

Samuel Marsden [to Josiah Pratt]

July 29.th 1810.

Dear Sir

I wrote to you a little more than two months ago, informing you of our arrival at Port Jackson, and at the same time acquainted you with the Reason why the Missionaries remained with us. I now give you another Line as you may wish to know how the Missionaries are, and what Prospect there is for them to go on. This morning a Person called upon me, informed me that he had just returned from New Zealand, in a Vessel called the Brothers, belonging to this Port. ~~I made some Inquiries relative to the natives, and what Reception they met with from them—~~ He told me that the New Zealanders had behaved to them in the kindest manner, had supplied the Vessel with every necessary in their Power— that they gave them a Bag of Potatoes for a single nail, and afforded them [f] every Assistance. He further told me that ten of the Sailors belonging to the Brothers took one of the boats, and went on Shore— and began to destroy the growing Crop of Potatoes. The Natives remonstrated with them; when the Sailors murdered one of the Native men in the most barbarous manner, and behaved with the greatest Cruelty to many of the others. Notwithstanding this act of wanton Cruelty, the natives did no Injury to the Vessel or any of the Sailors; ~~but afterwards were very kind to them; and~~ were satisfied with the Capⁿ. assuring them, that he would complain to our Governor, and have them punished.— I believe the loss of the Boyd, and the murder of her Crew, was in Retaliation for Acts of Cruelty and Fraud, which had previously been committed by some Europeans. ~~I was informed by a~~

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~~Person who had resided a long time in [f] New Zealand, that a Ship on her way from Port Jackson to India had called to take in Spars and had agreed with one of the Chiefs to laden his Ship with them—When the Capⁿ. had got all his Spars from the chief he sailed away and never paid him any thing for the Timber.~~ The Acts of Fraud and vices of our own People will allow it. Mr. Hall his wife & King are all well, they conduct themselves with great Propriety. They reside near me, and while they remain I do not intend People— I believe some thing will be done for these poor Heathens— I believe some thing will be done for these poor Heathens, as soon as the Vices of our own People will allow it. Mr Hall his wife & King are all well, they conduct themselves with great Propriety. They reside near me, and while they remain I do not intend that they should be any Expence to the Society— The Produce of their own Industry will amply provide for them— As their Habits of Industry were kept up while on Board a Ship,they found not the smallest difficulty in following them here— With my respectful Compliments to the Society

The Arts of Fraud and Cruelty committed at New Zealand by Europeans are undoubtedly very great. I do not think it prudent for the Missionaries to proceed at present. ~~The young Chief is living with me who came out in the Ann with us, he is a fine young man and~~ Duatera is making great Progress both in Knowledge, and Agriculture— he works every day at one Kind of Labor or another, and will now do as much work in a given time as most men in the Colony, and as well. I intend that he shall get a perfect Knowledge of the Culture and management of Flax, as well as different Grain, Vegetables, &

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Pulse. He assures me, that, on his Return to New Zealand, [f] he will begin to cultivate his Lands as we do, and will send over some of his People for Instruction, to live with me. – He is very anxious for Mr. King to go with him “to make a Sunday,” People and to preach to his People – I believe some thing will be done for these poor Heathens, as soon as the vices of our own People will allow it. ~~Mr. Hall his wife & King are all well.~~ they conduct themselves with great Propriety. They reside near me, and while they remain I do not intend that they should be any Expence to the Society – The Produce of their own Indust-ry will amply provide for them – As their Habits of Industry were kept up while on Board a Ship, they found not the smallest diffi=culty in following them here – with my respectful Compliments to the Society

I remain

Dr. Sir

Your most obed^t Ser^t

Sam^l. Marsden