

*Samuel Marsden to John Butler*

Sydney June 11<sup>th</sup> 1822

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

I received your Letter in which you allude to our differences – Allow me to say, that you must be fully aware that it is not in my power or yours to settle these differences as they are not of a private but of a public nature, and have been refer'd to the final Decision of our Superiors in London – If the Committee of the C.[hurch] M.[issionary] S.[ociety] believe these charges which you have made against me to be true, they will be bound to withdraw their confidence from me; if they do not believe them, they will make an unfavourable Impression towards you – Nothing can therefore be done in this Matter, until an answer is receiv'd to your Public Letter, forwarded by the Surrey –

In answer to your Application for different articles to be purchas'd by me at Port Jackson for the use of the Settlement at Keddee Keddee; this I must also decline for the present, until I know what answer the Committee makes to your Letter – If I have no Direction or Authority, I will have no Responsibility – As I have no Direction or Authority, I must decline all Interference for the present. You told me in the presence of a number of Gentlemen, that you would not obey my Orders, nor would you act under me. – From that moment I had done: I had no means of enforcing Obedience, and therefore it was of no use having any contention upon this Point; and here we parted – You have taken all the direction and, of course, you will take all the responsibility – You will be answerable for all the Stores, and their Expenditure, which you took from M<sup>r</sup> Campbell's Store house – You will

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remember the Canvas and Cordage [f] were sent out for the Active, and not for your Settlement— You have also taken upon you to divide the Society's Property amongst Individuals which, in my opinion, should have been handed over to the Store-Keeper, agreeable to the directions of the Committee, and served out by him as occasion might require— The Society will expect that every part of the Stores are accounted for in a proper way— Every one should not be left to take his Share of the Public Property, and expend it as he thinks proper— If the Society should be satisfied with what you have done in this Respect, I shall have no cause to complain— All I mean to say is, that if I have not the Direction, I will not have the Responsibility: you have taken the Direction, and you must take the Responsibility. There ism nothing now belonging to the Society in Mr Campbell's Stores, but a little Iron, two Ploughs, and four Harrows— The Harrows would not sell, because they were not Pairs: you had taken Harrows with you that were not fellows. I have desired Mr Hall to send those Harrows back which are not fellows—

I also observe an Error in your Minutes where it is stated I have sold the Bonnetts sent out by the Society— This I must request the Committee to correct; for they are not sold. Upon what ground the Committee made this Statement I cannot say: however, it is not correct— I have mention'd them to Mr W<sup>m</sup> Hall, and he, as well as Mr Kendall formerly, tells me they are not wanted at New Zealand— However I shall not sell them at present.

As the Missionaries have generally transferred [f] their Concerns from N S Wales to London, and as several of them have drawn upon the Society for their

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Salaries before they are due, they cannot want much from Port Jackson: if they do, they have their private Agents here to supply them— Under all the circumstances of the Mission, I do not intend to purchase any thing for the Settlements, unless something very extraordinary occur, till I hear from the Committee— I conceive I should not be justified in doing this— I cannot check or lessen the Evils that afflict the Mission, originating wholly among your selves; and therefore withdraw from them: and as you as a Body will not be govern'd by any Authority here or in London, there is no alternative but to leave you to yourselves, at the present, to do as you like— God will, in due time, bless New Zealand with his Gospel— If the present workmen will not answer, he will find other labourers who will— I am not alarm'd for the final success of the Mission, tho' at present Clouds and darkness rest upon it.

The nine Bills you have drawn upon me I paid, tho' you did not indorse one of them, they were drawn in your favour and payable to your order— This is incorrect in me— I had no authority to pay them without your Indorsement.

I am Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Your mo:<sup>[st]</sup> Obed<sup>t</sup> h<sup>[umb]</sup>le S<sup>[ervan]</sup>t

Signed Samuel Marsden

Present our kind

Respects to M<sup>rs</sup> Butler

Rev<sup>d</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Butler