

*J. Fawcett to Josiah Pratt*

April 9<sup>th</sup> 1808

Dear Sir/

I have received your letter— With respect to the young man who was the immediate subject of my last— I think if he goes out at all it must be as a missionary in orders— At the same time I would by no means recommend him to y<sup>e</sup> extent you mention; for, tho' his piety seems eminent, yet his talents are hitherto untried— However, men are ordained in this part of the kingdom without an university Education. Perhaps I might devise means to have him educated for orders here— & probably the Society would give me some assistance, if it were expressly stipulated that when ordained he should be at their service. If ordained to a Cure in this ~~County~~ Diocese, he must serve it two years, before he would be at liberty to depart— Should any hostility or prejudice [f] or other cause prevent his ordination here, he might probably still be ordained in the Lutheran Church—

I hope I shall be able to furnish you with one man exactly of the description which you want— he is a Joiner, a Widower, has no family, about 29 years of age— seems a truly pious man— was desirous of entering into the Church, & had begun to studt Latin with that view, but I discouraged the attempt at his age. He has taken, in Numbers, Henry's Bible, & read to y<sup>e</sup> middle of the third Vol. He has also purchased & read Hervey's Works— When I mentioned New Zealand he knew the place, & had read about it in a folio Work of Geography which he [f] shewed me— I mention these things, that you may judge of his standard of information.

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He seemed to like the proposal, asked if his expences in going out would be borne, to which I concluded I might answer— yes— he will give me his final answer to morrow— I have therefore put my letter in a state of preparation, that I may not lose tomorrow's Post as you press for an immediate answer. Twenty Copies of the Report will be more than I shall want, you will do me a more essential service, if you send 10 & with them one for 1803 & two for each of the years 1804, 1805.

April 10— I have seen W<sup>m</sup> Hall, the Joiner whom I mentioned; he has determined to go, he gave yesterday a proof of the steadiness [f] of his purpose— a Situation was offered him to begin business for himself— he is possessed of property worth about £150— he had determined to go and declined the offer— I think it a providential circumstance that I saw him on Friday. Such an engagement w<sup>d</sup> have caused difficulties tho' they might have been got over. Should like to hear more particulars soon— & when W.H. sh<sup>d</sup> be in Town.

Yours very truly

F. Fawcett