Nobfolk Island,
South pacific Ocean
December 30th 1874.

My good Lord,

I trust this abrupt intrusion on your Lordship's notice, will not defeat the favour I would most respectfully propose, to accomplish anxious to obtain: which is no less than a copy of the Sacred Scriptures,—as annotated by yourself for the use of, the congregation, and as an heirloom for the descendants of the Community, of which I have been for six years the pastor, and twenty-two the ordained Chaplain.

Therefore I present as the descendants of the Mutineers of H.M.S. Bounty,—and formerly dwelling on Pitcairn Island; their men, by favour of our gracious Queen, and philanthropically influential Friends in England, in possession of the largest portion of Norfolk Island. The Members of the Melanesian Church, occupying the remainder. We have been here eighteen years. We have been blest by God, having food and raiment; and united in the Lord, one faith, one Baptism, have intense reason for thanksgiving. At this time we are converting a large stone building, out of the public offices under the Convict regime, into a Church. It is of Ecclesiastic appearance externally, but internally will be thoroughly renovated. Our late Church was
practiced by a Cyclone last February—our Whale-Boat destorred by a Tidal Wave, and much damage done to the trees and plantations; but we may sing of judgment and mercy, for no personal injury was sustained, and we are now recovering from this elemental way, to hope to have our new church ready for public worship by Easter. Its construction must (of course) be deferred until a successor to our honoured and beloved friend Bishop Patterson is appointed. Dr. Lowe, again pays us a welcome visit. Many friends in England are affording us pecuniary assistance: and we shall be most thankful if your Lordship will kindly avert to this our humble request, and so place us, at a permanent advancement to our Welfare. A copy of the Holy Scripture, humbly speaking, increased in value by the application of Didactic knowledge, and by common sense of astuteness, industry. The fame of which has even reached us in this our isolated but happy home. Should the same knowledge be desirable of further information respecting this united community, now numbering three hundred and sixty persons.—Yours, Robert White. Barrister: Harlow’s, Grantham, will read it, and also forward your Lordship’s response.

Permit me, my most loving Lord,

To subscribe myself, most respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

The Right Reverend
Christopher Wordsworth, D.D.,
and Bishop V. V.

George H. Robins
Chapel, in
presuming a favourable issue, may I ask you Lord, and flattering in
the "lay leaf," with a wish and two of paternal salutations to be communicated,
500.