

informed me, that nearly two years ago the caterpillars made great ravages amongst the growing crops of Sweet potatoes. The natives conceived this public Calamity came upon them, by the anger of their God. The Inhabitants of Ranghee too sent to Cowa Cowa, for a great Priest, in order that he might, by offering up his prayers, and Ceremonies, avert from them this heavy Judgement. The priest came, and stopt several months - Performed his religious rites, and directed every principal Cultivator to make an ark for his God, and to deposit in it sacred food for his God, to feed upon. In compliance with this order of the Priest, this Ark and others were made. It is about 5 feet long, 2 wide and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  deep. It is painted and ornamented with Carving; and various figures, and within is placed the sacred Provisions. The Caterpillars left their Potatoe Grounds in a short time, and the natives attributed their departure to the influence of the Priest, and not to any natural Cause; and hence they preserve these sacred Arks. Mr. Kendall informed me, he had never seen or heard of any Custom of this kind before the above.

23. This morning several Chiefs arrived from the River Thames. When they landed, they all sat down in solemn silence in one group on the beach. Shortly after the fighting men of Ranghee too came running in a body from the Village quite naked, like ~~as~~<sup>so</sup> many furies, with their spears fixed in a threatening posture, and making the most horrid noise. They advanced towards the Chiefs on the beach, as if they were going to make an immediate attack; when they came within a few paces they stopt and performed the war dance, ~~distorting~~<sup>dis</sup> their features, in the most frightful manner, and making at the same time, the most horrid yells. When they had gone through all their martial movements, they returned to the Village, where the head Chief Racow, an old man about 80, came forward, and made a speech to the Chiefs. The Chiefs had never moved from their place during these transactions. I inquired what was the meaning of the fighting men coming so furiously out of the Village, with their spears fixed, on the arrival of the Chiefs from the River Thames. They replied, this was done, as a mark of Military Honour and respect, and the oration of the Chief afterwards was to assure them of his cordial friendship. He told them he was glad to see them, and that they had done well to pay him and