

117
Ho-poo-nakke-terre, but ^{the} crew of our canoe ^{were} ~~was~~ very tired and were not able without, a day's rest, to go with us. He offered his services, and said he would supply us with a crew in the morning, and accompany us himself. We thankfully accepted his kind offer. We spent the Evening as usual, in conversing upon various subjects, and in gaining all the information we could, relative to the Rivers in New Zealand, the number of inhabitants upon their banks, upon what they lived, and ^{the} mode of communication ^{which} they had with distant parts of the Island. We could seldom ask them a question, but before they answered it, they would inquire our reason for asking. If we asked how far any mountain or river was off, they would say, "What do you want to know for? Are you going there?" When we had satisfied them, they would give us every information we required. When we had conversed till late in the Evening, we performed our Evening Service of Prayer and Praise, and then lay down to rest. Friday 8th This morning we prepared early to visit, according to our intention, some Villages on the Banks of a river called Poo-nak-ke-terre lying on the south side of Shotice Hangha, in two Canoes, accompanied by about 50 persons. As we went up the River we saw several Villages ^{to} which we had not time to visit. The inhabitants fired their Muskets, and hailed us as we passed. Our wish was, to go as far up the river as we could, with a strong tide in our favour, so as to return in the Evening. The River is very beautiful, and will be very convenient for Navigation of small Vessels, should this Country ever become a Commercial nation. About one O'clock we came to two Villages situated near to each other, upon the high bank on the south side of the River. One of these Villages, under the authority of an old woman a Chiefs wife, the Chief being dead. Many of these People had never seen a white person. They received us with a war dance, presented us with several baskets of Potatoes, which were immediately dressed - While the boats were doing their duty, we walked into the Villages, and conversed with the people, and made the principals presents of a few fish hooks. One of these Villages is called Obakeite: Ranghee Wakka-Takka is the name of the other. These Villages 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 several small Villages, and a large portion of land cultivated