

"the latter as an of a merciful nation." If those, who would
after mature deliberation, allow muskets, are inconsistent;
those whose fine feelings, would not allow them, are much
more so. I can mention a case in point. A person here
who does not approve of the disposal of muskets among
the natives, and for whom both you and I entertain, I am
sure, the greatest respect, immediately on my return to
New Zealand, enquired, if there were no small hatchets among
the Society Stores on board the Westmoreland, adding, "that
"small hatchets sold so well among the natives, that it
"would be desirable to write for a large quantity in order
"that we might be well supplied." Now these hatchets are
all of them used by the natives as weapons of war. We
all of us know this to be a fact. You know it to be
a fact yourself. But as these hatchets are not used
as weapons of war by the English, I suppose it was on
the same account, that you did not hear the cries of the
innocent children whose parents had been butchered by
them, did not occur to you, as distinctly, as those whose
parents had been shot. I say not too much, when I
assert, that your observations and your tender feelings
are not in unison. There may be men in the world who
could view with pleasure a human body cut up and
mangled with a hatchet, in preference to being despatched
with a musket ball, but not Mr. Marsden. I am
fully convinced that the New Zealanders will be in a
savage state so long as they use savage weapons; and altho'
Muskets will not, convert them to Christianity, yet I
believe they may on certain occasions use them even
after they become Christians. It is only as we part with
merciful weapons in preference to savage ones, and this as a
condition for the needful property and services we