

3
1820
July 16

to these people is a great calamity, whenever the Sabbaths are neglected and forgotten, there God is neglected and forgotten also. These men fight our battles, defend our Country, expose themselves to every hardship, and support our Church and State against all foreign Enemies, yet no adequate provision is made to administer to them the bread of Life; but they are left to perish for lack of knowledge. I have felt much pained in reflecting upon their state while I have been in the present service.

July 17

We have had another stormy night, but towards morning the weather began to moderate. I now determined to set off on my Route to ~~Mercury Bay~~ ^{Towrangha} Temmaranga and his Nephew agreed to accompany me; but there were no canoes at the place we were, sufficiently large to venture up the Thames during the present turbulent state of the Water from the late gales. The Natives informed me I could get a large canoe at a Village about two Miles up the River. After dinner I engaged two Natives to carry my Baggage to the above Village, where we arrived about two O'Clock, and were kindly received by the Natives. I informed the Chief where I was going, and requested him to furnish me with a good canoe and Crew to take up to Rowpahi a distance we estimated at more than fifty miles. He told me I should have one, and ordered a canoe to be got ready, and manned immediately. A subordinate Chief offered to go with me to ~~Mercury Bay~~ ^{Towrangha} and take his servant with him to assist in carrying my Baggage, for an Axe, which I readily consented to give him. We immediately embarked but were soon compelled to return to shore again from the violence of the Wind and waves, as the Natives were apprehensive the canoe would be upset. They recommended me to walk to the next Village, where the River would be much narrower and consequently less sea, and I could there procure a canoe - we reloaded and set off to the next Village, where we arrived a little after dark. The Natives received us kindly; made us a large fire, and gave some provisions to my Companions, and accommodated me with a good Hut. We spent the Evening in useful conversation and then lay down to rest for the night. After committing myself and Associates to the care of Him who numbereth the hairs of our heads, and felt myself as secure as if I had been resting in the Bosom of my Family. 18th In the morning the stormy weather returned with great violence. There was no venturing on the river from the Village in a canoe; and our only alternative was to walk up the banks of the River,

July 18