

Evening this - If I had acted according to my own
Judgment I should not have formed the
corresponding Committee - my colleagues
thought this could be done, and they were
sincere - and I was unwilling to check
their pious wishes - I soon found that some
wanted to enter into wild speculations, which
would have ruined me in the opinion of the
Christian world, and involved the Society
in unknown Expenses - This alarmed me
much - I was obliged to make a determined
stand, and was supported by a majority
of the Committee - I found it was not safe
to go on any longer, and one of the members
made a motion to dissolve the Committee
which was immediately carried - The
Rev. Mr. Comper did not attend, nor
Commissary Wemyss - I was previously
informed they would not - when the

the Rev. Mr. Kendall was at Port Jackson
 orders were given for the purchase of
 clothing &c. for the Rev. Settlers Shungbee
 & Wyotto which I should not ^{have} allowed, if I
 had been consulted. As the responsibility of
 drawing the bills laid upon me, I contended
 that I ought to sanction the purchase of
 any articles before they were bought,
 and that the Secretary of the corresponding
 Committee should not give orders for things
 and leave me to pay for them - Mr. Curvell
 had resided some short time at the House of
 the Secretary - The Secretary proposed to the
 Committee to pass a Resolution that I should
 pay him a certain sum for the Expenses he
 had been at with Mr. Curvell - I objected to this
 mode as not correct - and told the Committee
 I was willing to pay the Demand of the
 Secretary, upon the Secretary furnishing
 me with ~~an~~ his Account which
 would be my voucher - but that I

could pay no money upon the Resolutions
of the C. Committee, until the Parent
Society had authorized me to do so - I contended
they had only received their Authority from
me, and therefore they could not compel me
to do what I felt in my Conscience I was
not authorized to do - and that I was ^{the} only one
responsible for the money drawn and, not
them - They yielded generally to my Arguments
with the Exception of the Secretary Captain
Greene - A Demand was also made for the past Accounts
of the Society - where I objected to deliver up without
Authority from the Committee in London -
This Demand was urged only by Captain Greene -
but he argued without these Accounts nothing
could be done - I was willing they should examine
them as they stood in M^r Campbell's Ledger
either individually or all together, but Copies
of these Accounts I was not warranted in
giving as the Society's Confidential Agent
and on that Ground refused - This Demand

was made, and preserved in by Capⁿ Greene
 without my being able to comprehend his real
 motive - As he was Secretary to the C. Committee
 he had all our Proceedings - Some of our Papers
 were shewn to Individuals without my
 knowledge or any other of the members -
 From the Dreadful Spirit of Oppression that
 exists in the Colony, and the anxious wish
 of my Superiors to involve me in Difficulties
 I could not but feel alarm at those private
 Proceedings, I had been acting as I fully believed
 with Confidential Christian Friends; but found at
 length that I had been mistaken in my Opinion -
 one of the magistrates communicated to me
 what was passing, and earnestly pressed me
 to be upon my Guard - The Rev^d Cartwright
 & Hill, and my other Friends begged of me
 to ^{in vestment} resign no further, by withdrawing the C. Comm^{ee}.
 I am ready ~~any time~~ to account for my
 Conduct respecting the concerns of the Society
 at any time, I am called upon by your
 Committee - But I am not willing that all

these concerns should be put into the hands of
my Enemies, and the Enemies to the Cause -
Captain Irvine told me he would write to the
Society respecting the Affairs of the mission -
what statements he will make I cannot tell - He
perhaps will give way to his private feelings,
as he was disappointed in not getting copies
of the Society's Accounts - I informed Capⁿ Irvine
I had for my own satisfaction, laid the Society's
Accounts before the Honourable Comm^{rs} of
Enquiry, and with which he was perfectly
satisfied - I considered the Com^{rs} an official
public Character; and saw no impropriety
in giving them every information - but the
care was different with private individuals
who could have nothing to do with these
concerns - Things will now take a turn, as
Sir M^r Brisbane has arrived - He will not
exert his powerful influence to annoy private
individuals in a thousand ways, as hath been
done - I must wait till I learn what

Statements Captain Irvine makes, before I can answer him - Mr. Cowell is still in the Colony - I am afraid he will not do any good - He has withdrawn himself from me almost from the day I landed from New Zealand, and united with those who will not do him much good - by the next Conveyance I shall give you some Account of his Conduct - The Article will sail very shortly, and then I shall come to a final Explanation with him -

I have got a Mr. Underwood to take Charge of my Letters and Papers - as I think he will take care of them, better than the Master of the Vessel - Mr. Underwood is a very respectable Gentleman, and intends to visit this Colony again - I have written the above in great haste, more as a matter of private Information than official -

I am
yours affectionately

Wm. J. Pratt

Samuel Marsden