

Thurs Jan 19/24

December 20<sup>th</sup> 1823 W. A. Wake

Rev. & Dear Sir,

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by this conveyance I forward to you my Journal, and copies of various letters and other Documents connected with the mission. From my Journal you will see the principal occurrences that took place daily while I was in New Zealand, as I noted them down as they occurred. I have answered the queries proposed by the Society, as fully as I am able, from all the information which I could receive. You will see from the various conversations I had with the Chiefs you will see their views are very much enlarged, and the way is gradually preparing for the Gospel. A nation does not easily part with their gods, more especially their false gods. The New Zealanders are very much under the influence of the Prince of Darkness. He will not quietly give up his prey. Nothing has happened since the first establishment of the mission to the present time, but what might have been expected, especially from the natives. As Mr. King justly observes, we have made no new laws, we have established no new Customs, we are only following the Institutions of our Forefathers, which we cannot as yet relinquish.

Your Venerables eat human flesh, and taught us to  
do so" - many of their superstitions are dying away -  
was they will carry on; but I think the body of the  
Chiefs have less inclination for it. Ungetto has  
only been once since his return from England  
and he assured me he never intended to go again -  
He had resisted Shunghees solicitations in his last  
Expeditions. when the horrid Acts of their Cannibalism  
are stated to the Christian world the Causes should  
be stated at the same time, which according to  
their laws and customs sanction these Acts -  
we do not abhor their Cannibalism more, than  
they abhor our custom of hanging Vellors -  
They have often remonstrated with me on this  
Custom - they think it is much better to kill  
a man with one blow, than to hang him -  
we do not see the War Sealanders, drinking and  
swearing, and fighting and murdering one  
another, as is the case in civil Society - I never  
saw a woman struck by a man in New Zealand,  
nor two men fighting together nor did I ever  
hear of a private murder, unless Theft, Adultery or  
some Crime had been committed, meriting  
that Punishment according to their laws -  
Norred deeds of Cannibalism are committed  
I readily admit; and human sacrifices are

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are stirred up by them - yet these Acts of Ignorance  
and Superstition only call more loudly for the  
aid of the Christian world to help them. Satan  
has them in sore bondage - Their miseries are  
great both mental and bodily. In my Journal I  
have stated every thing as fairly, and as justly as  
I could in order that the Committee may  
form a just Idea of the Situation they are in -  
I think some ~~say~~ things have been stated by the  
missionaries which does not give a just Idea  
of their Character - and I told the missionaries so -  
Persons forming their opinion of the New Zealanders  
from some detached statement, which the  
missionaries may inconsiderately make, would  
be lead to think that it would not be safe for  
Europeans to live amongst them - but this  
opinion would not be correct. Their Conduct for  
nine years have proved that the Europeans  
have been safe in the midst of them. Their  
national Religion, their Laws, and Customs  
should be fairly weighed, in forming a  
true Estimate of their Characters -

If a battle is fought, or if a runner or man hang them-  
- selves which is common, or if a slave is killed, or  
enquiry the New Zealanders will always immediately  
tell you the cause - A Chiefs wife whom I knew being  
herself when I was there this time in a fit of Jealousy:  
her Husband for her sake determined to follow her Exam-  
- ple - Another Chiefs wife told me, her Husband had taken  
another wife, and she would hang herself - I pointed out  
to her the sin of such an Act; she contended that it was  
inevitable. Their attachments are strong, and the  
Enemy takes advantage of their natural feelings to  
destroy them. They have no spiritual weapons to resist Satan  
with - They have no sword of the Spirit, no shield of Faith,  
no hope full of Glory to support and comfort them in the  
hour of temptation. we cannot be astonished at any acts  
they do while under the sole dominion of the God of  
this world. They have no written laws human or divine  
to govern themselves by; no Courts of public Justice to  
appeal to. I am surprised, not at the number and great rep-  
- etition of their public Crimes, but that they govern so well with-  
- out laws. when the light of divine revelation once shines  
upon them, it will be like the rising here upon the  
benighted world. But we must wait until the Lord of  
Glory arises and has mercy upon them, and condemn to  
Sinn in Hope - In the above fight I view the New Zealanders  
Rev. J. Pratt  
I remain Dr. Sir yours faithfully  
Samuel Marsden