

George Clarke to Josiah Pratt

Native Settlement New South Wales -

December 19th 1823 -

Revnd and dear Sir

I received your affectionate letter dated Feb^{ry} 15th 1823, wherein you mention having received letters from me, from Rio Janeiro, I hope you have also received my letters dated Nov^{br} 22/ and others dated Feb^{ry} 1823 I have written in Oct^{br}, but by mistake my letter was not forwarded which I now forward with this.

Since dear M^r Marsden has returned from New Zealand, a New sense of usefulness has presented itself to that dear man of God, and to me. M^r Marsden sees it my duty to proceed immediately to New Zealand, on account of the alienation taken place there, during M^r Ma^s. last visit - . so that I am once more proposing for that Voyage. I again sympathise [?taped over] in, being deeply affected that ^{^some} "who did once run well" are now turned [?taped over] aside from the right way, but yet dear M^r Marsden, and M^r Kemp tells us that the mission is in a more prosperous state than ever, and that the Missionaries leaving, is no ground ~~for~~ what-ever ~~for~~ discouragement, may the Lord direct our steps and keep us from falling.

We intend continuing our labours among the aborigines till a vessel offers itself for New_Zealand, as they are altogether destitute of an instructor when we leave, May the Lord raise them up some one that feels for their immortal - Souls._ It would afford me pleasure to hear you had nominated some one for this post of the broeyard [?].- here are obstacles, but here are also

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encouragements, much perseverance is wanted and a temper that will bear up with insults, and the basest ingratitude. It should be some one that is gratified for instructing children, and could conduct the public worship of God on the Sabbath as there are many [f] European prisoners, beside Natives that would attend the service of God, here is every thing ready for the reception of Missionary A commodious House 12 Children and 6 Famil-ies settled upon the spot for to begin with; surely the field is already whith [?] for Harvest, May the Lord send forth Labourers to the fields.

I requested Mr. F. Hall to be so kind as to ask you to send me as early as possible, if it met with you approbation, Nilmers Church history, Rollins Ancient History and - a good work on Natural History. -

That the Lord may give you strength to bear the repeated disappointments familiar [?] to you situation, and spare your many years to carry on his glorious cause on the Earth is the prayer of

Your Humble Servant

George Clarke -

PS Mrs Clarke unites with me in kind regards to Mrs Pratt and family