by taking a decided Step at once. I feel a necessity laid upon me at the present time to use the utmost Exertions to counteract the designs of interested Individuals void of Principle; and who will make any Sacrifice to promote their temporal views - Mr Bunker is acquainted a little with the Business to which I allude - As the whole will come to a public Investigation the London Missionary Society will be informed in due time of the Particulars - with respect to Religion all goes

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well in the Society Islands - The Advances of the Inhabitanats in Religion and Civilization are wonderful - Perhaps we shall meet with greater difficulaties at New Zealand from the Inhabitants living under a [f] different form of Government - Pomare is a Sovereign Prince - His will is a Law and he has always been friendly to the Missionaries His Authority has had great weight and Influence in Favour of the Mission - I entertain no doubt but New Zealand will embrace Christianity, and become a much more powerful nation than the Otaheiteans - As the work is greater the difficulties are greater - In such difficult undertakings proper men cannot be selected by human wisdom - Some will turn out unworthy Characters - Still the work, being of God, will go on-

I mentioned to you in a former Letter, that the Active is not a very proper vessel for the Mission - She is too slow a Sailor and hardly large Enough for the Sperm Fishery - one of 200 Tons would answer much better - The Active w^d sell here I have no doubt - If the Society should approve of purchasing a more convenient vessel - I think if the Expenses might be covered by bring out Passengers and their Goods &c - The Bearer of this Captain [f] Bunker, as he is generally called, would bring her out for nothing to this Colony - It would be a great Blessing if you could meet with a Pious Master, and a few pious Sailors three or Four - nothing would tend more to the civilization of the natives than being on Board a Ship where there was a good Master - They are all fond of the Sea, and make good Sailors - I merely submit these Hints to the Consideration of the Committee - The Committee may have some objections to what I suggest. The

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Active can hardly take in a large Whale at Sea,- She has not sufficient Purchase
- and as it will be necessary at least for a time for the Society to have a Vessel,
and which would be attended with too heavy an expense unless she make some
Return, under this Consideration the Committee may see it prudent to make
some Alteration - M^r Bunker can give the Committee any Information relative
to the Fishery as he was long a master of a whaler on the Coast of New Zealand
- I lately heard from the Bay of Islands - all the Settlers were well -

I remain

Rev^d & D^r Sir

Yours very affectionately

Sam^l Marsden

Rev^d J. Pratt