

## Threlkeld ANNUAL REPORT 1832

“January 21<sup>st</sup> 1833.”  
Lake Macquarie”

“To the Venerable  
The Arch Deacon”  
“Reverend Sir”

”I had the honor to receive your letter of Decem<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1832 on the 19<sup>th</sup> Instant and take the earliest opportunity to forward the required statement of progress made in translating &c during the past year. The following are the works which have occupied my whole attention during that period, and which in a very short time, will be completed for the press.

1. The Gospel of St Luke which requires only some slight alteration in doubling consonants &c in order to accord with the rules which are found to arise in the natural construction of the Language.

2. A Selection of prayers for morning and evening service from the Ritual of the Church of England selected by yourself. —

Unforeseen events have prevented my putting up a place of worship, in which those prayers will be adopted, during the past year; But arrangements are now making for such a measure in the present one: It is necessary to remark, previously to its being printed, that some trifling alterations, as noticed in the Gospel of St Luke, would be desirable in order to accord with the Orthographical rules which naturally arise in arranging the Grammar.

3. A Grammar of the Language now under the third and last revisal. The peculiarities of the language, and difficulty of obtaining personal conversation with the natives to illustrate with any degree of satisfaction, have prevented the completion of the works, and their accompanying this statement as was earnestly hoped for in the latter part of the year. It may be necessary to notice that an alphabetical arrangement of many hundred words, proceeds in the course of these studies, and will ultimately form a Dictionary of their language.

In consequence of being only one twelvemonth residing on previously

uncultivated land, my means would not allow of employing more natives than were absolutely necessary for me to support in order to proceed in the attainment of the Language; but it is now arranged to clear ten acres of good land for the cultivation of early corn to increase my means of inducing them to labor next season under the superintendence of my Son, who speaks fluently the native tongue, as well as to provide at least one meal a day to such children as we hope to induce ultimately to attend a native school.

Such have been my pursuits during the past year, and are the plans of present operations, depending on the Blessing of Him who has said “The wilderness and the Solitary place shall be glad for them, and the Desert shall rejoice and Blossom as the Rose.”<sup>1\*</sup> Hoping that the measures pursued may prove satisfactory to his Excellency the Governor, yourself and British Government.”

I am Sir  
With the Highest feeling of respect  
Your Most Obedient Servant  
L.E. Threlkeld

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<sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. [Isaiah xxxv. 1]