

and found a most excellent harbour about 16 Miles from our first Anchorage where Captain Cook's Ship lay on the East side of the Thames, behind two small Islands. This Harbour is perfectly safe for Ships of any Burden, being completely sheltered from the Sea. When Mr. Anderson returned, and the Ship's Carpenter who accompanied him, they reported that they had met with some Spars that would answer for masts. We were all rejoiced at this information and the following day arrangements were made with the Natives June 22 and part of the Ship's Company for cutting some of them down, and preparing them for Shipping. As Capt. Downie had now determined to take what Spars he could procure in the Neighbouring woods, and all the Natives upon the most friendly terms with the Europeans: I felt my time now at my own disposal, at least in a great measure; which I spent principally amongst the Natives in the Different bays and in examining the Creeks Woods and natural productions for about 3 Weeks. At this time July I told Toworeba I wished to visit Wye Kotto a river in the interior, where the population is very great. He dispatched a Messenger to inform some of the Chiefs of my intention, when a number of them came in order to conduct me to their Settlement. At this time the weather was very stormy; and a deal of heavy rain fell; however I was determined if possible could to visit Wye Kotto. The route to this Settlement lays on the West side of the Thames; and it was not practicable at this time from the boisterous state of the weather to cross the river in a Canoe, which was about 15 Miles over. Mr. Anderson had been on a Cruise for about 10 Days on the East and West Shores of the Thames looking for Spars: on his return he reported there were some that would answer for masts on the East shore about 17 Miles from where the Coromandel lay in a wood belonging to Tippokee, who would assist to get them down to the River. This determined Capⁿ Downie to send a Midshipman, and some of the Ship's Company, to cut down and prepare this Timber: and the 12 July was the day appointed for the men to leave the Coromandel to go and cut down these Spars. As Mr. Anderson intended also after landing this party with their provisions and Tools to proceed to the West side of the River again, I determined to take a passage in the Launch across the River, and from thence to Wye Kotto as the people from that Settlement had been waiting to conduct me there for some days. On the 12th at 4 O'clock in the morning I July 12 arose to prepare for my Journey. The wind had blown hard during the Night attended with heavy rain; and the morning was very threatening. The Launch was got ready, and at day light we sailed from the Coromandel with a fair wind, and arrived at the place where the Spars grew about 12 O'clock. We found a number of Natives upon the beach ready to receive us - as they knew of our coming - amongst whom were several from Wye Kotto.