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Mar. 10/14

Letter to the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer

Read at Com. Mar. 14/14.

Church Missionary House,
Fleet Street

March 10th 1814

Dear Sir

A Gentleman named Blick, resident at Kibworth, near Leicester, has applied to the Church Missionary Society, through Mr. Babington, to assist in, ~~to assist in~~ our projected Settlement at New Zealand. As we can take under our protection, consistently with the views and objects of the Society, only Missionaries, Schoolmasters, and Mechanics, we have suggested to him the propriety of settling in New South Wales, under the eye of Mr. Marsden, with a view of proceeding to New Zealand, when the way shall appear open. He has landed property in Buckinghamshire, and considerable expectations through his wife. Some family circumstances seem to have rendered them indifferent to residence in their native country. He is of an enterprising turn, and has long conceived, from reading Captain Cook's Voyage, a wish to settle among the New Zealanders. By dispatches just received from Mr. Marsden, our Society has the most encouraging prospect of establishing a Mission in those Islands, in conjunction with a Settlement about to be formed, if not already formed, for commercial purposes by some of the Port Jackson people. It is, therefore, a matter of some importance to our views, to facilitate the execution of such designs as those of Mr. Blick, as he appears to have the civilization of the New Zealanders, and the introduction of Christianity among them, much at heart.

I take the liberty of troubling you on the subject, to beg the favour of you to put him in the way of obtaining such advantages as may be afforded by Government to persons desirous of settling in New South Wales.

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He is acquainted with agriculture and gardening, and
woud, doubtles, well manage any portion of land that
might be assigned to him.

I remain,

Dear Sir,

With great respect,

Your very faithful servant

(signed) Josiah Pratt

Right Honourable
The Chancellor of the Exchequer