

Rec'd from 22/24

Bay of Islands 20th Sept 1823.

Dear Sir

As it is probable that a letter may reach you from New Zealand, before I can write to you from New South Wales I have judged it prudent to drop you a few lines - I sailed from Port Jackson on the 29th of July 23 in the Porpoise - with the Rev. P. Williams & Family we arrived in the Bay of Islands on Monday Aug. 8th I found the missionaries all well in health - The Rev. J. Kendall had separated from the Rest, and was living about nine miles from Kangaroo - Shortly after my arrival I had an interview with him - He then expressed his determination to remain in the Island - He appeared to be in a very unsettled, as well as wretched state of mind - I found that his conduct had been very immoral, which he admitted - I considered him a lost man as far as concerned the mission - After some days he consented to return with me to Port Jackson - I took a passage for him & his family in the Porpoise, and when the ship was ready they all embarked - on Monday the 20th of Sept. we attempted to get out of the Harbour - There was a strong gale from the East - we working at the ship's wheel, and was driven amongst the rocks, where she was wrecked - no lives were lost, tho' our situation was very awful - This was a very distressing calamity to all - The bottom of the vessel was soon beat out, so that we had no papers aboard