

Rev. Sam. Mayden to the Secy^y
Parliament July 16th 1821

40

Rev. & Dear Sir Com. Jan. 14/22.

The Rev. Mr. Mayden's objection respecting the Rev. Mr. Kendall's report that the Indians were not converted

Recd Dec. 26/21
Ack. Dec. 28/21

The Rev. Mr. Kendall with Humphree and Whykato arrived in the Colony ^{late in May}. Humphree had recovered very much, but was still weak and poorly. He was very much rejoiced to learn that all his friends were well. His visit to England will be attended with good to all. Mr. Kendall I hope will not be so very determined at all times to go his own way. I have had much difficulty to convince him of the criminality of bartering muskets and powder with the natives - we had a warm altercation upon the subject, when he told me he would neither be guided by me, nor the Society in this matter. I then told him he & I must finally part, for I would have no connection with any individual or individuals who would be concerned in such a nefarious barter. I then wrote to him, a copy of my letter I enclose. I afterwards stated to him what I had heard and seen in my different travels amongst the natives of N. Zealand from the effects of muskets, by arming one tribe with fire-arms, against a tribe who has none. The Chiefs of the Bay of Islands when I arrived in the Orongorangi were gone to war against Mercury Bay - and returned the very morning Mr. Kendall sailed for England. I saw the prisoners of war landed and the heads of the Chiefs, whom they had killed. I visited Mercury Bay afterwards with the Chief of the Expedition - and on my arrival I was informed between 3 & 400 of the inhabitants

of this Settlement had be slain by the Chiefs of the
Island of Islands, and 265 Prisoners of war taken away,
while only one Chief had been wounded on the opposite
side, and none killed - One party had muskets and
the other had none. I wanted to know how Mr. Kendall
as a Christian minister could reconcile these things to
his mind - Mr. Kendall contended muskets were civilized
weapons - I readily admit the force of his Argument,
provided he could arm all the population of U. Zealand
with muskets, and give all an equal chance of Protec-
tion. The unarmed natives complained everywhere
to me of the injustice of the missionaries in putting
muskets into the hands of their Enemies to slay them.
I laboured to convince the natives, that this was not the
object of the missionaries in coming to U. Zealand, and
advised the unarmed Tribes that the missionaries should
do so no more - The more they barter away, and the
more offense they will give to the Inhabitants in
general, who cannot obtain them. It is not one hundred
nor one thousand muskets that would satisfy a warlike
nation as they are. Every man must have a musket
before all would be satisfied. It is their warlike spirit that
wants to be checked, and softened by the simple Arts,
and Agriculture. I hope Mr. Kendall after all that has
just will yield this point, and act differently - He has
promised that he will - I did most solemnly assure him
I would have no communication with him if he did
not lay aside this matter - Mr. Kendall is well qualified
for an useful missionary amongst these people in
their present state, and I cannot doubt his sincerity,
and pious wish to do them good - and he will do

48

much good - I have sometimes been very angry with
him for his persevering obstinacy in a wrong path. you
must have perceived this Temple in him, if you had any
Call to oppose his Opinions or Motions - He will not
reason, from a Confidence that he is right - I think
however he will now begin fair - Past Experience will have
taught him a little wisdom - I was very anxious to
forward him to N. Zealand as soon as possible; not only
with a view to save Expenses, but to prevent his mind
from being ~~from~~ being unhinged by the Corruptions
of this abominable Society - Some Circumstances having
occurred in the Society Islands which induced me to
take up the Westmoreland, and to send her there -
I put Mr. Kendall and his Companions on board of her,
and they sailed on the 1st Instant. The Westmoreland
is found by her Charter party to land them and their
Cargoe, with other Stores belonging to the Society at
the Bay of Islands - The Active is at present in the
River Devent, and I do not expect her here for two
or three months - I am happy they are gone -
I made ~~them~~ Shury's & my self a few Presents
and they seemed very much rejoiced to return in
so large a Ship as the Westmoreland. Shury's
mind I found was a little hurt from being refused some
things he wanted - He told me the Circumstance - I blamed
Mr. Kendall more than the other Sealers for this - If they
made any unreasonable Request it was Mr. Kendall's
Duty to have explained to them that their Requests were
unreasonable - but he left the Person to do that, to whom
they applied; which was not fair - He acted so with
me. The natives asked me for what I could not
give them - Mr. Kendall did not tell them I could not

comply with their Requests, but still told them to ask me. I have never had any trouble with Applications from the New Zealanders - If I told them I could not give them what they wanted, they were satisfied with my answer. But when Mr. Kendall told them to ask me for what they wanted, they conceived he would not desire them to do so, unless it was in my Power to grant their Requests - from this alone they were dissatisfied - However we parted very warm Friends - and I hope all will go on well, and that they will in a few days be happy in the midst of their Families - - -

Mr. Curvell is still here. I have provided a Passage twice for him, but he is not gone yet - He has been lately married again - I felt much for his Affliction when he lost his first wife, and felt unwilling to press upon him his Duty - I fear he has not warmth and Activity necessary for a Missionary - However as he is now married again his wound for his former loss may be supposed to be healed, and he must soon determine what he will do - I have my doubts whether he will or not engage heavily in the work - a little time will try his Intentions - I have no objections to his marriage, but I think he should have mentioned to me his Intentions to do so, before he was married - I am afraid he has been too hasty - I think he had his Reasons for saying nothing to me upon the Subject - His Conduct has been moral and decent. He has not shown much Inclination to do any thing since he has been in the Colony, but perhaps now he may be more active -

Missionaries are very difficult to manage - and those who have the Superintendance of them, will have much trouble, and much blame whether they deserve it or not.

Rev. J. Pratt

I remain
Your
affectionate
servant
James