

and made them a few presents of fish hooks. One of 79
these villages is called Hakeete, and the other Ranghee-
wathka - takka. They stand at the head of a most beautiful
valley; into which a small creek, navigable for canoes, runs
from the river. In this valley we observed many small villages,
and a large portion of land, cultivated with potatoes. In
this part there is a large quantity of good land, that has
never been in cultivation, & which would make a beautiful
settlement. There appeared to be a great number of people
in this retired nook. After remaining a few hours, we left these
villages with the return of the tide.

An old Chief, with a very long beard, & his face tattooed
all over, had accompanied us from the place where we
slept last night. He wanted an axe very much; & at last,
he said that if we would give him an axe, he would give
us his head. Nothing held in so much veneration by the
Natives, as the Head of their Chief. I asked him who should have
the axe, when I had got his head. He replied, I might give it
to his Son. At length he said, Perhaps you will trust me a
little time; & when I die, you shall have my head. I promi-
sed that he should have an axe, & he gave me two mats in
order to secure it. I told him that I had not one left; they
were all at Rangheehos. He said he would send for it; which
he did when we finally left the river.

We hastened back, as fast as possible. & arrived at our lodgings
about 6 o'clock, having gone, by estimation, little less than 40
miles by water. The War Canoes go at a great rate, when well
manned. We told the Chief Jura-whetta that we must leave
him in the morning. He provided a present of potatoes
and two hogs to take with us.

The Priest of the Heads was our constant companion,
As he was so well informed on all subjects relative to his
country, and religion, I wished to learn from him who
was the first man at New Zealand. He answered that the
first man who visited New Zealand, from whom all ori-
-ginated, was named Howhee - that he left his own country
with his followers, on account of public troubles; and
was afterward conducted, by the God of Thunder to How-
-takete, or what we call the Power Names - and that Pau-