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to take advantage, of every retiring wave, and run on
the beach, till I had past the residence of this imaginary
Deity. After Mr. Puckey, had taken the necessary bearings
and soundings, I was returned again to the Village,
and prepared for leaving our hospitable Chief, who had
supplied us, and our followers with the greatest
abundance of Potatoes, and such provisions as he had,
and about 7 O'clock the Chief, his brother, and many
of the People with the Priest, were determined to accom-
pany us in our visit to the other Chiefs, till we
finally left the River. The Canoes were immediately got
ready, and we set off for the next Village called
Weedenakke about 18 or 20 Miles distant where we arrived
||| about 12 O'clock that Evening. When we landed, I felt very
cold, having sat in the Canoe for about 5 ^{Hours}. One of the Chiefs
of Weedenakke was waiting to receive us. This Village is
situated literally in a very dark corner of the earth, behind
some lofty Hills which are mentioned by Captain Cook.
It stands at the head of a large salt water Creek, which
runs up from the main river about 10 Miles, and is there
met by a very beautiful fresh water stream, which comes
down from the Neighbouring Hills, and passes thro' an
extensive Valley of rich Land. When we arrived, there were
very few inhabitants in this Village, the Chief informed us,
the body of the people were living in the Valley, with the
head Chief, preparing their Grounds for planting their
sweet Potatoes, and that we should visit them in the
Morning. He then conducted us into a very close Hut,
where we were to remain till the return of day. The
entrance was just sufficient for a man to creep into. Being
very cold, we were glad to occupy such a warm birth.
I judged the Hut to be about 8 feet wide, and 12 Long, with
a fire in the Centre, and no vent either for the Smoke or
heat. The Chiefs who were with us threw off all their cloath,
and laid down close together, in a perfect state of nudity;
I had not been many minutes in this oven, before I experienced
the heat and smoke above, below, and on every side, insufferable.
The heat under the Roof of the Hut was excessive. Tho' the night
was cold, Mr. Kendall and myself were compelled to
quit our habitation. I crept out of the Hut, walked in
the Village, to see if I could meet with a shed, that
would keep me from the damp air till the return of
day. I found one empty, into which I entered. I had not