

13 had no means to ascertain this accurately. We had not gone
1820 much more than a mile when we were compelled from
Aug 22 the roughness of the Sea to go on Shore. As I could not get
near the mouth of the Harbour in the Canoe, I ascended a
high hill, which commanded the Sea to a great extent -
But from the Hill I could not see the Entrance into the River,
or rather the Channel, but I observed breakers a long way out
at Sea. The Chief told me there was a Channel which
ran to the Southward free from the breakers, and was 20
fathoms deep. But as I did not see this Channel, I cannot
affirm his statement to be correct. Should a safe entrance
be found into this Harbour it will be a very convenient place
for shipping masts and spars - There are three fine fresh
water Rivers, ^[Hōtēo, makaran + Kapukapakapa] which run into this Harbour, upon whose banks
the finest spars are to be met with. I saw the spars upon
the Banks of two of these Rivers; the third I did not go up,
but was told there were plenty of spars on the Banks of that
river also. - One of these Rivers takes its rise towards the
Wye-teemaba, a River already mentioned on the west side
of the Thames. The second runs from the interior on the East
side near Bream Head - The third runs parallel with the
sea coast for thirty or forty miles, and then turns to the
Northward and Eastward - I crossed one of the branches of
the first River, about seven or eight miles from the Wye-
teemaba, as I travelled over Land to Kiperro, and observed
the upper part of its Banks covered with lofty spars, and
after my arrival at Kiperro, I went down the River. On
leaving the Harbour of Kiperro I went up the ~~Wye-teemaba~~
~~Wye-teemaba~~ Wye-teemaba. As the Harbour is enclosed with high
sand hills, and the Banks of the large Rivers are sand, I
should apprehend that there are many sand banks in
the Harbour, some of which I observed, and most probable
a Bar across the mouth, where the immense body of water
which must come rolling down these Rivers in the rainy
seasons, together with the strong tide will open and clear
a Channel for ships or not I am not competent to judge;
as far as I can form an opinion I am inclined to think
there is a dangerous bar, from the very nature of the sea
shores, and the banks of the Rivers. Finding that it was
not possible from the strong wind and rough sea to
gain any true information relative to the Entrance into