

Since, my thoughts were lost in wonder, and surprise, in taking a retrospective view of the wisdom and goodness of God's providential care, which had attended all my steps to that very hour. If busy imagination inquired what I did there, I had not an answer to seek in cold conjecture. I felt with gratitude, that I had not come by chance, but had been sent, to prepare the way of the Lord, in this dreary wilderness, where the voice of Joy and Gladness, had never been heard; and anticipated, with joyful hopes, the period, when the day star from on high, would dawn upon this dark and heathen land, and cause the very earth on which we then reposed to bring forth its increase, and God himself, would give the poor inhabitants his blessing. After reflecting upon the different Ideas which crowded themselves upon the mind, I wrapped myself up in my great Coat and lay down to sleep. Wednesday 29th Arose this morning at the dawn of day; The Natives immediately kindled their fires, and prepared for breakfast, which was no sooner over, than we prepared for our journey. After walking thro' the wood, for about a mile, thro' a very difficult and bad path, partly from the heavy rain, and partly from the roots of the trees which cover the road, we came once more into an open Country. The rain fell very heavy. After walking about six Miles, we arrived at the edge of another wood, thro' which we had to pass. Before we entered the wood, the rays of the Sun from under the Edge of a Cloud gilded the side of a distant hill. A New Zealander who was walking by me, called my attention to the spot where the Sun shone, and asked me if I saw it. I answered in the affirmative; he replied, that is the Whydua, or Spirit of Thunghees Father. The Chiefs of New Zealand, are full of Pride, and many of them assume to themselves the Attributes of the Deity, while living, and are called Gods, by their People. The Natives will occasionally call Thunghees a God, when he approaches them, in the following terms: Hairemi, Hairemi Atua, Come hither, come hither, thou God! These Divine Honours being paid to the Chiefs fills their minds with the most proud and profane notions of their own dignity and Consequences. When they die their posterity deify their departed Spirits, and offer up their prayers to them. The above New Zealander compared the Departed Spirit of Thunghees Father to the Glory of the Sun, which evidently shewed what veneration