

1830

41

their God could not injure me, if I entered the sacred limits, but he would kill any of them. Such influence has their superstition over them.

April 3

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April I visited Tipuna and examined the ground purchased from the natives with a view to remove the missionaries from Rangihua as this was considered a much more eligible situation. I found there had been considerable work done; some ground fenced in, a cottage built, and the frame of a house erected; but the work had been suspended by a Resolution of the local committee which was confirmed by the parent committee in London accompanied with directions to withdraw all the missionaries from Rangihua, and place them in one or both of the other stations. I regretted that this measure had not been more considered before it was decided upon, as it appeared to me an important station; and I was apprehensive the change would give great offense to all the natives on that side of the harbour. They soon heard of the proposed arrangement and it produced a strong excitement amongst them. On the following day I met the chiefs, and requested them to muster all the natives of Rangihua upon the beach immediately, to ascertain their number. In a short time

eighty

April 4<sup>th</sup>