

8 The Gospel of a Crucified Saviour. —

But, as Saint Paul observes "How could they believe on him of whom they had not heard, and how could they hear without a Preacher, and how could they preach except they be sent". — after seriously considering their degraded condition, and embracing all opportunities of gaining a perfect knowledge of their Character; I resolved to return to England, as soon as I could obtain leave of absence, and endeavour to get some Missionaries sent out to preach the Gospel to this people. — I was fully convinced that there were no insurmountable difficulties in the way of preaching the Gospel in New Zealand; and I felt no apprehension that the lives of Missionaries, if any were sent, would be in danger, being confident that I could personally go with safety, if I saw it was my duty to do so.

Under these impressions I waited on His Excellency Governor Bligh (who had now relieved Governor King in the Government of the Colony) to obtain the necessary leave of absence to visit England; which was granted on condition that the Rev. H. Fulton, who was then at Norfolk Island, should perform my duty as Chaplain to the Colony during my absence. (being myself the only Clergyman in New South Wales, at that period); Fortunately a vessel was just about to sail for Norfolk Island by which I wrote to Mr. Fulton, and another ship very opportunely touched at that place, while on her way to Sydney (about this time) which enabled that Gentleman to