

4
1820
July 20

Potatoes, and a good Hog. I saw his Fathers Kippah which ⁴³ is not inhabited at the present time. It had been a large strong place. I observed several Sepulchres in it, some of them raised above ground, painted, carved and ornamented with feathers. We breakfasted at this Village; killed our Hog, and roasted him whole for our journey. The Inhabitants of the Village were much gratified with our visit. I made them all small presents of fish hooks. The chief woman of the Village had a little house about a yard square, built very neat, painted and ornamented with feathers in which she deposited the sacred food for her God. It stood upon a post close to her Hut. We here met a Chief from ^{Towrangha} ~~Mercury~~ Bay, named Towaroro, I inquired of him how long we should be in walking to ^{Towrangha} ~~Mercury~~ Bay - He answered two Days, and that he would attend us. After breakfast we left the Village, and in about an Hour reached the Banks of one of the main Branches of the Thames above Rowpah. called O. Ewanone, ^[Ohinemuri] About four miles up this River stands an Kippah upon a very high stony Hill, called Tipposari - It commands a very extensive Prospect of the Thames, the immense forests and plains - as well as the Mountains in the Rear. It has been formerly a strong Place, and is still inhabited - we crossed the River O. Ewanone at a ford at the foot of the Hill upon which Tipposari stands. The ford was breast high, and very rapid. Four New Zealanders carried me over on their Shoulders with safety; They are so accustomed to the water that Rivers and Swamps present no difficulties to them in their Journeys. I had fourteen native Chiefs and their Servants, with me, so that I was under no apprehensions that I should meet with any Impediments in my way, but what I could easily overcome with their assistance. The Country now began to get very hilly, and covered with Timber - Some of the Trees exceeding lofty and fine - The woods extended further than the Eye can reach to the right and left of the Path. O. Ewanone runs thro' a deep Chasm in the Mountain at the foot of some very high conical Rocks on the right hand, and afterwards runs to the left towards the Sea Coast. We had to ford this River three times. Our Path lay thro' the wood, directly across the Summit of the Hill. The wood may be about three miles wide at the place we crossed it - but its length I could