

Thames and the same day passed point Rodney one of the
 Heads of the Harbour and saw Cape Botrell the other head
 which is very high land not much less than 20 leagues
 distant. On Monday the 10th at day light we found
 ourselves advanced pretty far up the Harbour in which
 there were several Islands both on the East and West side.
 About 11 o'clock we came opposite the residence of the
 head chief Houpa of whom we had often heard and from
 these accounts were taught to believe that he was a man
 much esteemed as well as feared, and possessed very great
 power. In a short time we observed a War canoe full of
 men advancing towards the Vessel. We hove to, when they
 came near they lay upon their Paddles, viewed the active,
 and informed us that Houpa was in the canoe. I
 requested him to come on board, which he did with one
 of his sons. Houpa is one of the strongest and best
 made men I almost ever beheld. He was greatly surprised
 to see such a number of New Zealanders on board, and so few
 Europeans. We had one chief in the Active named Timaranga
 who was intimate with Houpa and who had lived on board
 the Active for some time. He informed Houpa whom we were
 and that we had come to the River Thames (which they call
 Showrakel) to see him and his people, and also that some
 Europeans were settled at the Bay of Islands with a view
 of instructing the natives. I made him a few presents, and in
 return he directed two fine Mats to be presented to me out of
 his canoe. He expressed a wish for us to come to an anchor
 near his residence. I told him it was my intention to visit
 his place when we returned from the River, and as the Wind
 was now favorable we would take advantage of it and proceed.
 He directed us what course to steer, and told us we should get
 the Vessel aground if we kept too much to the right hand.
 After holding conversation with several of the natives on
 board he took his leave expecting to see us on our return &
 we made sail for the mouth of the River. We were then on