

Rev. Imm. Marsden's Journal from Feb. 13/20 to Nov. 15/22.

On the arrival of His Majesty's Ship *Dromedary*,
at Port Jackson in Feb^r last I was informed that the
British Government had given directions to the
Commander Rich^d Skinner Esq^r after discharging the
Convicts which the *Dromedary* brought out, to proceed
to New Zealand for Shags; and that the *Corromandel*
was on her passage, and her Commander had received
similar Instructions. I considered this an important
measure, and that the success of the Mission would
be more or less involved in those transactions which
would unavoidably take place in the intercourse
between the Natives and the Companies of these Ships
during the time each Vessel was procuring her
Cargos of Shags. I was apprehensive if any misun-
derstanding should take place between the Natives
and the Europeans some unpleasant consequences
might follow. I also conceived if these Ships
accomplished the object of their Voyage, His
Majesty's Ministers might adopt some public
measures that would second the views of the
Society and promote the general benefit of
the inhabitants — In order to prevent any
unfortunate event, and to promote the good
of the public service as far as my Knowledge
Experience and influence would extend, I felt
anxious to accompany the Ships; and for this
purpose solicited permission from his Excellency
Gov^r Macquarie, which he was kind enough
to grant — I immediately prepared for