

Dec. 18/4

our said Friend that We decline in the offer which he makes us, — unless in the Interim some plan can be arranged of a more general nature, where in consequence of an increase in the number of Adventurers, the risk shall be comparatively trifling —

To such a number of Persons as I should propose I do not expect the probability of worldly gain would form the Inducement, because the Shares being so small there could <sup>not</sup> be a chance of large Profits, except in case of one Individual taking several Shares, — but the motive I would hold out is what Mr. Mavidan dwells much upon, — "the comfort & assistance which would be rendered to the Missionaries on those Islands, & the tendency to promote the Civilization of the Inhabitants thereof, by such a continual Intercourse between them & N. I. Wales" — Our said Friend in-

forms me that he has written at large on this subject, to You as the Organ of the Church Miss. Society & to some other Gent. who belongs to the London Miss. Soc. and that he has no doubt of the concurrence of a large number of the Members of both Societies —

— he is aware that as Societies they can neither of them take a part in a Mercantile Transaction like this, but he is fully persuaded of their readiness to do so as Individuals — If therefore the business has not been taken up by Mr. Wilberforce, as You hint in your letter to me, I beg leave to propose the follow. Plan —

— That my Brothers & I — undertake to purchase &

of course mean that we ourselves had at least one share each