

were sent to each district ^{as} this would prevent all jealousies, and tend to make the Missionaries more comfortable. As for their Children, they had no objections for them to be taught, either in reading or writing. From all the information we could collect on our tour, we were fully satisfied that Missionaries would be kindly Received amongst them, and that it was only the want of them, that has created any discontent, amongst the Chiefs. Saturday we rose early this morning, in order to prepare for our return, as we wished if possible to reach the settlement before the Sabbath. About 6 o'clock while I was set taking my Breakfast, on a sudden I heard the loudest lamentations. On turning to the place from whence they came, I observed several women crying aloud and the blood streaming down their countenances. On inquiry, I learned that the Chief's wife, who had accompanied us had buried a child, a short time before, and these women were come to mourn, and weep, with her on this account. They held all their faces together, mingled their blood with their Tears, and cried aloud, cutting themselves at the same time with pieces of flinty stone. I was much shocked at the sight of the blood and cuts. The Chief came to me, and asked me, if I was afraid. I answered I was not afraid, but I was much grieved to see them cut themselves in such a manner. That this custom did not prevail in any nation of Europe, and that it was a very bad one. The Chief replied the New Zealanders loved their children very much, and could not shew it sufficiently without shedding their blood. I replied to weep was very good, but not to cut themselves. This is a very barbarous custom and universally prevails amongst the natives of this Island. As soon as we had finished our breakfast, we were presented with a large Hog, and a few Bushels of Potatoes, and then took our leave of this fine old Chief. Nothing material occurred during our return, and after a tedious journey by Land and water we arrived at the settlement about 12 o'clock at night, very weary. The Chiefs and their Servants attended us home, and on Monday morning we paid the Porters who had carried our Baggages, and all returned much satisfied to their respective homes: and we were equally satisfied with the whole of their conduct towards us, and happy that the object of our journey, which was that