

Read at con. May 2^d 1808 Apr. 4/08
Rev. J. Marsden to Secretary & Ivy Lane. H. G. G.

Apr. 4/08

7th April 1808.

① 498 003

Rev. Sir,

In compliance with the request of the Society for Missions to Africa and the East, I respectfully suggest the following Observations, relative to the Establishment of a Mission to the Island of New Zealand. - It may be requisite to state that the New Zealanders are a Nation, who have derived no advantages hitherto either from Commerce or the Arts of Civilization, and therefore must be in that State of Heathen Darkness and Ignorance, in which every Nation must unavoidably be, who has had no connection with the Civil, Religious and Commercial part of Mankind. Tho' the New Zealanders appear to be a very superior People in point of mental Endowments as far as any Judgment can be formed from those with whom the Europeans have had any Communication,