

present time, in the districts round the bay of Islands,  
than there was in 1814 when the Missionary Settlement  
was first formed. This improvement in Cultivation, is wholly  
owing to the Tools of Agriculture which have been sent out,  
from time to time, by the Church Missionary Society. The  
mortality amongst the natives was very great the first  
winter after the settlement was formed, for want of food.  
It is gratifying to say, there have been for the last two  
years, very few deaths amongst the natives, in the above  
districts; which is to be attributed under the Divine  
Providence to the extensive Cultivation, by which means,  
the natives have been more abundantly supplied with  
provisions. Cultivation will most certainly keep pace, and  
the Temporal Comforts of the natives with the means affor-  
ded for improving the Agriculture of the country. Hoes  
and Spades are the Tools that will be principally  
wanted, till the country is supplied with Cattle, and  
the Plough is set to work. Cattle can easily be supplied  
from New South Wales, and in a short time, the Plough  
may be employed in the Cultivation, as the land is gener-  
ally clear from Timber, excepting small bush wood and  
fern, which can with little trouble be cut down, and  
burnt off. Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> The weather has been very stormy  
to day, the wind easterly, with heavy rain, so that we  
were not able to leave the House. 19<sup>th</sup> In consequence of  
the wet, we had Divine Service both Morning and Evening  
in Mr. Halls House. 20<sup>th</sup> This morning the Gale abated.  
We began early to load the punt with boards and scantling  
for Kiddlee Kiddlee, for erecting the Houses there. We hope  
to get one or more buildings up this week, for the present  
accommodation of the Carpenters &c. A number of natives  
arrived at a very early hour from remote districts  
some 20 and others 50 Miles distant. They were ready to  
tear us to pieces for Hoes and Axes. One of them said his  
heart would burst, if he did not get an Hoe. We are  
winded with their importunities, and exceedingly  
distressed that our means are so small, that it is  
totally out of our power to meet their wants, at the  
present time. I told many of them this Morning,  
that I had written to England for a great number,  
and as soon, as the Ship arrived, they should have  
some given them. They replied, many of them would  
be in their Graves before the Ship could come from England

the first winter  
the first winter