

house will, I hope, be a durable one; and that there will not be any need of another for many years to come. It has been a great work, and I feel thankful that it is so nearly completed. The stones of which it is built were brought a distance of between one and two miles by water. We have also burnt six kilns of lime for it, each of which contained about twenty tons of coral. The natives have worked most cheerfully at the house, and without any remuneration. It is pleasing to see the willingness of the natives to assist their missionary. Though their services have been heavily taxed during the past year, I have never known an instance of complaint among them. I have only to say what is to be done, and by whom, and chiefs and people are ever ready to work. Mr Inglis finds the same willingness on the part of the natives among whom he resides; and he says that in this respect, they present a great contrast to the natives of New Zealand, among whom he formerly labored. How great the change on the part of the people since we landed among them. The time was when if we asked a native to come to school, attend worship on the Sabbath-day, or even explain the meaning of a work, his first question was, *nivitan nintan* 'what's the payment? But these days have long since passed away, and those things which they once looked on as an obligation to us, they now regard as a privilege to themselves.

I beg to thank the friends of the mission for the supply of clothing, the receipt of which is acknowledged in the first part of this letter. They came to us in excellent order, and the boxes do not appear to have been opened and ransacked in Sydney by the custom-house officials, as former ones have been. It may be pleasing to those who contribute clothing, to know how it is appropriated. In the first place, we have several young men and women living in our own family, and who are entirely under our own control. Their present number is seventeen. These we provide with clothing, out of the supplies furnished from home, and to a considerable extent with food. I think the cause has been to some extent aided by our boarding school, if I may so call it. Four young men are now laboring usefully as teachers, in different parts of

the island, who formerly lived in our family; and the most advanced of those who now reside with us, are my assistants in the school at this station. In the next place, I have ten teachers, natives of this island, laboring in this district, and those I provide with clothing—the people among whom they reside are always expected to give them food. Then, again, the Samoan and Rarotongan teachers, in addition to their regular allowance, receive occasional supplies from us; and your generosity puts it in my power to give a present at times to chiefs and deserving natives. The supplies we give to the natives for *taro* which helps to support our native family.

I hope the natives will be more independent of the mission families than they now are for clothing. The contributions of friends at home and our own British supplies, meet their wants only to a small extent. They must raise some article of export, and we have been advising them to manufacture arrow root. An attempt was made this year, and as nearly as we can compute, about 500 lbs. was made in different places, I hope it will be thousands next year. When the Bishop of New Zealand was last here, he offered to take any amount which might be made to New Zealand, and make returns in articles most suitable to the natives. If no nearer and readier market opens, we will gladly avail ourselves of this kind offer.

The Bishop of New Zealand paid us his annual visit about two months ago. It was all the more pleasant, that he had Mrs Selwyn also with him. She appears to be no less devoted to the missionary work than her excellent husband. Her voyage among these islands, where the eye and heart meet with so much that is repulsive, is no small evidence of her interest in the cause of God. The Bishop made his present voyage in a chartered vessel, having sold the mission schooner, "Border Maid." The fine looking vessel, she was found to be unsuitable, and very expensive to keep up. He expects to visit England in a few months, chiefly with a view of purchasing another vessel; and he has already had information of a brig of 200 tons burthen, which he thinks will answer his purpose. On his return, he