

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.

MR. GREEN'S REPORTS.

THE WESTERN AND NORTH-WESTERN DISTRICTS.

SIR,

Coranderrk, 30th November, 1868.

I have the honor to lay before you my report on the condition, &c., of the Aborigines in the Western and North-Western districts, and also my note-book, with all the particulars I have been able to collect during my tour of inspection in these districts.

1st. The general health of the Aborigines is good. I did not see nor hear of more than a very few cases of sickness, and the few I saw, the sick were well attended to, and supplied with medical comforts. I believe that nearly all the most diseased (that is, those with venereal disease) have been cured or are now dead; so that I can say with safety that they are now much more healthy than they were a few years ago—in their appearance they look much better.

2nd. There is a decrease of the number in the W. N. W., but not so great as I was led to believe from the statements of the honorary correspondents and others during my journey.

The general statements were, that they were dying out fast, and that in a few years they would be extinct. But on comparing the number of those whose names I have collected during this tour with the number given in the Central Board's report to Parliament in 1868, I find that the decrease is not so great; and now that I am better acquainted with the country and the Aborigines, I have reason to believe that the number given in that report is not quite correct—that is, the number said to belong to Warrnambool and Mortlake, and also those belonging to Balmoral, Glenelg, and Mount Talbot. I now know all the Aborigines personally belonging to the two first-named places, and they, as a rule, consider themselves all one tribe, so that a person taking the names at Warrnambool from the Aborigines would get a number of those that would be got by another at Mortlake. And the same may be said of those belonging to Balmoral, Glenelg, and Mount Talbot.

If I am correct in this view, the decrease would be but small. There are forty-six children now living that have been born since the list of names that that report was compiled from were collected. This of course will show that the mortality amongst them, the adults, has been great, but it will also show that the general health of the Aborigines is better than it was before that time. You will also see that the number now living that were born during the five years previous to the last five years is only thirty-one, and the five years previous again to that the number is only twenty-three, and fourteen of the twenty-three are half-castes; whereas during either of the first-named five years the half-castes only number eleven. These facts I consider sufficient proof that the Aborigines are both physically and morally improved within the last ten years, especially within the last five. I therefore cannot see any reason to conclude that they will in a few years become extinct.

3rd. The honorary correspondents differ very much in their views on the sufficiency of stores, &c., Supplies, &c. supplied. Some think that more ought to be granted; others, that they are ample for all the requirements of the Aborigines, and some think they would be better without any, as they sell them for drink.

My own opinion is that the quantity is quite sufficient, and that they have on the whole been a great benefit to them. Yet in some cases, there can be no doubt, some of them have sold them for drink, and of course in such cases they would have been better without them at that time.

But I think an improvement could be made on the present system of distribution—namely, to have fewer depôts—for I have no doubt many of the worst disposed of them go to several of the depôts, and get a blanket, &c., at each if possible; but if the distance between the depôts was greater they would not be able to do that so easily.

4th. All the honorary correspondents informed me that they were authorized to call medical aid to Medical attend-
ance, &c., &c. the Aborigines when required, and that they did so in all bad cases. Some of them complain that they do not get medicines supplied to them for the use of the Aborigines. My own opinion is that in the greater number of cases of sickness among the Aborigines, that they, while lying in the open mia-mia, are much better without much of the medicines that are often prescribed. For instance, if one be supplied with several doses of calomel for a few days, if he feels himself hot he will put every thing off and will go and lie on the cold ground; so I think all the medicine that is required is some simple aperients and liniments, and nourishing food.

5th. I spoke to about seventy Aborigines on the subject of again forming an establishment at Fram- Framlingham
reserve, &c. lingham, and about sixty of them told me that they would like to settle there and get a home for themselves.

I also asked them if they would go to Lake Condah, but they all said that they would not go. Some of them said that they liked the place but not the Aborigines, others said that they did not like Mr. Francis. I also spoke to some of the honorary correspondents on the subject, and to others, and the general opinion was that an establishment ought to be formed at Framlingham, and many of the Aborigines would settle on it, but that they would not go to Lake Condah. My own opinion is, if one is not formed there, all the Aborigines who are willing or wishing to settle could very soon be prevailed upon to go to Lake Condah, which is in my opinion by far the best place, and most healthy, for an establishment.

But seeing that there are so many of them wishing to settle there, and also that there are but few children among them, not many buildings would be required.

If the Central Board could get a good manager and matron for an establishment, I think the Board would do well to form one. All that would be required is a team of bullocks, a few cows, farm implements, a house, and store.

Lake Condah
station, &c.

6th. The Central Board should lose no time in taking this station (Lake Condah) wholly into their own hand, and at once commence to build a school and bed-rooms, a house for the manager, and store.

There can be no doubt this is as good a place as any that could be got in the colony: much of the land is first-class, the climate is good, and in no part of the colony are there so many Aborigines belonging, I might say, to one tribe.

There are thirty-six children belonging to this place; and there are fifteen other children, four at Hamilton, and eleven at Sandford, &c. These can all be brought to this station at once.

I do not think that Mr. Francis is capable of managing this station, and this is the opinion of all in the neighborhood I spoke to on the subject. He might do as teacher. I have been informed that he is a good teacher.

The Board will have to be very careful in the selection of a manager, for if a proper one is not got at first, it will be a great drawback to the station.

I believe this station could be made self-supporting in two or three years. About 400 acres of the reserve is fine agricultural land, and nearly all the rest is very good for grazing sheep or cattle.

Sheep-farming and agriculture combined would, I think, be the best thing to pay. Many of the Aborigines are well acquainted with the management of sheep, and I have been informed by some of the settlers that they nearly all are good workmen.

Mission station,
Wimmera.

7th. I believe that if this station was enlarged to four times its present size, it could be made to support all the Aborigines in the Wimmera district. I am now of the opinion that wheat could be grown for flour if there were a sufficient number of sheep kept to manure the ground every year, and the wool of the sheep (say 4,000) would be sufficient to purchase sugar, tea, clothes, &c. I would therefore recommend that the reserve be enlarged to four times its present size; also, that all the stores for the Aborigines in the Wimmera district be sent to this station, and not any longer to any of the honorary correspondents; also, that Mr. Hartmann be instructed to try and collect all the children as far up as Carr's Plains. If Mr. Hartmann cannot get the children at Carr's Plains, the Central Board should take them to Coranderrk. You will see in my note-book, page 74, that some of them were willing to come with me to this place. I would also recommend that stores be only sent to Mr. Officer's, Mount Talbot; Mr. Wettenthal's, Carr's Plains; and to Mr. Porteous's, Carngham; all the other stores for the Aborigines should be sent to the three stations referred to, namely, Framlingham, Lake Condah, and the Mission station, Wimmera. If the Central Board adopt this plan, it will be a great saving to the State, and I am sure will be of more real benefit to the Aborigines themselves. They would all very soon make to one or another of the stations, when they found that they could not get supplies elsewhere.

In conclusion, I beg to say that there can be no doubt the Aborigines have benefited much under the present system of distribution of stores; but had the stations been formed at the time Coranderrk was, I have no doubt it would have been much better; but better late than never. There should be only the three formed in the districts I have just visited, for I believe, to form more, it would do more harm than good: for many of the Aborigines would just keep walking from one to the other, just as their fancy moved them.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
JOHN GREEN.

R. B. Smyth, Esq., Secretary C. B. A.

LAKE WELLINGTON AND LAKE TYERS STATIONS.

SIR,

Coranderrk, 29th January, 1869.

I have the honor to lay before you my report on the condition of the Aborigines in Gippsland.

I arrived at Lake Wellington station on the 30th December, and left on the 5th instant. When I arrived, Mr. Hagenauer was in bed, sick; I found twenty-nine Aborigines—viz., seventeen children, and twelve adults—on the station.

The children and nearly all the adults were clean and well dressed, and all appeared in good health and happy. There is no doubt the condition of the Aborigines has been much improved in this part since the formation of this station.

All the adults who usually frequent this station were, at the time of my visit, away reaping on the neighboring stations, and Mr. Hagenauer informed me that they, as a rule, took good care of their money; he says that very few of them spend it on drink as they formerly did, and I was told the same by many of the settlers and farmers in the neighborhood.

There are seven very good huts, built, Mr. Hagenauer informed me, by the natives themselves; only four of them were inhabited, but these were very tidy and clean.

There is a fine large school-room, with five bed-rooms and one sitting-room attached, similar to the school and bed-rooms at Coranderrk. The school-room is also used for a dining-room for the children. One of the bed-rooms and the sitting-room is occupied by Bessy Flower and her husband, and two of the bed-rooms are occupied by twelve of the children; all was clean, and everything appeared in good order.

Cultivation.

There is very little cultivation, the whole not more than six acres, including all the little gardens attached to the huts.

The potato crop appears fair considering the very dry season that has been.

The reserve.

The reserve, as a whole, is very poor soil, and there is but little of the land fit for anything but grazing purposes; but, by care, I think potatoes, and even wheat, could be grown to supply all on the station.

The men, &c.

Mr. Hagenauer informed me that he could not get the men to do any work nor remain on the station unless he paid them for so doing; he has even to pay a man to milk the cows.

I consider this is a very bad method, to pay them for working on their own station, except it was from the produce raised on the station by their own labor.

Children, &c.

The most of the children can read and write a little; at present they are taught by Bessy Flower, and she appears well fitted for the work; she looks after their cooking, &c., &c.

The stores on hand were in good condition, and Mr. Hagenauer informed me that the supply was ^{Supplies.} sufficient for all the requirements of the Aborigines frequenting the station.

The cattle, forty-one, the property of the Central Board, are in good condition, and Mr. Hagenauer ^{Cattle.} informed me that he would have sufficient to enable him to kill for beef for the use of the station in the course of one year.

I arrived at Lake Tyers on the 7th instant, and left on the 11th.

Lake Tyers.

There were sixty Aborigines on the station, but I must say that, with very few exceptions, they were all very dirty and wild-looking. Nearly all the children were running about without any clothes, and the women were nearly all lying sleeping in their mia-mias among a lot of dirty and diseased-looking dogs, and yet, notwithstanding all that, they all appeared very healthy and even happy.

There is but one hut finished, and two in course of erection; this hut was built, Mr. Bulmer informed ^{Huts, &c.} me, by one of the single men; he, with two other men and a few boys, lives in it; they keep it pretty clean.

The whole that is fenced in and cultivated does not exceed two acres; the crop, potatoes and ^{Cultivation.} cabbages, is fair.

The soil is poor as a whole, but there is some very good land on the reserve, and is very suitable for growing potatoes.

The young men are a strong lot of healthy-looking fellows, but Mr. Bulmer informed me that he cannot get them to work unless he pays them, and this he cannot do owing to the smallness of his salary.

There are twenty children on the station; a few of them can read and write a little. Mr. Bulmer ^{Children.} thinks that he will succeed in inducing their parents to leave them on the station, and not take them away as they formerly did, and he is very anxious to get a house erected for them; I think, if he succeeds in keeping them on the station, that the Central Board should grant £100 to build a school and bed-rooms.

The stores, Mr. Bulmer informed me, have all been distributed some time ago, and he complains that ^{Supplies.} more are not supplied; but I consider that those young able men should get none unless they work on the station; and if they would grow plenty of potatoes, the quantity of flour supplied by the Board would be quite sufficient.

You will see by the list of names in my note-book that there is a decrease of the total number in Gippsland; still the decrease is not so great as I expected from reports I have heard.

You will see that a large percentage of the number of Aborigines are children, and those who are adults are mostly young, and the most part of them appear pretty healthy.

In conclusion, I beg to say that, in my opinion, the Aborigines in Gippsland are very well provided and cared for, and I can see no reason why they should become so soon extinct as many think; but I think it is a great pity that they cannot be induced to work on their own stations, for I consider that it is the only thing that will elevate them and get them to take an interest in their own homes.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN GREEN.

R. Brough Smyth, Esq., Secretary C. B. A.

RIVER MURRAY.

SIR,

Coranderrk, April, 1869.

I have the honor to report to the Central Board on the condition of the Aborigines, &c., receiving Government supplies at the stations of the various honorary correspondents on the Murray River.

1st. I have not been able to get the names, &c., of all the Aborigines, owing to not being able to see any of the Aborigines nor the honorary correspondents, viz., those belonging to Gunbower and Boort-boort, and there might be a few more on the Lower Murray, near Wentworth; but Mr. Wm. Jamieson, of Mildura, has kindly promised to ascertain if there are any more in that quarter and to forward their names to me.

2nd. All the honorary correspondents and others I spoke with are nearly all of the opinion that the health of the Aborigines, as a whole, is now much better than it was some years ago. And I must say that they appear more healthy than they did on my former visit. And they (the honorary correspondents) attribute their improved state of health to the supplies issued to them, and especially to the supply of blankets and other clothes.

3rd. According to the statements of the honorary correspondents and others, there is still much drunkenness among them, and it appears from their statements that they have no difficulty in procuring drink, there being so many shanties and public-houses now in every part of the country, at which they can always procure drink by some means.

4th. All the honorary correspondents agree that something ought to be done to rescue the children from growing up in ignorance, and especially the girls, to keep them from a life of infamy.

5th. There is a good deal of difference of opinion among the honorary correspondents and others of the settlers about the supply of stores, &c., and I may say a good deal of jealousy also. Some say the supply is ample, and some say that they should get more, and that they should be sent to every station on the Murray. A few think that the supplies are sent to too many places, and that none of the Aborigines should get any except the old, infirm, and the children. With these few I agree, for the following reasons:—When there are only thirty or forty miles between the depôts many of the Aborigines will go to two, and, in some cases, even to three and four of the depôts, and get blankets at each, and by this means they have one or more to sell; and because a great proportion of them (the Aborigines) are strong, able-bodied men and women, able to work, and do work, on the stations for wages and rations. As for instance those at Mr. Jamieson's of Mildura. At his station they get no Government stores, and he informs me that they all work sufficiently to pay for their food; also, that he has paid them £158 18s. as wages during the past twelve months.

If this is done on one station, I see no reason why it cannot be done at others. It is evident that they are more or less employed on all the stations on the Murray. One cause of jealousy about the stores is owing to some of the settlers wishing to have some of the Aborigines to work on the station; but this they will not do in some cases, because there is no Government stores that they can get if they are inclined to take a spell for a week or two, as they do where the supplies are.

6th. All the honorary correspondents, so far as I had any means of ascertaining, seem to pay every attention to the interests of the Aborigines, and are recognized as protectors of the Aborigines in the neighborhood in which they reside, both by the Aborigines and others.

7th. There is apparently a decrease of thirty-six during the past six years; that is to say, if I am right in the estimate of the number of those belonging to Gunbower and Boort-boort, whose names I could not get.

8th. All the honorary correspondents agree that the Aborigines earn a deal of money, and that they are robbed of their money by shanty and public-house keepers. They think that some stronger measures should be adopted to prevent this robbery and selling of drink to the Aborigines.

9th. I would recommend that two stations be formed for the Aborigines in the valley of the Murray, where all the supplies should be sent in the first place; then some of them could be sent to the furthest off depôts.

One should be formed near Ulupna, and the other near Kulkynne.

I consider these two would be sufficient for all the requirements of the Aborigines on the Murray.

I believe they could be formed and kept for less money than it now costs for the supplies sent to the various depôts, and I am sure that the Aborigines as a whole would derive more real benefit from them. The managers would be a great check on the publicans and shanty keepers to keep them from selling drink to and robbing the Aborigines as they do at present.

It would soon be seen that the Aborigines could make as much money as would keep themselves. Even now, I believe, they make as much as would keep them, if they knew how to manage it.

I would also recommend that the inspector visit every part of the colony at least once every year—not that there is any great necessity to do so—to look after the distribution of the stores; but his doing so would be a great check to the selling of drink to the Aborigines as is done at present.

Wyuna.

Referring to the supplies sent to Wyuna and the condition of the Aborigines there, I found no Aborigines on the station. But, after due enquiry, I see no reason to conclude that the stores sent there are less in proportion to the number of Aborigines who frequent that station than at the other depôts.

You will see by the list of names, &c., of those who come here for supplies that there are only few of them that could be called too old to work, and there is no difficulty for them to procure work in the neighborhood.

I saw fourteen of those belonging to this station at work at the company's vineyard, within two miles of this station, and the manager informed me that he was glad to get them to work and to pay them fair wages and their food.

Mr. Mackenzie thinks that there will be no difficulty to get four of the children removed from here to Coranderrk, as they have no parents, and he promised to send me notice when they came to his station.

Echuca.

Mr. Bews, acting honorary correspondent at Echuca, requested me to inform the Central Board to send him a letter of instructions that he might know what duties he is expected to perform.

Mildara.

Mr. Wm. Jamieson wished me to inform the Central Board that he would act as honorary correspondent in place of his brother, who has gone home to Europe, but that his brother gave him orders before he left that he was to feed all the Aborigines who came to his station from the stores of the station.

So all that is required for this station is blankets and some clothing. I enclose a list of the quantity required.

I enclose my note-book, in which you will find a list of the names, &c., of the Aborigines frequenting the various depôts on the Murray River.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. Brough Smyth, Esq., Secretary, C. B. A.

JOHN GREEN.

GEELONG.

Mr. Green reports that there are only two Aborigines of this tribe now alive, and they drink very hard. They are well supplied with food.

He states that he saw seven blacks at this place, and they all promised to go to the station at Coranderrk.

BIRREGURRA.

There are eighteen blacks belonging to this tribe, consisting of eleven males and seven females, including three half-castes and one child.

Mr. Green states that he did not see any of the Aborigines at Birregurra, as they were away in the bush killing rabbits.

A married couple is staying with a Mr. Murray of Colac, and they earn fifteen shillings a week.

Mr. Alexander Dennis, who takes charge of the blacks here, is in favor of the present system of distributing stores to them, and states that whenever any of them are sick the doctor always attends them.

CAMPERDOWN.

There are eighteen Aborigines belonging to this tribe—eleven males and seven females. Mr. Green reports that he saw only eight of them, and that they do not get any rations or clothing from the Government. He says that Mr. Ferguson, who has charge of the Aborigines here, states that they do not want rations—that when they got them they sold them to the white people.

The blacks will not go to the station at Lake Condah, but Mr. Green thinks they would go to Framlingham, if a station were formed there.

FRAMLINGHAM, WARRNAMBOOL, AND BELFAST.

There are sixty-two Aborigines belonging to the above-named tribes—thirty-six males and twenty-six females, including nine children and nine half-castes.

Mr. Green reports that he found only five Aborigines on the reserve at Framlingham. There is a slab hut on the reserve, containing two rooms.

The blacks are very anxious to have some person to take charge of the station again, and they name eighty blacks who would settle on the reserve if a master were appointed.

They get their rations at Mr. Tozer's at Wangoon.

Mr. Green reports that he saw two half-castes at Mr. McAlister's, near Wangoon. Mr. McAlister is of opinion that the greater part of the Aborigines in this locality would settle on the reserve at Framlingham, if some person were appointed to take charge of them.

Mr. Green was present at a meeting of Aborigines who were anxious to reside on the reserve at Framlingham. Forty Aborigines were present at the meeting.

NAREEB-NAREEB.

The Aborigines belonging to this tribe number sixty-nine, and consist of forty-one males and twenty-eight females; of these, four are children and one is a half-caste.

Mr. Green reports that there were no Aborigines at the Nareeb-nareeb station when he was there, but that he saw a good many of this tribe at the meeting at Caramut.

Mr. Gray, who has charge of the Aborigines there, thinks that the stores should be sent to Framlingham or Lake Condah.

The Aborigines in this locality keep up their number very well.

HAMILTON AND NEIGHBORING TRIBE.

There are forty-four Aborigines belonging to this locality—thirty-three males and eleven females, including four children and one male half-caste.

Mr. Green says that there were no blacks at Hamilton when he was there, and he reports that Mr. Learmonth thinks that the blacks under his care would settle at the station at Lake Condah if a good manager were appointed there.

LAKE CONDAH AND PORTLAND TRIBES.

These tribes number ninety-five, consisting of fifty-one males and forty-four females; of these, thirty-six are children. The number of half-castes belonging to these tribes is twelve.

Mr. Green reports that he found sixty-two Aborigines on the station at Lake Condah, and they all appeared neat and clean. He examined the land that has been cleared of timber and fenced in for cultivation.

This consists of a paddock of about fourteen acres, of which about half an acre is laid down with peas, onions, and potatoes. There will no doubt be a good crop of potatoes from the remainder of the paddock if the season be favorable, as the land is as good as could be wished for.

The grass on the reserve is very bad, owing to the great number of strange stock running on it, and the stock belonging to the Board is not in good condition.

There are two huts on the reserve: one is occupied by the master (Mr. Francis), and the other is used as a store.

Mr. Green saw two half-caste young men working for wages at Mr. McLeod's station, near the Lake Condah station.

SANDFORD, DARTMOOR, CASTERTON, AND ROSENEATH TRIBES.

These tribes number thirty-two Aborigines, consisting of sixteen males and sixteen females. Included in this number are eleven children and three half-castes.

Mr. Green reports that he saw eight blacks at Sandford, and that they said they would go to Lake Condah station as soon as the shearing season was over. Mr. Jackson employs "Jacky White" and his wife, and states that he is going to build him a hut, and that he prefers him to a white man.

Mr. Jackson is of opinion that it would be better to send stores, &c., to Lake Condah, and not to the neighboring stations, because the blacks would soon settle there.

BALMORAL TRIBE.

Mr. Green reports that there are twenty-two Aborigines belonging to this tribe—fourteen males and eight females; of these, three are children. He thinks that the stores in future should be sent to Mr. Officer's station at Mount Talbot, which would be the means of keeping the Aborigines more away from the township, where they get drink.

BENYEO TRIBE.

This tribe numbers eighteen—twelve males and six females; these include three children, two of whom are half-castes.

Mr. McLeod, who has charge of the blacks at Benyeo, has eight Aborigines on the station. He states that he sent six of them to the Mission station ten months since, and that he is going to send two more there in the course of a month. He thinks that all the blacks belonging to Benyeo will go there, and Mr. Green is of the same opinion.

The health of the Aborigines during the past year has been good.

The men on the station are employed washing sheep at present.

MOUNT TALBOT TRIBE.

There are twenty-seven Aborigines belonging to this tribe—twenty-one males and six females; two of the females are half-castes.

There are eight blacks on the station at present. The men are engaged washing sheep, &c., for which they get from 10s. to 15s. per week each. Mr. Officer says that they will go and spend their wages in drink as soon as they are paid.

VECTIS (WIMMERA TRIBE).

There are twenty-three of this tribe now at Mr. Wilson's station (Vectis)—twelve males and eleven females; of these, three are children and one is a half-caste.

Mr. Green reports that he saw twenty-three Aborigines at this station—seven of the men were employed washing sheep, &c.—and that Mr. Wilson informed him that two of them have each made £6, and the others from £3 to £4 each, during the shearing season. He says that he will not employ any of them another season, because they expend nearly all their earnings in drink. They will not take payment in clothes.

Mr. Wilson is of opinion that the blacks under his care will not go to the Mission station at Lake Hindmarsh to settle there; but he thinks that in a very few years they will all have died out.

WIMMERA TRIBES.

MISSION STATION, LAKE HINDMARSH.

The total number of Aborigines on the roll at this station is ninety-two, consisting of sixty-one males and thirty-one females, including fourteen children and fifteen half-castes.

Mr. Green reports that he noticed that a number of new huts had been built since his last visit in 1866.

He saw the missionary (Mr. Hartman) distribute the stores to fifty-seven Aborigines. He gave each adult three pounds of flour, twelve ounces of sugar, and two ounces of tea. This quantity was three days' rations. The next distribution would be rations for four days.

All the Aborigines who came to the store were well dressed and clean, and they appeared to be healthy and very happy.

Mr. Green then says that he visited all the huts, and that he found all that were finished neat and clean.

There were ten good substantial huts, all inhabited by married couples.

Six more huts were in course of erection, and three of them were nearly finished. There were three temporary bark huts. In all nineteen huts were used by the Aborigines. A few of the blacks were still living in mia-mias.

The other buildings on the station consisted of a church, a school-room (which was used also as a dining-room for the children), a dwelling-house (containing nine rooms), a kitchen, a store, a cart-house with work-shop attached, a smithy, a fowl-house, &c.

The girls sleep in two rooms attached to the dwelling-house of the Missionaries, and the boys sleep in a room attached to the school-house.

The stores were all in good condition.

The stock were all in good condition, and consisted of four cows, six bullocks, one bull, eleven young cattle, and about one thousand sheep.

Two sheep are killed daily for the blacks.

In reference to the conduct of the blacks on the Sunday he was there, Mr. Green reports that they assembled in the church three times on that day—twice for prayers and once for singing.

Thirty-eight Aborigines attended the morning service—eighteen males and twenty females. They were all well dressed and very clean, and they all seemed to give great attention to what was read and said to them.

Mrs. Hartmann had nearly all the females at Sabbath school after the services. Ten of them can read very well in the Bible, and some of them seem to understand what they do read.

The next day Mr. Green examined the gardens and the hay crop. He says there are thirteen small plots all within one enclosure; each plot belongs to a man and his wife. The men dig the ground, and the women afterwards attend to it, watering it and keeping it clean.

Some of the gardens have plenty of vegetables in them and a few fruit trees. They appear to grow very well.

The missionaries have plenty of vegetables and fruit in their gardens, and they supply the children out of them.

The hay crop looks very well. There are about three acres of it. The ground, however, is very poor and would require manuring before it would grow wheat.

Mr. Green states that if the reserve were larger it would enable the blacks to keep more sheep, which would be a means of manuring the ground, and they could then grow wheat for flour for the whole station.

The clip of wool this season from the sheep on the station is a little over 2,000 lbs., and it appears to be of fair quality.

Several of the young men have been employed at the neighboring stations during the shearing season, and all who have returned brought their earnings with them. Some have bought paper-hangings and other things for their huts.

The health of the Aborigines who have settled on the station has been good, but about twelve have died at or near the station during the past twelve months.

Mr. Green reports that some of the children who attend the school can read very well, and he states that their copy-books were clean and their writing good.

HORSHAM.

Mr. Green reports that he went to Mr. Charles Wilson's station at Walmer, but there were no Aborigines there.

LONGERENONG.

It is reported that about twenty-three Aborigines frequent this place. Mr. S. Wilson states that he had that number during the shearing season, but that they had all gone away except one boy. He says that they are dying out very fast, and he recommends that efforts be made to collect all the children and any of the young men and women who would be willing to settle.

He states that the stores and medical comforts supplied by the Board are ample for all the requirements of the Aborigines, but that in his opinion they do not do them any real good. He says that they should not be supplied with any tobacco, as they can always get money to purchase that.

CARR'S PLAINS.

The number of blacks who frequent this station is thirty-six, consisting of twenty males and sixteen females. Of this number, eleven are children and seven are half-castes.

Mr. Green reports that he saw twelve blacks at Mr. Wettenhall's station at Carr's Plains. He learned from Mr. Wettenhall that there had been seven deaths during the past year. The blacks say that eleven died, but Mr. Green could not get them to give the names. The blacks, as a rule, will never mention the names of any of their friends who have died.

The blacks here have erected three very fair bark huts for themselves on Mr. Dennis' land, in which they sleep at night. They have beds erected in them with straw mattresses, and they look rather comfortable.

There is a half-caste girl living in Mr. Wettenhall's house, who can both read and write pretty fairly; and there are two others, a boy and a girl, who can read and write a little.

Two of the men have gone to Colac with sheep, for which service they are each to receive fifteen shillings a week while the journey lasts.

Mr. Wettenhall employs a man at ten shillings per week, and he told Mr. Green that he prefers him as a servant to a white man.

AMHERST.

There are six Aborigines belonging to this locality—two males and four females, including one half-caste.

Mr. Green states that he saw one of the blacks in the hospital who had met with an accident by falling from a tree. He is recovering rapidly. He is attended in the hospital by his wife.

CARNGHAM.

Mr. Green reports that he visited Carngham, but that he did not see any of the Aborigines. He says that the tribe numbers about sixty-six.

LAKE WELLINGTON STATION.

The number of Aborigines who frequent this station is eighty-one, namely, forty-three males and thirty-eight females; of these, twenty-two are children.

Mr. Green reports that he found twenty-nine Aborigines on the station, including seventeen children, and that nearly all of them appeared neat and clean.

In reference to the reserve at Lake Wellington, Mr. Green remarks that "all the land seems rather poor, still some of it would grow a good crop of potatoes, and that he saw some good wheat growing near Sale on land much the same as this. There is very little grass on the reserve."

The number of huts and buildings on the reserve is as follows:—There are seven huts, in which Mr. Hagenauer stated that married couples live; but at present there are only four of them occupied, three by four married women, and one by one married man, whose wife has run away some four months ago to some of Mr. Bulmer's blacks. The other buildings are:—One weatherboard building (empty), containing two rooms; one church; one school-room, with five bed-rooms and one sitting-room attached; one store; one milking shed; one kitchen; and Mr. Hagenauer's house, containing seven rooms. Total, fourteen buildings.

The seven huts belonging to the blacks are all good and very well built. They all have small gardens attached to them, in which are growing some potatoes and cabbages, &c. The crop is fair.

There is one small paddock of about three acres in which a little wheat and potatoes have been grown this season. This is all the cultivation on the reserve.

Mr. Hagenauer states that the health of the Aborigines on the whole has been good for some time past, and that when any bad cases of sickness occur he calls in a doctor.

He says that the supplies sent by the Central Board for the Aborigines are quite sufficient for all their wants.

Mr. Green says that he was also informed by Mr. Hagenauer that all the men are just now employed reaping, &c., on the farms in the neighborhood, and that they get from 16s. to 20s. each per week, and that they nearly all take good care of their money when they get it.

Mr. Green reports that he went through another portion of the reserve, and that he saw some parts of fair land. He saw the cattle belonging to the Central Board, forty-one in number. They were all in good condition. On the Sunday, he says that he had services with the Aborigines, and that all on the station attended, and were neat and clean, and gave good heed to what he spoke.

The store and the stores on hand were all in good condition.

Several of the children and young women can read very well. Their writing, Mr. Green reports to be fair.

The children are taught by an Aboriginal woman, "Bessy Flower," and she looks after the washing, the cooking of their food, &c.

At prayers in the church "Bessy" led the singing with the harmonium.

All the children sing very well.

LAKE TYERS STATION.

The number of Aborigines who receive stores, &c., at this station is 103, consisting of sixty males and forty-three females, including twenty-eight children.

Mr. Green reports that on his arrival at the station he found no men there. They were all playing with the four men who came with him from Lake Wellington.

There are over sixty blacks on the station ; of these, twenty are women and twenty children.

Mr. Green says that after dinner he went over the lake to see the men, and there were twenty-four of them playing cricket. They nearly all appeared very wild ; the most of the children were running about without any clothes, and all the women were walking about with their blankets without any other clothes, or with the skirt of a dress hung over on the shoulder. The women were all dirty and lying about in mia-mias amongst a lot of diseased-looking dogs.

There was one very tidy young man amongst the men, and he was the only one who had built himself a hut. There were also three black and two half-caste girls living in a hut near Mr. Bulmer's house, who were also very tidy.

In the evening about forty of the blacks assembled at prayers in the school-house, and they paid good attention to what was spoken to them, and they all joined in the singing.

A few of them showed Mr. Green their copy-books after prayers. They write a good fair round-hand.

Mr. Green states that he inspected the huts. He says there is only one finished hut belonging to the blacks and two in course of erection. Mr. Bulmer states that they were commenced more than a year ago, and that the men who began them are not now on the station.

The other buildings on the station are :—One store (built of bark) ; one school-room (built of quartering and palings, and floored with hardwood slabs) ; one little hut, built of palings ; and Mr. Bulmer's house. There are seven buildings in all.

The cultivation consisted of about three-quarters of an acre of potatoes and Mr. Bulmer's garden (about one acre). There is none of the land fenced but the above.

There were about seventy tons of wattle-bark stripped, cut up, and bagged. One-half of it was lying at the entrance of the Lakes ready to be shipped for Melbourne. Mr. Bulmer stated that this bark had been cut by the blacks to pay for the stores that he had bought (one and a half tons of flour and seven hundred pounds of sugar).

A good deal of the ground reserved for the Aborigines is suitable for growing potatoes. It is something like the land near Warrnambool, which grows such fine potatoes. But Mr. Bulmer says that he cannot get any of his men to work unless he pays them for so doing.

Mr. Green states that there are large quantities of fish and game at this station.

Mr. Bulmer stated that the health of the Aborigines at this place has been very good. The whooping-cough has been among them during the past season, but they are all better now. He said that he has never had to send for a doctor since the station was formed.

Mr. Green reports that on Sunday about forty of the Aborigines assembled twice. The greater part of the men and a few of the women appeared pretty clean. All the children attended the Sabbath school. Some of them can read pretty well in the Bible.

TANGAMBALANGA.

The number of blacks who frequent this station, according to Mr. Green's report, is thirty-six, consisting of nineteen males and seventeen females, including nine children, of whom three are half-castes.

Mr. Green states that when he was at Tangambalanga station there were only six Aborigines there ; the others had gone up the Mitta-mitta. Those who were on the station were healthy and well clothed from the stores supplied by the Central Board.

Mrs. Mitchell informed him that she issues the stores to the blacks weekly, and that the supplies forwarded by the Board are quite ample for the requirements of the Aborigines ; that there have been but very few deaths amongst the blacks since they have been supplied with food and clothing, and that she thinks that they would have all been dead before now had it not been for such supplies.

Mr. Mitchell stated that nothing more could be done for the Aborigines than is now being done, except the removal of the half-caste children to the school at Coranderrk.

REIDSDALE.

The number of Aborigines who receive rations at this station is twenty-four—seven males and seventeen females ; of these, thirteen are children.

Mr. Green was informed that the blacks were more healthy now than they were some years ago, and that all the children were going to the daily school.

PECHELBA.

Mr. Green states that he visited this station and was informed that it was frequented by twenty-seven blacks belonging to the Ulupna tribe—nineteen males and eight females, including five children.

It was stated that the blacks here got no supplies from the Central Board except blankets, which they received at Ulupna or Reidsdale.

WYUNA.

Mr. Green states that there are about thirty-one Aborigines who belong to this station—nineteen males and twelve females, including eight children.

There were no Aborigines on the station when he was there, but he heard that there were about twelve at the vineyard about twelve miles off.

Mr. Mackenzie informed him that he had a large number of blacks (about one hundred) employed at the station during the shearing time, and that they all worked well.

The stores forwarded by the Central Board were, it was stated, insufficient for the number of Aborigines who came to the place.

The doctor is called in whenever he is required.

Mr. Mackenzie reported that the blacks still drink very hard, and that they have no difficulty in obtaining drink at the shanties, and even at many of the public-houses.

He thinks that they have improved in health since the stores were sent to them.

ECHUCA.

The number of Aborigines belonging to this place is twenty-four—twenty males and four females, including seven children.

Mr. Green reports that he only saw three blacks at Echuca.

On his journey from Wyuna Mr. Green saw fourteen Aborigines at the company's vineyard; four of them had taken a contract for fencing, and they were all employed at some work. For the fence they were to get four pounds (£4) per mile and their rations. It was a bush fence.

TERRICK-TERRICK.

The number of Aborigines who frequent this station is twenty-six—seventeen males and nine females, including six children.

Mr. Green reports that there were no Aborigines at the station when he was there, and that Mr. Synnot informed him that the Aborigines, as a whole, are a little improved within the past few years in their state of health, but at the same time he thinks that they are dying out very fast. He says that they still drink very hard.

MILDURA.

The number of Aborigines who belong to this locality is eighty-four, consisting of fifty-four males and thirty females, including ten children.

Mr. Green states that he saw several blacks on his way down the River Murray. He saw twelve at Euston and six at a public-house about thirty miles from the Mildura station. He says that Mr. Wm. Jamieson informed him that the Aborigines are now more healthy than they were some years ago, owing, he considers, to their working more, and that they take better care of themselves. He says that the young men work very well, and that they often buy food for the old ones amongst them.

Mr. Jamieson showed him a book in which he kept an account of money paid to and received from the Aborigines during the past twelve months for work done, and things bought by them out of his store, and the amount altogether came to £158 18s.

He says that all the Aborigines are always worth their food on his station; and he considers that they are so on all the stations on the Murray. During the shearing time he employed about thirty blacks, and they spent nearly all the money they got on stores for themselves and others (about one hundred in all). He states that he would rather have the Aborigines to be among his sheep than white men. The other settlers, it is said, as a rule, pay the blacks in cash or by cheque, and that as soon as they get paid they go off to the nearest public-house or shanty and spend the whole in drink.

KULKYNE.

The number of Aborigines belonging to this place is thirty-five—twenty-four males and eleven females; four of the males are children.

Mr. Green reports that when he arrived at Kulkyne he found forty blacks there, fifteen of whom were able-bodied men, and were employed putting up a bush fence for Mr. Leslie.

Mr. Leslie informed him that the Aborigines who were employed buy their own rations, and that he only gives the Government stores to the old and infirm. He says that the blacks had lately got £20 for one fence, and that they spent it all in drink.

The blacks had been pretty healthy, and few deaths had taken place amongst them. All the young men employed are well clothed, and, with one exception, they appear to be healthy.

SWAN HILL.

There are twenty-five Aborigines belonging to the Swan Hill tribe—eighteen males and seven females, including five children.

Mr. Green states that on his journey up the river he saw a good number of the Aborigines at the several stations he passed, and they all appeared to be healthy; all were looking better than on his former visit.

He reports that Dr. Gummow informed him that there had been but little sickness amongst the Aborigines during the past year; that all the young men are nearly always employed on the stations.

Mr. Green heard the same from many of the settlers, and he saw a good number of the blacks so employed.

Dr. Gummow thinks that these young men should get no Government supplies except a blanket, because when they get these supplies it only enables them to save the more money to spend in drink; also, that no supplies should be given to any of the settlers to distribute to the Aborigines, because they give out the stores in too large quantities, and in some cases they give the rations, &c., to those who are regularly employed on the station. He considers that there is not a station on the Murray where the blacks do not do more work than would pay the settler well for rations for them all the year round. But a very small quantity of stores should be sent to Swan Hill, just sufficient for the old and infirm. He says that there is still a great deal of drinking going on amongst the blacks, and that he cannot put a stop to it. When they are sick they come to him for advice and medicine, and some of them go into the hospital.

Mr. Green states that he only saw two Aborigines at Swan Hill.