

Thomas Kendall to Josiah Pratt

25 Gt. Quebec Street New Road

10 March 1811

Rev^d Sir,

I feel myself much concerned from the recollection of some remarks which were made whilst I was in the presence of your "Honorable Committee" in the Evening of the 1st Instant, lest by that enlarged way of delivering my Sentiments, which is too common to me (and which I cannot otherwise account for than being so seldom called upon to express myself upon any subject before my Superiors) an unfavourable impression should be made upon their minds respecting me. I therefore beg leave to explain myself in writing upon a point or two at that time giving rise to those remarks, and request you will have the goodness to communicate to your "Honorable Committee" what you may think worthy of notice. And in the first Place, I am solicitous to have it understood that when you alluded to my Note to M^r Woodd in which I expressed my "fear of the abatement of [f] my zeal for the Work", I did not mean to excuse myself from Proceeding under such an Idea. Nor did I, when I said, "that I could not look at the difficulties before me", mean, that I had wholly & inconsiderately omitted weighing in my own mind the arduous task of a Missionary. When I contemplate however the zeal & faithful Services of many honoured Servants of the Lord Jesus who are now in eternal Rest. When I consider with what eagerness and speed they press'd after their work; and, after more than two years find myself still at home; there is alas!

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Some reason to suspect my own want of zeal in the cause of so good and so gracious a Master. I return my thanks to the Gentleman who sat near me for observing that I ought duly to have weighed the difficulties with which I should probably have to encounter before I set out. That I have thought of them in some sense it is true, but I durst not suffer my mind [f] to dwell upon them. I trust God will for the sake of his own Cause keep me near to Him and give me his Support under Trials which I am not prepared to expect, and of my own strength am able to bear should they come. Therefore humbly depending upon the Divine Blessing & Protection, and being Concious [sic] that the Society would be satisfied with my earnest endeavours to promote the Redeemers Kingdom, and leave the Issue to Him. I should be glad to make the trial, and to add my feeble Efforts, such as they may be, to the labours of those who in the same cause have gone before me. Yet after all if it should not please God in his Providence to select me as a Catechist, I ought to submit. I know that his Kingdom will flourish amongst the Heathen & He needs not the Aid of such Individuals as I am altho' he sometimes condescends to make use of them. And am, Rev^d. Sir

Your Obed^t Humble Serv^t

Tho. Kendall