

told we were several Miles from whence she wd anchor and Night coming on, I wished to take my leave, but the old Chief wd not consent to that till we had taken some refreshment. He ordered his Cooks to dress some sweet potatoes as soon as possible. These are esteemed by them as their choicest food. In a short time a Basket of them were brought ready roasted and placed before us, the Chief sat by us with his Wives and a number of Men Women and Children. He wd not eat with us nor permit any of his people and when we parted with him he ordered 2 Baskets of sweet Potatoes to be put into the Boat for our use. I invited him to come on board of the Active which he promised to do and we took our leave being much gratified with the attention of this Chief and his people. The next morning we were visited by great numbers of Natives from different districts. I contracted with some of the subordinate Chiefs for a Cargo of Timber. The Active lay about 12 Miles from the fresh Water River where the Pines grew, and from there not being sufficient Water to bring her nearer, I went up accompanied by Messrs Nicholas and Hall to see the pines and found a considerable Village upon the Banks of the River which they call Cawa-Cowa. When our arrival was known, we were soon surrounded by numbers of the natives who vied with one another in their attentions. None of us were under the smallest apprehensions of danger any more than if amongst Europeans. In about 10 days we had got our Cargo and ready to return to Ranghee Ho. During the time the Natives were getting the Timber, I and Mr. Nicholas visited different places for several ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ Miles round and passed one night with an old Chief who gave us an account of Capt. Cook when in the Bay of Islands. He was then a young man. He shewed us where they pitched their Tents, washed their cloths, Watered their Ships and cut their Wood; and related several occurrences that happened while Capt. Cook remained there. Our Cargo