

28 turned into the canoes who had no permission to go to Port Jackson. I promised some of the Chiefs who were very urgent for me to take their Sons to Port Jackson that their Sons should come at a future time; with promises and threats I got the Active cleared with much difficulty and Mr Butler and his colleagues left us in the mouth of the Harbour about an hour after dark and returned to the Settlement, and in a short time we were clear of the Heads. From the time of my arrival in New Zealand to my departure I had spent about three months in the Island and regretted much that my time was so limited. I wished very anxiously to have visited Whyholto a river to the Southward and Westward of the River Thames. A number of the Chiefs urged me very much to see this River, they informed me it was of a very great length that they were four months in going up it, and that the population were very numerous upon its banks, that there ~~was~~ was no part of New Zealand where there was so many inhabitants. This River empties itself into the west side of the Island; it is here that all the fine Mats are made. The natives also mention two Rivers of great extent which run one into another at a great distance from the Sea whether it is navigable for Ships or not remains to be ascertained but that the population is very great in this part of the Island there can be no doubt. With respect to the origin of these natives of these Islands we are still in the dark - I could not learn that they had any traditions amongst them from whence they came. Such information as I was enabled to obtain with the assistance of Mr Kendall or any of the Chiefs of the Island I have stated in my Journal. I am inclined to think that they have sprung from some dispersed Jews, at some period or other from their religious Superstitions and Customs, and have by some means got into the Island from Asia. They have like the Jews a great natural turn for traffic; they will buy