

One Hundred Children of a proper age, might be taken at once into a school. They have also plenty of Provisions, and their land is fit for all the purposes of agriculture, or Gardening. Many hundreds of acres of land are here that would repay the labours of the Husbandman. I walked to the head of the Valley, and followed the stream of fresh water, which descends from the Hills, till I met with a fine situation for a water mill, where the natural fall, appeared to be not less than 20 feet, which at a future period, may be of infinite service in grinding grain, when the growing of Corn is generally introduced amongst the inhabitants. The inhabitants of this Valley appeared to live in peace and plenty, and quietly to enjoy the fruits of their industry. Whether their security depended upon the strength of their Tribe, or the secluded situation, I cannot say. The Chief presented us with 2 large fat Hogs, each about 200^{lbs} weight, one of which we had killed for ourselves and people, and also many hundred weight of Potatoes. There was nothing but feasting and rejoicing, all that and the following day, till we took our departure. There were more than 200 Baskets of Potatoes dressed at one time. I had never seen such heaps of sweet, and common Potatoes before. A certain number of baskets are dressed for every Chief, his friends, and his servants, and every party sit in a circle, round their provisions by themselves, when they eat. After feasting and dancing and conversing all day, & in the Evening before they retired to rest, the Cooks heated their Ovens in the ground, in which they put Pork, Potatoes, and Greens all in heaps, in large quantities sufficient for 200 or 300 Persons, and covered them up, leaving them till morning to roast. At the early dawn, the New Zealanders were up. The Cooks opened their ovens, and served all their separate portions. The Chief of this Tribe appeared a very mild man. He expressed an ardent desire, for some Europeans to reside with him, to instruct his People. He gave each of us, a farm, all ready for planting; we thanked him for his kindness, but it was of no use for us to accept, as we could not attend to their Cultivation. This Valley would be an excellent station for Missionaries, from its Population, the Richness of the Soil, and from its apparent tranquility. It enjoys many advantages, as a Missionary Post, which time will not allow me to point out at present.