

1820 July 12 Immediately on our arrival all hands were busily employed in erecting two Huts, one for the Officers who had Charge of the party, and the other for the men. Before Evening one Hut was completed, and two Tents which were in the Launch, pitched in one of which I took up my lodging for the Night. The whole day had been unpleasant; attended with Thunder and rain, which continued during the Night, and beat thro' the Hut, which made it very wet and cold - I laid down in my cloths, but had little rest. The following day we were visited by a Chief from ^{Towrangha} Mercury Bay; attended by his Son and Daughter. The old man was much astonished at the sight of Europeans, as he had never seen any white people before. I paid him a little attention, and made him a small present, which he thankfully received, and in the evening he returned. One Chief arrived also from Wyekotto with a fine Hog to sell. He offered it to Mr. Anderson for an Axe - Mr. Anderson had no Axe to give him. He had only a small Tomahauke which he offered him for it which he refused, observing he could not cut down his large Trees upon his farm with so small a Tool, and requested Temmaranga to speak to me to give him an Axe. Temmaranga immediately told me his wishes. I informed him I had no use for the Hog, and therefore I did not wish to purchase it. The poor man seemed much disappointed - said he had come a long way with the Hog, and felt a great pain in his heart for the want of an Axe; which I relieved by giving him one - and the Hog was given to the work people - 11th Last night was extremely cold, and wet. The rain fell very heavy, and the morning threatened for bad weather. The Natives who had come as my Guides from Wyekotto, informed me I could not return with them; as I should not be able to pass the Rivers and Creeks upon the road, they would be too deep for me to ford - This was a great disappointment to both parties, as I had long had a wish to visit that part of the Country. I therefore took my leave of them, and they returned. I now inquired if it was possible for me to go to Niporro a Settlement on the West side of New Zealand, which I had often heard mentioned. The Natives informed me I might; that there were no Rivers in my way to prevent me. I therefore now changed my intention, and determined to visit Niporro, and to take my passage in the Launch with Mr. Anderson to the West side of the Thames, where he intended to proceed as soon as he had settled all his arrangements with the workmen. 15th The stormy weather with heavy rain continued the whole of the night, and this morning the sea is very rough, with a strong wind from the western shore, which will prevent the Launch this day from crossing the river. Mr. Anderson now determined if possible to return to the