

89/ The Harbour, I made O. Katchka and his friends a trifling present for his attention, and then took our departure for the Wyeroa, with a strong tide and wind in our favour, which we entered after crossing the Harbour. The River Wyeroa appeared to be not less than eight miles wide at the Entrance as far as I could judge by the Eye from the Canoe. The wind increasing with Rain we were compelled to go on shore a little before dark, and landed at a small village situated on the left Banks of the River, containing about fifty Huts. All the Inhabitants were fled into the woods for fear of the plundering party, already mentioned. As the night was very stormy, cold and wet we were glad to take shelter in these deserted Huts and therefore landed all our provisions and Baggage for that purpose. Having been in the Canoe a great part of the preceding night, and had scarcely taken any rest we retired at an early hour, and remained very quiet till morning, tho' the Rain beat and the wind roared loud.

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Aug 22

23<sup>rd</sup>. At day light we found the wind had increased to a very heavy Gale. The Surf broke upon the beach with great violence, and threatened immediate destruction to our Canoe. The Natives threw all their mats off in an instant and rushed into the Surf and dragged the Canoe thro' the Breakers, and then leaped into it. The waves took it like a Cork. I expected every moment it would have been upset. They pulled off from the Breakers, and then ran before the wind and Tide up the river until they found a sheltered Cove into which they carried her. - The Storm continued all the day so violent that the Natives could not venture out into the River - The Provisions and Baggage were conveyed along the beach to the Canoe, in order to be ready to proceed when the weather moderated. As there was no prospect of the Storm abating, they put up a screen with stakes and Bulrushes about seven feet high on the weather side, which shielded us from the Rain. They made a Hammock of some of the Flat Plant, and slung it under the screen, and in this I slept during the night. It kept me from the wet ground, and the Bulrushes protected me from the wind and rain.

Aug 23

24<sup>th</sup>. On the return of day the weather moderated, we put our things into the Canoe as soon as possible, and with the Wind and Tide in our favour we proceeded up the River at

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