Protector of Aborigines

Out Letter-Book

4. January 3rd 1871 to July 21, 1879

Appendix: 1878 Annual report

Hint to Users: Start with the Index

Including List of Addressees,
And
Subject Index

Transcribed and indexed by Joe Lane, September 2012
Email: joelane94@hotmail.com
The instructions in July 1836 from the S.A. Colonization Commissioners to the Resident Commissioner, J. Hurtle Fisher, required the appointment of an officer appointed for the special welfare of the aborigines. (1) This office, known as that of the Protector of Aborigines, was held ad interim by George Stevenson, Capt. Walter Bromley and William Wyatt until the gazetted appointment on 20 June 1839 of Matthew Moorhouse. (2) Moorhouse held the position until his resignation on 31 March 1856, after which it was held ex officio by the Commissioner of Crown Lands until the appointment on 21 November 1861 of John Walker. (3) Following Walker's death on 26 September 1868 the office was not again filled until 1888, the work being done by Sub-protectors reporting direct to the Commissioner of Crown Lands. (4)

Until 1891, the Aborigines Office came under the Minister for Crown Lands and Immigration. Between 1892 and 1901 the Minister of Agriculture and Education was the responsible minister; subsequently the office came under the Treasurer and Commissioner for Crown Lands and Immigration (1902-1903), the Attorney-General and Minister of Education (1904-1905), Commissioner of Public Works and Minister of Education (1906-1908), and Commissioner of Public Works thereafter. (5)

From 1912, the Aborigines' Office became the Aborigines' Department, although this appears to have been initially a change in name only, the only staff in addition to the Chief Protector of Aborigines and the Sub-Protector, Far North (a position filled, without salary, by the Sub-Inspector of Police at Port Augusta) being a junior clerk. (6) In February 1918, an Advisory Council of Aborigines was appointed under powers given by the Aborigines Act, 1911. (7) This development would appear to have been prompted by the reports of the Royal Commission on the Aborigines (1913-1916) which had pointed out that the existing staff of the Aborigines "department" (consisting of the Chief Protector of Aborigines and a junior clerk) was inadequate and had recommended the establishment of an advisory board of six honorary members rather than direct Government control of the existing mission stations (Point McLeay, Point Pearce, Killalpaninna and Koonibba). (8)

In 1940, legislation was passed abolishing the office of Chief Protector of Aborigines and the Advisory Council, replacing them with an Aborigines' Protection Board consisting of the Commissioner of Public Works, Prof. J.B. Cleland, Constance Mary Cooke, J.P., Alice Maude Johnston, Rev. Canon S.T.C. Best, Dr. Charles Duguid and Leonard John Cook, with W.R. Penhall as Secretary. (9)
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Aborigines Office
Adelaide
3 January 1871
Revd. W.J. Kuhn
Pt Pierce
Yorke’s Peninsula
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th Ultimo’ (Acknowledging receipt of stores and asking to exchange Needles) and in reply I have the honor to inform you that upon the receipt of the Needles I will forward you a similar quantity of smaller ones in return. You might send them through to Post addressed to the office, and marked “Merchandise” and they will then come at the same rate as a book packet.
I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. Birch,
Clerk.

5th Jan 1871
W.L. Beare Esq., J.P.
Bungaree
North
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, requesting a supply of stores for the aborigines at Parallana and have to inform you that the Sub-Protector in the North has been requested to report as to the necessity of establishing another depot in the Northern district upon the receipt of which, you will be again communicated with.

[Birch]

6 Jan 1871
Mr P. Henery
Carierloo
North
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 17th October last, requesting to be supplied with rations for the sick Aborigines at Carierloo, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that the Police were instructed to convey any sick natives to Port Augusta where they could obtain medical Aid. I am also desired to inform you that the Commissioner is unable to comply with your request.

[Birch]
6 Jan 1871  
Corpl W. Poynter  
Wellington  
Sir,  
You will oblige by forwarding to this office a list of all non-consumable stores under your charge, belonging to this Department on the 31st Ultimo – such as Canoes, Scales & Weights, &c.

Copy of the above letter sent to the following addresses:  
Rev. Geo Taplin  Pt McLeay  
Corpl Dann  Milang  
Mr. J.S. Wood  McGrath’s Flat  
Mr T. Moriarty, P.T.  Goolwa

Goolwa,  
2 January 1871  
Estimate for repairs to the Natives’ boats.

Sir,  
I hereby tender to repair the 7 boats one with the other, to making all good outside, with caulking and refastening and lining over all the rents, and dressing outside, and 2 long battens worked fore and Aft on the timbers inside making good the gunwales with rowlock and thowl pins and one new thwart with 2 new knees and making good all other parts where required so to do with blacking and dressing outside and inside, and finding all the materials, such as oakum, pitch, tar, nails, timber &c for the sum of Two pounds (£2) each boat, one with the other.  
Matthew Moore, Boatbuilder – Goolwa.  
Ab. Off. Adel, 7 January 1871  
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.  
Goolwa  
Sir,  
I beg to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner has approved of the above tender of Mr Moore’s for repairing Aborigines’ boats.

9 January 1871  
Dr McKechnie Esq.,  
Hamburgh Hotel  
Adelaide  
Sir,  
In reply to your letter of the 28th Ultimo – asking to be reimbursed for Tea, given to the Aborigines at Franklin Harbor, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that when the last supply of stores was sent to you in January last, you were informed when in this Office, Tea was omitted; he is therefore obliged to decline your request for repayment.

[Birch]
7
12 January 1871
Mr Saml Gason, P.T.
Kopperamanna
Far North
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 30th Ultimo – concerning stores remaining in your
possession on behalf of this Department, and in reply I beg to inform you, that I have written to the
Lutheran Missionaries at Killalpaninna, to take over whatever stores you have on behalf of the
Aborigines.
[Birch]

8
12 January 1871
Revd. E. Homann
Killalpaninna
Far North
Sir,
Would you be kind enough to send a dray to Kopperamanna for a few stores in charge of Police Trooper
Gason, who has been instructed to hand them over to you. (viz. 116 lbs Sugar, 4 lbs Tea, 49 lbs Soap,
and 2 packets of Fish Hooks). They can be entered in your monthly return and be distributed in the
usual manner.
[Birch]

9
12 January 1871
Henry Baker
Wirrabunna
North
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th Instant, calling attention to your stock of
rations for the Aborigines and also alluding to the Owiendina Depot being closed, which I may inform
you is not a fact – the last supply of stores only reaching that place in November last.
A supply of rations will be forwarded to you in the course of a few days.
[Birch]

10
13 Jan 1871
R.G. Jay Esq., MRCS
Willunga
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11th Instant, asking for authority to supply a sick native
with a little oatmeal or maizena, and in reply I may inform you, that your certificate will be sufficient
authority for the Chairman of the District Council or Police Officer ordering any medical comfort you
may consider absolutely necessary, the a/cs for which, will require to be certified by yourself, as well as
the party ordering the articles.
[Birch]
11
19 January 1871
The Rev Geo Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 28\textsuperscript{th} Ultimo’, respecting wine selling at Point McLeay, I beg to inform you that Corporal Dann has been instructed to make enquiries and if possible, to obtain a conviction against any person, supplying liquor to the Aborigines. Corporal Dann reports that he is going to lay an information against William Wilkinson, which will come off on the 15\textsuperscript{th} February at Strathalbyn.

[Birch]

12a
25 Jan 1871
Messrs Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I beg to forward you herewith sample of Flour as tendered for by Messrs Giles & Smith, which appears to be finer in quality, than that supplied. I would however in the present instance pass that now supplied and should the ?future be inferior to sample, I would refuse to take it in store.

[Birch]

12b
27 Jany 1871
H.D. Dale Esq
Port Adelaide
Sir,
You will be kind enough to provide a passage to Streaky Bay for Native “Tungerrie” per “Lucy”, and forward the a/c to this office for payment as usual.

[Birch]

13
27 January 1871
P. McKechnie Esq.,
Franklin Harbor
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12\textsuperscript{th} Instant and in reply thereto, must refer you to my previous communication of the 9\textsuperscript{th} Instant.

[Birch]

14a
30 Jan 1871
J.E.D. Crofton, P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27\textsuperscript{th} Instant relative to a sick Native named “Brooks” and I have to inform you, that provided you consider the above native a fit subject for admission to the Hospital, I will see to his admittance on arrival in town. Your order for his coach fare down will be sufficient. Send telegram when he leaves Wellington.

[Birch]
14b
3 ?? [31st ?] January 1871
House Surgeon
Adelaide Hospital
Sir,
Be kind enough to admit bearer (an Aboriginal Native named Brookes) to the Adelaide Hospital. [Birch]

15
30 January 1871
W.L. Beare Esq.,
Bungaree
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 2nd Instant, asking for a supply of stores for the natives at Parallana, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that the usual supply of stores, viz. Flour, Sugar, Tea, Tobacco, and Blankets, will be forwarded to Bungaree about the 17th Proximo, as requested by you for transmission to Parallana. And it is expected, that the Issuer of the Stores will comply with the general instructions of this Department, a copy of which will be sent for his guidance. [Birch]

16
3 Feb 1871
Mr T. Moriarty, P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of a/c for repairing Aborigines’ Canoes and desire to be informed whether the work has been performed satisfactorily as I am informed by the natives at present in Town, that the Canoes left Mr Moore’s hands in a very leaky state; which, I trust, is not the fact. [Birch]

17
3 February 1871
Messrs Brown & Thompson
Waymouth Street
Gentlemen,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday’s date offering to prepare and fit together, a small galvanized iron store – 6 ft by 8 ft, with 6 ft height of walls, for the sum of Ten pounds (£ 10), and I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that he accepts your offer. You will be good enough (when completed) to cause it to be packed together and forwarded to the Railway Station, addressed to Corpl Provis, Streaky Bay, care of J. Newman & Son, Port Adelaide. [Birch]
18-19
9 February 1871
W. Kent Esq., Hon. Sec.
Aborigines' friends' Association
Adelaide
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 31st Ultimo, forwarding an application for a section of land on behalf of a
native named Napoleon Bonaparte, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that
the Sections marked with a red ink dash, under the number on plans herewith, are available for
selection, and upon receipt of the number and description of the section selected by the above native, a
letter of occupation [19] will be granted to him, as in previous cases.
I would also draw your attention to a letter from the Crown Lands Office, dates 23rd September last,
concerning a similar application from two natives named respectively Pompey Jackson and Wm
McHughes which has not been replied to, consequently the government are not are of the locality
selected by the two above-named natives.

[Birch]

20
9 February 1871
Corporal C. Provis
Streaky Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th Ultimo, requesting to be supplied with an Iron store, I beg to inform
you that Messrs Brown & Thompson have been instructed to prepare and fit together, a galvanized iron
building 6 feet by 8 feet, with 6 ft height of wall?? And will be sent by the next vessel leaving for Streaky
Bay.

[Birch]

21
17 February 1871
A.S. D. Blue Esq., MRCS
Strathalbyn
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday’s date. And I am desired by the Honorable
the Commissioner to intimate that the native (Jack Hooper) had better be removed to the Adelaide
Hospital, where he will be able to obtain the necessary attention.

[Birch]

22
20 Feb 1871
Mr J.R. Ewens, P.T.
Blanchetown
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th Instant, and desire to be informed, whether you
have opened the bale containing the Blankets, as I am informed by the Govt Storekeeper that the Twine,
Hooks & Lines, were enclosed with the Blankets.

[Birch]
23
23 February 1871
Dr R. B. Penny Esq, MRCSL
Charla
Border Town
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th Instant asking whether your medical returns for quarter ending 31st December last were received at this office, and in reply, I have the honor to inform you that the above return arrived safely. I have also to inform you that your a/c for medical attendance upon the Aborigines, was passed for payment at the Treasury during the month of January.

[Birch]

24
24th Feb 1871
A. McLachlan Esq., LFPSG
Goolwa
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st Instant and regret exceedingly that your name has not appeared in the Gazette as medical officer for the district, but I presume the delay has occurred in the Destitute Poor Department, who informed me on the 9th Instant, that your nomination had been received, and would be gazetted in the following week.
Your a/c for £ 1. 0 . 6 will be passed for payment at the Treasury on or about the 6th Proximo.

[Birch]

25
2 March 1871
Rev Geo Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter and enclosure of the 1st Instant, pointing out a deficiency in the weight of the Sugar, and in reply I have to inform you that after making enquiries at the Govt Store, where they informed me that the Sugar weighed 418 lbs, gross, and happening to meet the Carrier (Martin) in the street, he informed me that the bags were delivered at Landseer’s store [Milang] in sound condition, I am quite at a loss to account for the deficiency, unless it occurred while crossing the Lake.

[Birch]

26
6th March 1871
Corporal Jno Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your remarks in store return for month of February, concerning Firewood, I beg to inform you that by an oversight on my part, the supply of firewood escaped my notice and I would suggest that in future, requisitions for firewood, should be sent in separate from the stores. You are authorized to procure five (5) loads of firewood, for the use of the old & Infirm Natives, and are requested to forward the a/c to this office as usual.

[Birch]
27
7 March 1871
J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 4th Instant, I regret having to inform you that the native named Henry Brooks died in the Adelaide Hospital on the 20th Ultimo.

[Birch]

28
8th March 1871
Mr L. Egan
Tarpeena
Sir,
In reply to your remarks in the return for month of January, relative to the Natives obtaining liquor, I have the honor to inform you that the Police have been requested to take action in the matter, which will, I trust, put a stop to the practice of supplying the Aborigines with liquor.

[Birch]

29
8 March 1871
Dr McKechnie Esq.
Franklin Harbor
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 1st Instant and monthly return of stores issued during February, and in reply to your request I have the honor to forward you, per book packet, a supply of blank forms of return, and to intimate that it is the usual practice when forwarding returns to mark them “Returns only” with the ends left open, when they are conveyed at the packet rate, and should be addressed to this Office.

[Birch]

30
8 March 1871
A. McLeod
Sheep Inspector
Chowilla
Sir,
In reply to your remarks in the return for month of February, I have to inform you that the Blankets have not yet left Adelaide, but will do so in the course of a week or two. Regarding the stores, I am of opinion that it would be of no use sending stores to you, until you have some safe place to keep them in.

[Birch]
31
14 March 1871
Mr Jno Forsyth
Riverton
Sir,
On the 27th February last, Sam Stubbs (an Aboriginal native) [Kaurna] called at this office with a recommendation from you on his behalf, for a grant of a section of land from the Government, and was informed (verbally) to write a letter, stating his wants, and also, his means of working a section of land, provided his request was complied with.
I also took him into the Lands Office and pointed out the various sections of land remaining unsold. Should he be able to satisfy the government, as to his means of working a section satisfactorily, I have little doubt his request will be complied with.

[Birch]

32
15th March 1871
Mr Matthew Moore
Goolwa
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th Instant, respecting payment of an a/c for repairing Aborigines' canoes at Goolwa, and in reply I have to inform you, that the a/c has been passed into the Treasury for payment, and can only be drawn by yourself in person, or order. I beg to forward you procuration order herewith, which if made out in my favour, I will forward cheque for the amount.

[Birch]

33
18 March 1871
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I beg to forward you cheque for £ 14, which I will thank you to hand to Mr Matthew Moore for payment of an a/c for repairing Aborigines' Canoes.

[Birch]

34
23 March 1871
Commissioner of Crown Lands & Immigration
Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to request that I may be allowed a month's leave of absence from the office, from the 28th Instant, to enable me to visit Streaky Bay. I have arranged with Mr Borrow to attend to my office duties, (requiring immediate attention) during my absence.

[Birch]
35
27 March 1871
James Hill Esq
Bundaleer
North
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th Instant, requesting a supply of blankets for the Aborigines at Bundaleer, and in reply I may inform you that blankets for 30 Natives will be sent to Bungaree as usual, and I presume that the natives at present at Bundaleer, are the same as those who visit Bungaree.

[Birch]

36
27 March 1871
Messrs D. & W. Murray
King William Street
Gentlemen,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th Instant, concerning the Aborigines Blankets and in reply, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that the blankets can only be accepted, on the condition, that a reduction of one shilling (1/-) per pair be allowed.

[Birch]

37
27 March 1871
The Secretary
Crown Lands & Immigration
Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to request that the authority of the Honorable the Commissioner may be obtained, to call for tenders for supplying 800 pairs of blue blankets for the use of the Aborigines during the year 1872, so as to enable the successful tenderer to execute the order in England, in time for delivery here, in January next.

[Birch]

38
2 May 1871
G.N. Birks Esq.,
Kadina
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27th Ultimo’- enquiring the date on which the Yorke’s Peninsula Aboriginal Mission may take possession of the land at Point Pierce, also of six copies of the fourth annual report, and in reply, I may inform you that the six months’ notice of resumption given to the Lessee expires on the 16th Instant and it will be necessary to hold a lease, before any legal claim is given to the land.

[Birch]
2 May 1871
Mr P.J. O’Mahony P.T.
Wallaroo
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th Ultimo’ asking for information as to the distribution of the Blankets to the Aborigines, and in reply I may inform you that it is the Custom to give to each native requiring them, one single blanket.

[Birch]

4 May 1871
Secretary
Crown Lands & Immigration
Sir,
I would respectfully request that the Blankets (100 single) lately purchased from the Imperial Government may be transferred to this Department for distribution to the Aborigines, in accordance with the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands’ minute dated 2/5/71 CL&I letter 303/71.

[Birch]

5th May 1871
Mr Jno Hill
Bundaleer
Sir,
In reply to your communication of the 14th Ultimo’, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that considering the close proximity of the Depot at Bungaree, he cannot comply with your request for a supply of rations and clothing for the Aborigines; at the same time, I may inform you that any old, sick, or infirm natives requiring relief can obtain supplies from Bungaree.

[Birch]

6 May 1871
Messrs Sml Drew & Co
Koorinka
Gentlemen,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your memo of the 4th Instant, inquiring whether there are any stores to be despatched for Bimbowrie, and in reply I have to inform you that the following stores will leave Town on or about the 13th Instant, viz.:

- 2 Tons Flour
- 400 lbs Sugar
- 82 lbs Tea
- 56 lbs Rice
- 15 lbs Tobacco
- 48 yds Serge
- 1 lb thread
- 6 Billy cans (1/2 Gall.)
- 24 Pannicans
- and a parcel of Medicine.

[Birch]
6th May 1871
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th Ultimo- applying for a boat for the use of the Aborigines at Venus Bay, and in reply I have to inform you, that arrangements have been made with Capt Tulloch of the Schooner “Lucy” to deliver to you the dingey belonging to the “Lucy”, with two oars and it is expected that care will be taken to preserve the boat from damage &c.

[Birch]

9th May 1871
Superintendent
Dry Creek Labour Prison
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th Instant, concerning the discharge of native prisoner “William Coppin” from the Labor Prison, and I shall be glad if you will carry out your suggestion of sending the above native to Adelaide by the Mail conveyance.

[Birch]

9 May 1871
Jno Watts Esq
Stockport
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 17th Ultimo’, respecting the Blankets for the Aborigines, I have the honor to inform you that owing to the delay in the delivery, by the contractor, the Blankets will leave Adelaide tomorrow per rail for Stockport, and I have to express my regret that such delay should have occurred.

[Birch]

9th May 1871
Ferguson Esq., M.D.
Strathalbyn
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th Instant respecting an a/c for Medical attendance upon two Natives at Strathalbyn, and in reply, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that he cannot a sanction the payment of money for services which should have been performed by Dr Blue, as the Medical Officer for the district of Strathalbyn.

[Birch]
16th May 1871
J. P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to remind you, that your reports for the months of February, March and April have not yet come to hand, and to request that they may be forwarded without delay.

[47]

17th May 1871
C. Leonard Esq.,
Second Valley
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th Instant respecting some destitute natives at Second Valley, and I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to ask if you will be kind enough to receive and distribute to the Aborigines as may be required, a few Blankets and other stores.

[48]

17 May 1871
Mr J. M. Anderson
Hindley Street
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner that your tender for the supply of 1500 single blue blankets in accordance with advertisement in Government Gazette of the 3rd and 10th Instant has been accepted.
Sample Blanket left at this office can be had on application.

[49]

18 May 1871
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co.
Rundle Street
Gentlemen,
In reply to your tender for Aborigines’ Blankets of the 15th Instant, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that it has not been accepted.

[50]

18 May 1871
Jno Watts Esq.,
Stockport
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant suggesting that stores should be sent to Stockport for the Aborigines at present located there, and I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that a supply of stores was sent to Mr Rd Wood in the Hundred of Dalkey, for distribution to any natives requiring relief.

[51]
52-53
Mr Jno Forsyth
Riverton
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, respecting Sl Stubbs’ application for a section of land in the Hundred of Boucaut, and in reply I am glad to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner has consented to reserve section No. 160 containing 199 acres (on which is erected a hut) for the use of Stubbs and Chas Pritchard.
Perhaps you will be kind enough, after consultation with the two Natives above-mentioned, to make on the enclosed tracing, where they would wish to have the section divided, so that letters of occupation can be prepared for each Native.

[Birch]

54-55
20 May 1871
Rev. Geo. Taplin
Point McLeay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th Instant, respecting the flour lately received not being marked, and asking if any dingeys are to be made for the Aborigines. Respecting the flour I regret to say the present contractors have been very negligent in that respect, and have lately given notice of their intention to abandon the contract, which will expire 30th June next.
I have received no application for any new dingeys, neither am I aware that there is any need for more at present, [55] There have been twenty three Canoes repaired at Milang and Goolwa during the last twelve months, which ought to be sufficient for the Lake tribes, if properly distributed.

[Birch]
20 May 1871
R.F. Morris P.T.
Lacepede Bay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Instant, explaining the reason why the extra rations were issued during the months of March & April, but without receiving back the return with any memorandum therein, I have therefore to request that it will be forwarded by return mail for the information of the Honorable the Commissioner.

[ Birch ]

22 May 1871
J.P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd Ultimo, forwarding an application from Mr H.C. Swan, to have a half-caste child indentured, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has consented to the girl being apprenticed, on condition, of the Justices having the consent of the parents, according to Act No. 12 of 1844.

[ Birch ]

31 May 1871
W.L. Beare Esq.,
Bungaree
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Instant respecting the non-arrival of the Aborigines' Blankets, and in reply, I have to inform you, after making enquiry at the Government Store, I find they were despatched per rail to Saddleworth by Messrs. Hill, Mills & Co. on the 3rd of April last.

[ Birch ]

1st June 1871
Mr L. Egan
Tarpeena
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th Ultimo', requesting a supply of rations and asking for authority to purchase Tea & Sugar for some sick natives, and in reply I have to request, that in future, clause 7 of the general instructions will be complied with. Stores will be forwarded to you, via McDonnell Bay on Wednesday next (7th Inst) by the "Penola" steamer.

[ Birch ]
1 June 1871
T.P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers Bay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th Ultimo’, forwarding an a/c for building a boat, and in reply I desire to inform you that during my visit to Fowlers Bay, I understood from you the cost of building this boat would not exceed thirty shillings, and upon that understanding I sanctioned the expense. Upon your ascertaining that the boat could not be built for the above amount, authority should have been sought for the increased expenditure.

[60]

2 June 1871
Corporal C. Provis
Streaky Bay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Ultimo’, suggesting that a boat should be built for the Natives at Streaky Bay, and in reply I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that he approves of a boat being built, the cost of which is not to exceed fourteen pounds; At the same time he is of opinion that a boat 4 feet long, would be quite large enough, much stronger, and more convenient for the natives to manage.

[61]

5 June 1871
W.L. Beare Esq
Bungaree
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your memo of the 2nd Inst., respecting the non-arrival of the blankets for the Aborigines at Bungaree, and in reply I have to inform you that the bale already received by you containing 30 single blankets was intended for the natives at Bungaree, and upon further enquiry I find that the blankets for Parallana have not yet left the store.
I regret the omission should have occurred and have instructed the storeman to forward 31 single blankets by tomorrow’s train to Saddleworth.

[62]

6 June 1871
W. Kent Esq., Hon. Sec.
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st Instant, calling the attention of the Government to the state of the Canoes supplied for the use of the Aborigines on the Lakes, and in reply I may inform you, for the information of the Committee of the Aborigines’ Friends’ association, that 7 Canoes were repaired at Goolwa in January last, and 16 at Milang during the month of April 1870. I am also directed to inform you, that eight (8) new canoes will be built, (six for the Natives at Pt McLeay and two for the natives at Milang.

[63]
64
6 June 1871
Revd Geo Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 19th Ulto’, respecting the Aborigines Canoes, wherein you state “that you know a man who would make them cheaply and well”, I should be glad if the person you refer to, would send in a tender for building eight (8) new Canoes, the timber used, to be Huon pine and to be the same shape as those built at Milang by Mr Kruse, with the additions of two thwarts and four fore & aft lining boards inside, (2 on each side of the keel) the knees should also be stronger.

[Birch]

65
6 June 1871
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to ask you to be good enough to inform any boatbuilder at Goolwa desiring to compete for the construction of eight Canoes (after the model of those built at Milang by Mr Kruse in 1866) to send in a tender by the 14th Instant. The timber to be Tasmanian Huon Pine, two thwarts, and four fore & aft lining boards, inside, two on each side of Keel, gunwale &c complete with ring at each end, and to be tarred before delivery.

[Birch]

A65
6 June 1871
Corporal Jno Dann
Milang
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to ask you to be good enough to inform any boatbuilders at Milang to compete for the construction of (8) eight Canoes, to send in tender to this office by the 14th instant.
The Canoes to be after the same model as those built by Mr Kruse ... [as above]

[Birch]

66a
8 June 1871
Mr R. Williams, Bimbowie
Sir,
In your store return for the month of May and letter of the 3rd Instant, you acknowledge receipt of 70 single Blankets, which I take to an error on your part; the bale sent to you was forwarded in the same condition as it arrived from England, without being opened, and each bale contains 80 blankets.
If correct, be kind enough to add 10 additional blankets to your next monthly return.

[Birch]
13 June 1871
Mr W.R. Thompson
Wallianippie
Sir,
On examining your store return for the month of May, I perceive you do not acknowledge receipt of 100 Fish Hooks, forwarded to you with the other stores, if they have not arrived, be good enough to inform me in your next return.

[ Birch ]

8 June 1871
Revd Geo Taplin,
Pt McLeay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner that the letters of occupation are now ready for signature (by the following Natives or their attorneys) for occupying Sections of land in the Hundred of Baker, viz.:
William McHughes No. 272,
Napoleon Bonaparte No. 1127, and
Pompey Jackson No. 429.
I beg to forward you herewith, forms of Power of Attorney, so that the Natives, if unable to attend themselves, can appoint someone to act for them.

[ Birch ]

13 June 1871
Mr P. M. Miller
Anlaby
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, also of the stores returned by Messrs Hill, Mills & Co. The blankets might be retained until the natives visit Anlaby, when you can distribute them as required.

[ Birch ]

13 June 1871
Revd Geo Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd Instant, reporting some natives from Goolwa drunk and creating a disturbance, I have the honor to inform you by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner that the Commissioner of Police has been requested to endeavour to put a stop to the practice of giving liquor to the Natives.

[ Birch ]
15th June 1871
Mr Jno Forsyth
Riverton
Sir,
Referring to my letter of the 19th Ultimo, enclosing a tracing of Section No. 160, Hundred of Boucaut, granted by the Government for the occupation of Sl Stubbs and Charles Pritchard, I have to inform you that the information asked for therein, is required, before the letters of occupation can be completed. It will be sufficient, in describing the division of the section, to say, whether the line is to be drawn North and South or from East to West.

[Birch]

15 June 1871
Revd Geo Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir
In reply to your letter of the 13th Instant, respecting the Solution of Acetate of Ammonia, Messrs Faulding & Co inform me that it is not concentrated, but in the usual mixture as prescribed in the Pharmacopoeia; the error arose through the word com in your letter of the 7th Instant not being understood.

[Birch]

16 June 1871
Mr Henry Lush
Goolwa
Sir,
I am in receipt of your tender for building eight Aborigines’ Canoes, and should be glad if you would inform me of the price named in your tender, as it appears to me doubtful, whether the figures are intended for 4 or 14.

[Birch]

16 June 1871
Messrs Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum of 5th Instant and may inform you that the contractors, supplying the stores to be shipped per “Lucy” have been informed of her departure today. I will also see that the stores (if not already left) are sent off immediately.

[Birch]
21 June 1871
Corporal Jno Dann
Milang
Sir,
I beg to inform you that the tender of Mr Nelson (copy herewith) for building eight Canoes upon the terms set forth in my letter to you of the 6th Instant, has been accepted.
I may further inform you, that the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration is particularly anxious that the “Tasmanian” Huon Pine should be used in building these Canoes, the two lowest tenders being informal on account of specifying “New Zealand” instead of “Tasmanian” Huon Pine.
Mr Nelson has been informed from this office by letter of the acceptance of his tender.

21 June 1871
Mr Jno Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that he has accepted your tender for building eight (8) Canoes, according to specification shewn to you by Corporal Dann, and it is to be hoped that no delay will occur in completing the contract.

22 June 1871
Mr Thos Smith
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your tender of the 12th instant for building eight canoes, I beg to inform you that it has not been accepted, the specification stating the timber required, to be “Tasmanian” Huon Pine, whereas your tender states “New Zealand” Pine.

22nd June 1871
M. Moore
Goolwa
Tender not accepted.

22 June 1876
Mr H. Lush
Goolwa
Tender not accepted.

22 June 1871
Mr Joseph Kidd
Milang
Tender not accepted.
22 June 1871
Mr C.H.F. Kruse
Milang
Tender not accepted.

23 June 1871
Mr Chas Blackwell
Milang
Tender for boats not accepted.

23 June 1871
Revd Geo. Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 20th Instant, forwarding tender of Mr Blackwell for building eight canoes, I have to inform you that it has not been accepted. Mr Nelson of Milang being the successful tenderer at Five pounds Fifteen shillings (£5. 15. 0) for each Canoe.

27 June 1871
Mr Jno Forsyth
Riverton
Sir
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, forwarding tracing of Section No. 160 in the Hundred of Boucaut, subdivided for the occupation of Samuel Stubbs and Charles Pritchard, and have to inform you that letters of occupation are now ready for signature by the two natives mentioned, or their agents. Enclosed herewith, are forms of Power of Attorney.

29 June 1871
Mr Thos Smith
Milang
Sir,
The accepted tenderer for the Aborigines’ Canoes being unable to comply with the conditions mentioned in the specifications, I should be obliged if you would inform me, whether you are still inclined to carry out your tender of the 12th Instant, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Crown Lands.
30 June 1871
Mr Thos Smith
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 29th Instant, respecting the building of eight Canoes, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to inform you, that he accepts your tender of the 12th Instant, and trusts that no delay will occur in completing the contract.

Corporal Dann
Milang
Sir,
I beg to inform you that Mr Nelson having failed to carry out his contract for building eight (8) Canoes, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to forward you copy of Mr Smith’s tender, which he has accepted, Mr Nelson’s contract in consequence cancelled.

3 July 1871
Mr C.H.F. Kruse
Milang
Sir,
I am in receipt of your letter of the 30th Ultimo’, asking to have your tender for building Canoes reconsidered, and I have the honor to inform you that when it was ascertained that Tasmanian Huon Pine was not to be obtained in sufficient quantities, your tender was reconsidered with others and the contract given to the lowest tenderer.

3 July 1871
Mr T.P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers Bay
Sir,
I am in receipt of your letter of the 13th Ultimo’, respecting the Boat lately built by Mr Gilmore, and I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that he has, most unwillingly, passed the a/c for payment, (£5) and I am also to inform you, that in the event of your incurring further expenditure, without authority, the Government will not be responsible.

5 July 1871
Messrs Tassie, Ramsay & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
You will oblige by forwarding as early as possible, the stores addressed to Mr Buttfield, Blinman, which left Port Adelaide by the “Lubra” steamer on the 4th Instant.
88
5 July 1871
The Colonial Surgeon
Lunatic Asylum
Sir,
For the information of the Colonial Secretary, when next considering upon the acceptance of tenders for medicine for the ensuing year, I would respectfully draw his attention to the fact, that Messrs Faulding & Co.’s a/cs for the Aborigines department, bear very unfavourable comparison with the a/cs for the preceding year; the medicines are much the same price, but Messrs Faulding make an additional charge for Jars, Bottles, Tins, Vases & Carriage, which Messrs Main & Geyer, did not.

[Birch]

89
6 July 1871
Mr W. P. O’Neill P.T.
Mt Remarkable
Sir,
In examining your return for month of June, I find that “Talowie Mary” and “Bocco Fanny” received blankets (one each in May and also in June). You will be good enough to explain for the information of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c why the two natives above mentioned have been supplied with the extra blankets.

[Birch]

90
6 July 1871
Sergt. W. O’Shanahan
Port Augusta
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th Ultimo, respecting the Blankets intended for the Station of Caroona, and in reply, I have to inform you, that provided the blankets are not required at the above-mentioned station, they can be issued at Port Augusta to any natives who are in need of them.

[Birch]

91a
7 July 1871
Jno Watts Esq.,
Stockport
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter (147/71) enclosing a/c for 10/- for carriage of stores for the Aborigines. Herewith enclosed, half sovereign for payment of the above. Blank forms of return will accompany this letter.

[Birch]
91b
7th July 1871
Corpl Jno Dann
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd Instant (144/71) requesting a supply of Firewood, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that he sanctions the expenditure for five loads (5).

[Birch]

92
13 July 1871
Sergt W. O'Shanahan
Port Augusta
Sir,
I am in receipt of your memo of the 10th Instant, acknowledge receipt of twenty (20) blankets, I presume these are the blankets that were intended for the Caroona Depot. I have not yet heard whether you have received a bale containing thirty, sent from Port Adelaide on the 5th June last.
P.S. 2/6 herewith in stamps for payment of enclosed a/c for cartage of Flour.

[Birch]

93
13 July 1871
Corporal R.W. Sullivan
Three Lakes
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Ultimo’, and have to express my surprise, that the missing bag of Flour was not reported when the a/c for cartage was sent in for payment. I trust that due enquiry will be made to ascertain where the bag of flour has gone astray.

[Birch]

94
13 July 1871
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
Corporal Sullivan of Three Lakes reports that he has only received nine bags of Flour, instead of ten, you will be good enough to inquire and report to this office, whether the bag of Flour is still at Venus Bay or whether it was taken by Mr Tucknott when conveying the other stores.

[Birch]

95
14 July 1871
Mr Thos Flett
Port Adelaide
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request you to fulfil your promise to some Natives in the Far North, “to return a Lubra and boy to their relatives.” Mr Sub-Protector Buttfield reports that the natives at Umberatana and Mt Freeling are desirous that the two natives who accompanied you from Beltana should return immediately.

[Birch]
17 July 1871
Mr R. Williams
Bimbowrie
N.E. Plains
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to ask you, if you can procure the removal of a blind, old Lubra from Mr Short’s Station at Buttamuc to the Depot at Bimbowrie, this Department paying the expense of cart hire. An early reply will oblige.

[Birch]

17 July 1871
H.A. Short Esq.,
Buttamuc
N.E. Plains
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd Ultimo’, (forwarded by the SP0 respecting an old, blind and lame Lubra, and in reply, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that the Issuer of stores at Bimbowrie has been asked to procure her removal to that Depot.

[Birch]

20 July 1871
Mr Geo. Noble
Parallana
Far North
Sir,
I find on examining your store return for the month of June, your account for twenty single blankets. I am aware that number was advised of; but in course of corresponding with Mr Beare, he informs me “that the bale of blankets intended for Bungaree containing thirty, had been forwarded to Parallana,” should the larger number be correct, you will oblige by adding the additional ten, to your next monthly return.

[Birch]

20 July 1871
J.P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
The issuer of Aborigines’ Stores at Warrakimbo having repeatedly been asked for his Store Returns without eliciting any reply, I am unable to form an opinion, whether the natives in that locality are in receipt of the Government Rations, but I must presume that the issuer, by not forwarding the returns, is not in need of a future supply.

[Birch]
100
20 July 1871
J.P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
Referring to Mr. H. A. Short’s letter of the 23rd Ultimo’, asking to have an old and blind Lubra removed from his Station, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that Mr Williams of Bimbowie has been asked to have the native removed near to the Depot at that place.
[Birch]

101
21 July 1871
Mr. R. Kirk Senr
Auburn
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 17th Ultimo’, forwarding an application from Jno Mitchell (an Aboriginal native) for permission to occupy Section No. 71, Hundred of Upper Wakefield, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that he complies with the request contained therein, and a licence to occupy will be prepared as in former cases. Herewith, I beg to forward you, forms of Power of Attorney, to enable the above native to appoint someone, in Adelaide, to execute the licence, when ready.
[Birch]

102
24 July 1871
Corpl Jno Dann
Milang
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th Instant, respecting the Canoes, and I was rather surprised to hear that Mr Smith had not commenced. I have made enquiries and find that there is plenty of New Zealand Pine in the Timber Yards in Adelaide. Brown & Thompson also Pulsford’s having plenty of logs and would upon receipt of order, cut it into planks without delay. P.S. If the Canoes are not commenced within a week, be good enough to report.
[Birch]

103
24 July 1871
W. Kent Esq., Hon. Sec.:
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith Diagram and tracings of Sections No. 272, 427, & 429 in the Hundred of Baker, as requested by you in letter of the 7th Instant.
[Birch]
26 July 1871
Superintendent
Dry Creek Labor Prison
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day’s date, informing me of the expiry of the sentence of a native from the Gawler Ranges, and in reply I have to inform you, that I shall be obliged if you will forward the above native by mail, in the usual way.

31 July 1871
Corpl C. Provis
Streaky Bay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 22\textsuperscript{nd} Instant, requesting to be supplied with two oars for the boat, building at Streaky Bay, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that two oars, 14 feet long, green painted, with leathers attached, were despatched by the \textit{“Freebridge”} schooner on Saturday last.

31 July 1871
Messrs Acraman, Main & Co.
Adelaide
Gentlemen,
In reply to your letter of the 29\textsuperscript{th} Instant, applying for rations for the sick and aged Natives at Yardea, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that he complies with your request, provided the person in charge of the Stores at Yardea, furnished the Office with the usual monthly return of expenditure &c., forms of which will be supplied when the stores are despatched.

1\textsuperscript{st} August 1871
Mr Robt Kirk Senr
Auburn
Sir,
In reference to your letter of the 17\textsuperscript{th} June last on behalf of an Aboriginal Native (Jno Mitchell) for permission to occupy a section of land, I have the honor to inform you that the licence is now ready for execution at the Land Office.

1\textsuperscript{st} August 1871
J.P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
Referring to your report for the month of June, in reference to the Lubra and Boy that are living with Mr Flett, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that the two natives have been consulted, and expressed a wish to remain for the present, he therefore does not feel disposed, (under present circumstances) to cause their removal back to the North.
109
10 Aug 1871
Corporal Jno Field
Narracoorte
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th Instant enclosing procuration order on the
Treasury for Mr Marshall, for payment of an a/c for 30/- for interment of a native, and in reply I have the
honor to enclose herewith, cheque for the amount.

[Birch]

110
10 August 1871
Jas Hill Esq
Bundaleer
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that it having been
represented to him, by his colleague (the Honorable the Commissioner of Public Works) that the natives
at Bundaleer required blankets &c – that a supply will be forwarded in the course of a few days, due
notice of which will be given you, and to request that you will cause the usual monthly returns to be
forwarded to this office, forms of which will be provided.

[Birch]

111
10 August 1871
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th Ultimo’ – reporting the discovery of a missing
bag of Flour, and in reply I have to inform you, that should an opportunity occur, of sending it to
Tungata with other stores, you might avail yourself of the opportunity, but should there be no such
prospect, you can distribute it at Venus Bay, and account for it in your return.

[Birch]

112
19 August 1871
A.D. Tassie Esq
Port Augusta
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that stores addressed to Messrs Acraman, Main & Co. – Yardea – will be
forwarded per “Kangaroo” Steamer on the 23rd Instant, the above mentioned gentlemen having
undertaken to convey the stores with their own teams during the wool season.
List of stores dispatched:
1 Ton Flour
250 lbs Sugar
41 lbs Tea
10 lbs Tobacco
25 single Blankets

[Birch]
4 Sept 1871  
The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c  
Sir,  
I have the honor respectfully to draw your attention to my position in this office, as compared with my predecessor, who received the salary of £180 per annum, without any responsibility. This amount was also voted by Parliament for the year 1868, still I was not allowed to draw more than £140.  
I would also point out, that when Mr O'Halloran was transferred (in January 1867) from this Office, to the position of Accountant in the Survey Department I was given to understand by the Surveyor General, that I should receive the same salary as drawn by Mr O'Halloran, which understanding however, I regret to say was not carried out. —  
And at the time the office of Protector was abolished, the clerk's salary was reduced on the estimates to £140, whilst the whole responsibility attaching to the office, was then made to devolve upon [114] him, both as regards the expenditure of the money voted by Parliament, and conducting the general correspondence, and I trust that the Honorable the Commissioner has no cause of complaint, against the manner in which these duties have been carried out. —  
Perhaps it will not be out of place my quoting the words of a former Commissioner when in the House of Assembly "that the present clerk of the Aborigines Department saved more than his salary by looking after the contractors." Numerous instances can be addressed bearing out this statement.  
In view of the facts above alluded to, I would respectfully submit, that my duties in the Aborigines Department are more onerous and important than those of the Sub-protector, and would humbly suggest that I might be placed in an equal position with that officer. [Birch]

5 September 1871  
Mr Thos Smith  
Milang  
Sir,  
Referring to my letter of the 30th June last, accepting your tender for building eight Canoes for the Aborigines, I beg to inform you, that happening to visit Milang on the 29th August last, and ascertaining that you had not commenced the canoes, and had left the neighbourhood, I am therefore obliged to cancel the contract.  

5 Sept 1871  
A.D. Tassie Esq  
Port Augusta  
Sir,  
Police Trooper Whitbread of Mt Freeling writes under date of 26th Ultimo’, that he has not received the stores forwarded from here in May last. — Will you be kind enough to inform me whether the stores have yet left Port Augusta and the cause of the delay.  

[Birch]
5 Sept 1871
Mr R. Whitbread P.T.
Mt Freeling
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th Ultimo, respecting the delay on the arrival of the stores at Mt Freeling, I beg to inform you that Mr Tassie at Port Augusta has been communicated with respecting the cause of the delay, which is, I presume, to be owing to the large amount of traffic to the interior.
Regarding sending a larger supply of stores to make a full load, I very much doubt the expediency of so doing, as the stores would, in all probability, deteriorate so much in quality before being used.

8 Sept 1871
Messrs Giles & Smith
Waymouth Street
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th Instant, respecting the payment of £5. 12. 6 difference in price of 2½ tons of Flour, and in reply I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that the a/c will be passed for payment with the present monthly schedule.

8 Sept 1871
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 4th Instant requesting authority to have the store whitewashed, and in reply I have to inform you that your request is complied with, provided the cost does not exceed one pound.

14 Sept 1871
Mr R. Whitbread P.T.
Mt Freeling
Sir,
In further reply to your letter of the 16th Ultimo, respecting the delay in the arrival of Aborigines’ Stores, I have to inform you that Messrs Tassie state that the stores left Port Augusta on the 3 August by Dyer’s Waggon.
The delay has occurred by Messrs Tassie being unable to forward them until other stores arrived for that part of the country.
121
14 Sept 1871
A. McLeod Esq.,
Inspector of Sheep
Salt Creek
Upper Murray
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11th Instant, relating to removing an Iron store to Salt Creek, and in reply, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that he complies with your request, provided the expenditure does not exceed five pounds. [Birch]

122
22 Sept 1871
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Murray
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 20th Instant, asking for three or four Canoes for the use of the Aborigines on the Murray and in reply, I have to inform you that in the year 1867, three canoes were sent to Wellington and from reports, I have never been able to ascertain what became of them. I therefore conclude that the Canoes were neglected and not cared for, and until I have further information, I do not feel justified in recommending the Commissioner to grant your request. [Birch]

A123a
28 Sept 1871
Mr R.F. Morris P.T.
Kingston
Sir,
I beg acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Instant respecting the Aborigines’ Boat – but previous to asking for any expenditure, it will be necessary to know the amount required for repairing the boat. Paint and Oil can be sent from Adelaide. [Birch]

A123b
28 Sept 1871
Mr R. Williams
Bimbowrie
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 23rd Instant enclosing an account for £ 3 for hire of horse & dray, and forward you, herewith, cheque for the amount. Please acknowledge receipt. [Birch]
2 October 1871
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 29th Ultimo’ reporting four Canoes, ready for use and requesting instructions, I regret that you did not take advantage of the Steamer leaving for Milang to send them and should another opportunity occur, I would not wait for the natives coming from Point MacLeay – I trust the Canoes are finished in a satisfactory manner and are according to specifications. I enclose herewith, three shillings in Postage Stamps for payment of within a/cs.

[Birch]

3 October 1871
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday’s date, forwarding four natives to the Hospital, and in reply I may inform you that the Medical Officers have been instructed to examine and admit them, should their circumstances require it. I have also to inform you that Dr Motherwell has been appointed Medical Officer for the Port Elliot & Goolwa District since the 16 Sept.

[Birch]

4 October 1871
J.S. Bellhouse Esq.,
? Railway Dept
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd Instant (No. 298/71) forwarding extract of a letter from the Manager of the Strathalbyn and Goolwa Tramway, wherein he endeavours to lay the blame of delay in delivery of stores for the Aborigines, upon the Carrier, and which upon enquiry, I find to be contrary to fact, as the several packages of groceries were delivered at the Strathalbyn Station by Martin’s wagon on the 23rd Ultimo’, and should have been sent by goods truck.
Mr Rumball’s letter appears to me very unsatisfactory and does not give any reason for detaining the stores at Goolwa, and I should have imagined that the stores being directed O.H.M.S. and to a Police Officer, would be quite sufficient to prevent their being detained by another department of the Service.

[Birch]

7 October 1871
Mr R.F. Morris P.T.
Lacepede Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant enclosing tender of Mr Smith for repairing the Aborigines’ boat, I beg to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the repairs being done.
Twenty eight pounds of white lead, two gallons of boiled oil, and thirty four and a half pounds of chain will be forwarded to you by the first vessel sailing for Lacepede Bay.

[Birch]
127
7 Oct 1871
Corporal Jno Dann
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 5th Inst requesting a supply of Firewood for the Aborigines, I beg to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner has sanctioned the expenditure for five loads, the rate not to exceed that hitherto paid.

[Birch]

128a
9 October 1871
Mr P. Martin
Grote Street
Sir,
Referring to some stores taken to the Strathalbyn Station by your wagon, on or about the 25th September and addressed to P.T. Moriarty – Goolwa – I wish you would be kind enough to inform me of the time of delivery at the Tramway; and whether the eight packages were delivered in one or more lots.

[Birch]

128b
Undated: 9-10 October 1871?
Mr M. Moore
Goolwa
Sir,
I have received your a/c for building eight Canoes for the Aborigines and beg to inform you that it will be passed for payment at the Treasury in the usual manner, on or about the 6th Proximo, and should you so desire it (by forwarding me a procuration order to draw the money) I will forward you a cheque for the amount when payable.

[Birch]

129
11 October 1871
T. Giles Esq., J.P.
North Adelaide
Sir,
It having been reported to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c that the Aborigines at the Southern part of Yorke’s Peninsula, are at times in a destitute state, I am desired to ask you if you will consent to a depot being established at your Station (Penton Vale) for their relief.

[Birch]
130
12 Oct 1871
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Murray
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 6th Instant, asking to be supplied with Canoes for the use of the Aborigines, and in reply I have to inform you that owing to the small balance of money available for the remainder of the current year for the Aborigines, your request for the present cannot be complied with.
Stores will be forwarded to you in due course.                                   [Birch]

131
19 October 1871
J.P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to remind you, that your report for the months of July and August and September, have not yet been received, and to request that they may be supplied as early as possible.                        [Birch]

132
25 October 1871
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th Instant, reporting native “Laughing Jack” insane &c, I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that the Resident Medical Officer of the Lunatic Asylum reports, “that the above native shewed no signs of lunacy during the time he was an inmate of the Asylum and the Lunacy Act requires that the facts indicative of insanity should be observed by the certifying surgeon in person.”
Should the native persist in assaulting his Lubra and children, perhaps it would be the better plan, to have him imprisoned for the assault.                              [Birch]

133
28 October 1871
Messrs Saml Drew & Co.
Koorina
Gentlemen,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your memo of the 26th Instant forwarding a/c for £ 10 for cartage of stores from the Burra to Bimbowie, and have to inform you, that the a/c will be passed for payment at the Treasury in the usual manner; it having arrived two days too late for the present month’s schedule, will be passed with the November a/cs and will be payable on or about the 6 December next.                  [Birch]
134
31 October 1871
Leonard H. Giles Esq.,
Penton Vale
Yorke's Peninsula
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22nd Instant, requesting land to be reserved for the natives, and I am desired by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that he considers it premature at present to reserve a tract of land solely for the use of the natives. – A supply of stores, blankets &c will be forwarded to you for distribution by the “Sailor Prince” at an early date.

[Birch]

135
4 Nov 1871
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Be kind enough to hand the enclosed cheque for £ 44 to Mr M. Moore, (payment for building Aborigines’ canoes) and procure his acknowledgement for the same.

[Birch]

136
7 Nov 1871
A.H. Landseer Esq., J.P.
Milang
Sir,
Will you be kind enough to inform me, whether you have forwarded a bag of Tinware, addressed to A. McLeod Esq., Inspector of Sheep, Chowilla, River Murray. The above Tinware left Adelaide about the 15th May last, and I have not heard of its whereabouts since.

[Birch]

137
7 Nov 1871
Corporal Jno Field
Narracoorte
Sir,
P.T. Pollitt of Border Town, informs me he has not received the Blankets for the Aborigines, and in your letter of the 19th June last, you report their arrival at Narracoorte. Would you be kind enough to inform me, whether they are still in your possession, of so, whether there is any means of sending them to their destination?

[Birch]
138
10 Nov 1871
A.H. Landseer Esq., J.P.
Milang
Sir,
Respecting the package of Tinware, sent to Mr McLeod at Chowilla in May last, I have received neither cartage or Freight a/c. The two packages shipped per “Queen” in June last, were Medicine and a package containing Tomahawks and netting Twine. The Tinware has not reached its destination, neither can any trace of it [be found] at present.

[Birch]

139
11 Nov 1871
Mr Jno A. Ophel
Pt McLeay
Sir,
I beg to forward you cheque for £1. 7. 6 for payment to Mr B.W. Taplin for Freight on stores from Milang to Pt McLeay.
Stores will be forwarded on or about the 16th Instant.

[Birch]

140
15 Nov 1871
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Murray
Sir,
With the Stores received by you in June last, I notice your receipt to cart note containing two bags of tinware. Will you be good enough to inform me, whether one bag is addressed to Mr A. McLeod – Sheep Inspector – Chowilla, and whether it has been forwarded to its right address?

[Birch]

141
16 November 1871
Mr L. Egan
Tarpeena
Sir,
Memo
Mr Egan is informed that the accompanying a/c cannot be passed in its present form. The certificate of the Medical Officer ordering the ? should be attached to the a/c. Tea should have been asked for before you allowed the whole to run out and I consider it would have been sufficient for the month, had it been issued with discrimination as I find by your return that the able-bodied natives are receiving rations, as well as the old, Sick and infirm.

[Birch]
20 Nov 1871
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I beg to return the a/c for freight of 6 canoes to Pt McLeay. The name attached to the receipt not being the same in which the a/c is made out in.
Perhaps it would be the better plan to draw up a fresh a/c and have it receipted with the correct name.

[142 Birch]

1 December 1871
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Murray
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23rd Ultimo’ and upon enquiry, I find that the contractor for Tinware, dispatched two bags, one containing 12 Quart Pots and 12 Pannicans intended for the natives at Long Island, and the other containing 24 Pannicans which I presume (through some error on the part of the contractor) found its way to you, instead of to Chowilla, as intended.
Be kind enough to inform me, whether the quantities enumerated above reached you as stated.

[143 Birch]

4 December 1871
Memo
Will Mr H. Evans be kind enough to provide a passage to Port Augusta per “Lubra” Steamer for an Aboriginal native (“Ooninga”) and charge the same to this Department.

[144 Birch]

9 December 1871
Miss Jane Armstrong
Native School
Lacepede Bay
Madam,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5th Inst, forwarding sample of Flour, and in reply, I have to inform you, that the sample being so small, made it very difficult to judge of its quality, still I have arranged with the Contractors (Messrs Giles & Smith) to forward you a ton of superfine quality flour, to enable you to mix with that now on hand, which I should imagine would make a very fair sample of flour.

[145 Birch]
145
11 Dec 1871
Revd. T. Field
Glenelg
Revd Sir,
I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this day's date reporting the Flour at the Native School at Lacepede bay, as unfit for use, and in reply, I have the honor to inform you that upon the receipt of a letter from Miss Armstrong on the 7th Instant enclosing a small sample of the flour, I immediately made arrangements with the contractors, to forward a ton of superfine, by the cutter “Swallow”, which left Port Adelaide on Saturday last.

[Birch]

146
14 Dec 1871
Miss J. Armstrong
Kingston
Madam,
In examining your return for the month of November I find an error in calculating the Sugar, which you will be kind enough to correct in your return for the present month, viz.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lbs</th>
<th>oz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On hand, 1st Nov</td>
<td>50. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received</td>
<td>250. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total stock</td>
<td>300. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issues</td>
<td>33. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining on hand</td>
<td>266. 4 in lieu of 226. 4.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Birch]

147
20 Dec 1871
Mr J. A. Ophel
Pt McLeay
Sir,
You will oblige by forwarding to this office a list of all non-consumable stores under your charge on the 31st Instant, belonging to this Department such as Canoes, Scales & Weights &c.

Memo
Copy of the above sent also to:
J.E.D. Crofton P.T. Wellington
T. Moriarty P.T. Goolwa
Corporal Dann Milang
Mr J. Wood McGrath’s Flat

[Birch]

148
23 Dec 1871
Mr F.W. Allen P.T.
Guichen Bay
Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th Instant enclosing procuration order on the Treasury, and in reply I have to advise you of the amount of your a/c being enclosed herein. (half sovereign and 2/- in postage stamps). And will feel obliged for an acknowledgement of its safe arrival.

[Birch]
149
18th January 1872
G.N. Birks Esq., Kadina
Sir,
I am directed to inform you in reply to your letter of 5th Instant addressed to the Secretary to the Crown Lands & Department no authority resides with me? for granting leases of Aboriginal reserves? [Biggs]

150
12 January 1872
Albert Buttfield Esq.,
Black Point
Yorke’s Peninsula
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that there are already two depots on Yorke’s Peninsula from which Stores are issued to the Aborigines, viz. Point Pierce and Penton Vale. [Biggs]

151
Duplicate of 150

152
18th January 1872
Nathaniel Oldham Esq.,
Hon. Treasurer
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor to remind you that the Statement of Accounts of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association which is required to enable to balance due from the Government for the year ended 31st Dec. 1871 to be paid, has not been supplied to this Office and request you will be good enough to cause it to be sent in immediately in order that the account may be included in this month’s schedule. [Biggs]

153
19 January 1872
Mr R.F. Morris P.T.
Kingston
Lacepede Bay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 10th Instant, that J. Wm Smith’s account for Three pounds, for repairs to a boat not included in the Schedule of Accounts of this Department for the month of December last and that it is now payable to him or his order at the Treasury. [Biggs]
154
19th January 1872
J.P. Buttfield J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c approves of the
suggestion contained in your report dated 1st January 1871 to the effect that a depot for the issue of
rations to Aborigines should be established at Nilpena instead of Warrakimbo. Supplies will be sent to
Mr Chappell by the first opportunity accordingly.

Biggs

155
23rd January 1872
Mr Chappell
Dr. Brown’s
Nilpena
North
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that upon the recommendation of the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, the
Honorable the Commissioner for Crown Lands &c has authorized the establishment of a Depot for the
distribution of rations? To the sick and infirm Aborigines in the district of Nilpena [50 km N-W of
Blinman] in place of Warrakimbo, and before sending any stores to the former place, I have to request
you to inform me if you are willing to undertake the charge of them and to supply regularly the
necessary returns to this office.
I forward herewith printed forms and instructions for your guidance.
I should feel obliged by your informing me of the best mode of forwarding stores to Nilpena.

Biggs

156
30 January 1872
Mr W. Pollitt P.T.
Border Town
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to our letter of 11th Instant, that the Honorable the
Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has authorized the destruction of the damaged Flour remaining on
hand at the depot under your charge.

Biggs

No 157

158
30 January 1872
Mr E. Homann
Lutheran Mission
Tanunda
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your letter of 18th Instant has been submitted to the Honorable the
Commissioner of Crown Lands &c and I am instructed to state that the stores alluded to by you may be
handed over to Mr Debney at Mundowadana.

Biggs
30 January 1872
Mr W.R. Thompson
Wallianippie
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of the 6th Ultimo’, that arrangements have been made for the “Lucy” to take on the stores left at Streaky Bay to Point Brown.

31 January 1872
Mr J.A. Ophel
Pt McLeay
Sir,
With reference to the deficiency in the Flour alluded to in your letter of 18th instant, I have to inform you that it was occasioned by the accidental cutting of some of the bags from contact with other packages during their conveyance from Adelaide to Milang.

31 January 1872
W.A. Crouch Esqre
Mount Gambier
Sir,
I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request you will be good enough to inform me if you would be willing to take charge of the Stores for sick and indigent natives which have hitherto been supplied to Mr. L. Egan, and to issue to them the usual rations in accordance with the regulations relating thereto.

2 Feb 1872
The Govt Storekeeper
Memo
The Government Storekeeper will please receive into Store from J.M. Anderson, contractor, 1500 blue Blankets.

6 February 1872
Dr R.B. Penny MICS
Charla [Border Town]
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, in reply to your letter of 31 Ultimo’, that your account for Medical attendance &c was included in the Schedule of accounts of this Department for the month of December 1871.
164
8 February 1872
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your account for charges on goods on steamers, at Port Augusta from 20 February to 31st December 1871, and to remind you that all accounts against the Government should, if possible, be rendered monthly and never left in arrear more than a quarter. I have consequently to request that, in future, you will send in your account against this office not later than at the expiration of each quarter. [Biggs]

165
9 February 1871
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
With reference to your letter of 3rd Instant, I have the honor to convey to you authority to purchase such a supply of firewood for the use of the Aborigines at Milang as you may consider necessary and you are requested to send the account for it to this office as soon as possible, accompanied by a certificate signed by yourself that the price charged is fair and reasonable. [Biggs]

166
13 February 1872
Revd. W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
With reference to the request contained in your letter of 5th instant, that materials for the erection of a shed for the stores landed at Point Pierce should be supplied to you, I have the honor to request you will give me the particulars of the timber &c which would be required, in order that, in submitting the matter for the consideration of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c, I may give him an estimate of the probable expense. [Biggs]

167
15th February 1872
Mr R. Williams
Bimbowie
Sir,
Observing from our return of Rations issued during last month that you found it necessary to obtain 400 lbs of flour from Mr ??’s Station, I have the honor to inform you that the best course to adopt with reference to it will be to return to him the same quantity, with thanks for the accommodation afforded. [Biggs]
4 March 1872
W.L. Beare Esq
Bungaree
Sir,
With reference to the account rendered by you for the cartage of Stores for Aborigines from Port Augusta to Carierowlo in 1868 and 1869, I have the honor to inform you that Rations were supplied to that depot upon the application of Mr H. Scott on the understanding that they should be conveyed to their destination from Port Augusta, by Mr London’s drays, free of charge.

[Biggs]

13 March 1872
The Revd W. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
Referring to your letter of 1st instant, in which you request authority to secure nourishing food for the Aborigines at Point Pierce, I have the honor to draw your attention to Article 3 of the enclosed “Instructions” and to request that its provisions may be complied with.

[Biggs]

14 March 1872
To The Revd W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the application made by you in your letter of 5th Ultimo’ to be supplied with the materials necessary for the erection of a shed at Point Pierce, has been approved.

[Biggs]

25 March 1872
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
With reference to your letter of the 19th instant, suggesting the discontinuance of the issue of rations to the Aborigines at Wellington, until two Aboriginal young men, for whom the police are in search are apprehended, I have the honor to inform you that the Commissioner of Crown Lands approves of such a course being adopted; but every precaution must be taken to prevent absolute injury arising to innocent individuals; and it will not, I think, be right to withhold assistance from those who are really unable to provide themselves with the means of subsistence.
Should you still consider it reasonable to take the extreme course which you have recommended, the Commissioner will sanction its commencement from 8th Proximo, and he requires that a weekly report of the effect should be sent by you to this office for his information.

[Biggs]
172
25 March 1872
The Revd Geo. Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
Police Trooper Crofton, the Issuer of Stores to Aborigines at Wellington, having recommended that, in order to facilitate the apprehension by the Police of two Natives “Jemmy Ducks” and “Young Buffalo”, the issue of rations to strange blacks at Point McLeay and Milang should be suspended, I have the honor to request that you will, as far as you may consider it desirable, carry out his suggestion, at the same time taking care to prevent any real injury being inflicted on innocent individuals.

[Biggs]

173
25 March 1872
Corporal Jno Dann, Milang
Same letter content as 172.

174
26 March 1872
The Revd. Geo. Taplin
Py McLeay
Sir,
I have the honor, with reference to your letter of 21st instant, to inform you that I have been unable to find Mr R. Turner’s name amongst those who hold licences to sell Colonial wine, and beg to remind you that, if he had a licence, he is bound to produce it, when demanded by a Justice of the Peace; and it would be advisable for you to adopt that means of ascertaining whether he has authority to sell or not, when an opportunity offers for your doing so.

[Biggs]

175
9 April 1872
Mr A. Webb
Swanport
Same letter content as 172 and 173.

176
10 April 1872
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Same letter content as above.

177
10 April 1872
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
With reference to your letter of 27th ultimo, I have the honor to state that you must use your own discretion as to the issue of rations in certain cases, taking care that no injury arises to helpless and innocent Aborigines.

[Biggs]
178
24 April 1872
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor to refer you to the concluding paragraph of my letter of 25 ultimo’, informing you that the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c requires a weekly report from you of the effect of the stoppage of the issue of rations to the Aborigines at Wellington and to remind you that no report on the subject has yet reached this office.

[Biggs]

179
24 April 1872
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Sir,
I have the honor, with reference to my letter to you of 10th instant, to request you will send in to this office, for the information of the Commissioner of crown Lands a report of the effect of the stoppage of the issue of rations to Aborigines at Long Island ad you are requested to state whether or not you consider that the capture of the two Aborigines named is likely to be facilitated by continuing to withhold the usual supplies.

[Biggs]

180
26 April 1872
Buttfield [now S.M.]
Sir,
I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to request you will forward for his information a report, in the form of a diary, if possible, of your movements during the six months ended 31st March 1872, as it has been stated in the House of Assembly by Mr Angas, that your duties as Stipendiary Magistrate preclude your visits and attention to the Aborigines.

[Biggs]

181
26 April 1872
Messrs Hay, Hann & Co
King William Street
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that your tender for the supply of 1600 Blue Blankets for Aborigines, in accordance with pattern, at eight shillings and five pence each, to be delivered at the Government Store, North Terrace, in January 1873, has been accepted.

[Biggs]
182
29 April 1872
Revd Geo. Taplin
Pt McLeay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your letter of 28th ultimo, relative to the supposed illegal wine selling by R. Turner, has been submitted to the Hon. Attorney General and, having ascertained that his name is not included in the list of those to whom licences to retail have been granted, I am instructed to inform you that the matter should be referred to the police, and that the onus of proof that he is licensed is, by clause 94 of Act 16 of 49, to rest upon him.

[Biggs]

183
29 March [April] 1872
E.R. Simpson Esq.,
Hon. Sec.
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 27th instant, that the amount alluded to by you has been included in the accounts of this Department for April and will probably be payable to the Treasurer of the AFA at the Treasury by 6th Proximo.

[Biggs]

184
2 May 1872
The Revd G.J. Rechner & P. T. Oster
For Lutheran Congregation
Lights Pass
Nuriootpa
Gentlemen,
I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, with reference to the application contained in your letter of 9th Ultimo, that the government will subsidize the cost of finding good water at Killalpaninna to the extent of one half of the cost incurred, provided that proper, certified ?? of the expenses are procured and that the amount of subsidy shall not exceed £ 100 (one hundred pounds).

[Biggs]

185
2 May 1872
C.R. Simpson Esq
Hon Sec
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Sir,
I am instructed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to inform you that he has no legal power to grant a lease of the land applied for in your letter of 11th ultimo.

[Biggs]
186
8 May 1872
Revd Geo Taplin
Point McLeay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your letter of 25 Ultimo, suggesting that enquiries should be made regarding the death of an Aboriginal man named “Hooper” has been submitted to the authorities at the Adelaide Hospital and that Dr. Logan, by whom the deceased was seen both prior to and after his death, reports that the cause of death was inflammation of the lungs, from which Hooper had previously suffered, and that there were no marks of violence about the body.

[Biggs]

187
10 May 1872
J.A. C. Hunter Esq.,
Tarpeena, S.E.
Sir,
I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to request you will inform me if you are willing to take charge of and superintend the issue of Stores supplied by the government for the Aborigines at Tarpeena, which duty has hitherto been performed by Mr. L. Egan. I believe you have been verbally communicated with on this subject and I forward herewith, for your information, copies of the Instructions to Issuers of Stores to Aborigines and the return required to be furnished monthly to this office.

[Biggs]

188
13 May 1872
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to the suggestion obtained in your letter of 4th Instant relative to withholding the issue of blankets to the Aborigines at Wellington and Swanport, with a view to facilitating the capture of “Jemmy Ducks” and “Young Buffalo” that you are authorized to carry it out, provided that no injury is occasioned to those Aborigines who are not to blame in the matter.

[Biggs]

189
13 May 1872
Mr R. Grist
Mount Burr
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your letter of 25th Ultimo’ addressed to E.H. Derrington Esq. M.P., has been submitted to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands and I am instructed to inform you that the application for rations for Aborigines contained therein cannot be complied with, the depot at Tarpeena being available for indigent natives in the neighbourhood of Mount Burr to obtain supplies from.

[Biggs]
190
13 May 1872
Mr A. Webb
Long Island, River Murray
Sir,
Police Trooper Crofton having suggested that it would be advisable to withhold the issue of Blankets etc. similar to 188.

Biggs

191
14 May 1872
J.P. Buttfield, J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your letter of 6th Instant, relating to Postage Stamps used by you on the public service, has been submitted to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands, who has authorized the official stamps issued to you being accounted for as expended on services; the number therefore which you required, viz. 60 2d and 84 6d with the ?? entered in the monthly accounts of this office. I enclose as a future supply, 50 2d and 25 6d stamps and on your sending in a certified list of expenditures (in accompanying form) the stamps used by you will be replaced. Letters received, upon which postage is due, may be paid for in official stamps and entered accordingly, the postmaster returning such stamps to the P.O. Department in Adelaide for reissue to this office.

Biggs

192
15 May 1872
R.B. Penny Esq., MRCS
Charla
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 9th instant, that your Salary for the quarter ended 31 March last was included in the accounts of this Department for April, which were passed for payment during the second week of the current month.

Biggs

193
15 May 1872
Mr W. Campbell Senr
Port Wakefield
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 6th instant, that Blankets for the Aborigines will be forwarded to you as soon as a further supply has been obtained, the whole of them recently in store having been issued.

Biggs
194
31 May 1872
Mr L. Egan
Tarpeena
Sir,
I have the honor to request you will hand over to Mr Grist on application, a small supply of Stores for the Aborigines in the neighbourhood of Mount Burr, consisting if possible of the following articles, viz.:
40 lbs Flour
50 lbs Sugar
5 lbs Tea
8 yds Serge
Which are to be entered in the monthly return as so disposed of.
You are requested to inform me what Stores will be required to complete the stock at Tarpeena.
[Biggs]

195
31 May 1872
Mr Grist
Mt Burr
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you with reference to your letter of 20th instant addressed to E.H. Derrington Esq M.P. that, in order that immediate relief may be afforded to the Aborigines in the neighbourhood of Mt Burr, Mr Egan has been directed to hand over to you, on application, the following stores, provided they can be spared from the depot at Tarpeena:
40 lbs Flour
50 lbs Sugar
5 lbs Tea
8 yds Serge
I forward for your guidance a copy of the “Instructions” relating to the issue of stores and request you will inform me when you have received the articles mentioned and also what others are most needed.
[Biggs]

196a
5 June 1872
The Revd J.W. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
The Storeman states that the 100 needles, which Mr Kuhn alludes to in his letter of 13th Ultimo’ as not having been received, “were placed in the breast of a Serge Shirt with the collar and arms lapped over.”
[Biggs]

196b
5 June 1872
Mr W.H. Limbert
Rapid Bay
Memo
Mr Limbert is requested to state whether he received amongst the Stores shipped in the “Dashing Wave” 4 Blue shirts an 18 lbs of Netting twine, as he has not included them in the list of stores acknowledged.
[Biggs]
197a
8 June 1872
Sergt Bentley
Port Lincoln
Memo
Sergt Bentley is requested to state whether he received 10 or 6 Blue shirts with the last supply of stores, as the Storeman says that the number ordered (10) were packed and only 6 are acknowledged in the monthly returns.

[Biggs]

197b
5 June 1872
Mr Thos. Dailey
Clarendon
Memo
Mr Dailey is requested to state whether he received 10 or 8 packets of Twine with the Stores supplied on 17 April, as the Storeman says the number ordered (10) were packed & forwarded & only 8 are acknowledged in the monthly return.

[Biggs]

198
11 June 1872
Mr Robert Kirk
Auburn
Sir,
Your letter of 10 May last, addressed to the Hon. A. Blyth, and applying, on behalf of an Aboriginal in your service, for authority to let the Section of land which has been allotted to him, having been submitted to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands, I am instructed to inform you that the application cannot be entertained, as the adoption of such a course might lead to many abuses.

[Biggs]

199
3 July 1872
W.R. Randell Esq.,
Mannum
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has acceded to the application made in your letter of 14th Ultimo’ for the expenditure of from £ 10 to £ 12 in providing two new and substantial boats of a suitable description for the use of the Aborigines at Mannum. You are requested to name some person who would be willing to take charge of the boats when not required by the natives and who would exercise a general supervision over them. It is most considered desirable to expend so large a sum as £ 4 in the repair of the old boat alluded to by you.

[Biggs]
200
9 July 1872
Messrs A.D. Tassie & Co
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
Mr Chapple having reported to this Office that he has not received the Stores for Nilpena which were forwarded to Port Augusta in March, you are requested to inform me when they were sent on by you, and to give me any information you can regarding them.

[Biggs]

201
23 July 1872
Mr T. Moriarty, P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands having approved of the offer made by Messrs Moore & Son to repair the five boats now in use by the Aborigines at Goolwa for Two Pounds, five shillings each, I have the honor to request you will instruct them to execute the repairs as soon as possible.

[Biggs]

202
23 July 1872
Mr Chas Chapple
Nilpena
North West
Sir,
Having made enquiries concerning the stores dispatched to you in March last, I find that, through some error in forwarding them from Port Augusta, they were sent to Wilpena, and that, having been refused there, the carter took them on to the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman, who I hope has found an opportunity for sending them on to you.

[Biggs]

203
30 July 1872
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Milang [? Goolwa?]
Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith copy of a Notice inviting Tenders for the supply of Eight Boats for the use of the Aborigines at Goolwa and McGrath’s Flat and to request you will cause it to be exhibited in some public place at Goolwa until the time named for the acceptance of tenders has expired and you are requested to draw the attention of the boatbuilders in your neighbourhood to it.

[Biggs]

203A
30 July 1872
Similar letter to Corporal Dann, Milang.

[Biggs]
TENDERS for Boats for Aborigines

Aborigines Office,
28 July 1872

Tenders will be received at this office till end of Monday 10th August for the supply of Eight Boats for the use of the Aborigines at Goolwa and McGrath’s Flat.

The boats are to be of the same size and materials those built by Messrs Moore & Son in 1870 which are in use by the Aborigines at Milang & Point McLeay and they must be of good material & ?? throughout and finished to the satisfaction of the Officer in charge of the Aborigines Department .... ?? Tender to be marked on the envelope, “Tender for Boats” and addressed to the Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide.

Tenderers must state the timber intended to be used (Tasmanian Huon Pine preferred, if procurable) and whether the fastenings are to be of iron or copper.

The boats to be delivered at Goolwa within eight weeks of the acceptance of any tender.

No tender will necessarily be accepted.

1 August 1872

Mr C.J. Chapple
Nilpena
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you in reply to your letter of 23rd Ultimo ..... ?? the stores intended for issue to the Aborigines at Nilpena were ?? to Wilpena and thence to Blinman, and as the Sub-Protector of Aborigines has informed me that there is no probability of his being able to send them to Nilpena, a fresh supply will be forwarded to you by the first opportunity and every precaution will be taken to ensure that .... reaching their proper destination.

[Biggs]

8 August 1872

Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you in reply to your letter of 20 ultimo’, that the paint and brushes you requested were, by mistake, taken to Streaky Bay and that the Master of the “Freebridge” requested Corporal Provis to send them to you by the first opportunity which he promised to do.

[Biggs]

Duplicate of 206.

[Biggs]

8 August 1872

Revd G.Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to inform you, in reply to your letter of 25 June last, that fresh licences will be prepared for the Aboriginals John Sumner and Pompey Jackson to enable their wishes to exchange Sections to be carried out.

[Biggs]
8 August 1872
Revd G. Taplin
Sir,
I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to inform you in reply to your letter of 10 June last, that an occupation licence will be prepared for Henry Limbert [Lambert, Lampard?] in accordance with the request made by him.

[Biggs]

2 August 1872
Mr L. Egan
Tarpeena
Sir,
You are requested to supply to Mr Grist on application, the undermentioned Stores for issue to the Aborigines at Mount Burr from the stores you have on hand:
- 400 lbs Flour
- 40 lbs Sugar
- 5 lbs Tea

[Biggs]

Mr Grist
Mt Burr
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that Mr Egan, of Tarpeena, has been instructed to supply to you, on application, the following stores for issue to the Aborigines in the neighbourhood of Mt. Burr, viz.:
- 400 lbs Flour
- 40 lbs Sugar
- 5 lbs Tea
- 3 Serge shirts & 12 yds Serge will be forwarded to him for delivery to you.

[J.H. Biggs]

Illegible.

5 August 1872
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
Application having been made to the Government by the Revd. ? Parr on behalf of an Aboriginal near Mt Wedge, who fell from a horse while travelling as a witness in your company and was thereby crippled – which circumstance you are probably acquainted with, I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to request you will afford him such relief as you can by sending rations to him. Any expenditure needed to carry this out will of course be borne by this Department.

[Biggs]
213
12 August 1872
J.P. Buttfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has approved of the reopening of the depot for the issue of stores to the Aborigines at Umberatana, as recommended in your letter of 19th ultimo, and that a supply will be forwarded to Mr Handtke as soon as the necessary information has been received from him as to the manner in which the stores are to be managed.
A fresh supply of Stores has been sent to Mr Chapple of Nilpena and instructions have been given to Messrs Tassie & Co. of Port Augusta for their speedy delivery at their proper destination. Those originally intended for Nilpena, and which have reached you have been entered as supplied to Blinman Depot.

[Biggs]

214
13 August 1872
Mr H.J.C. Handtke
Beltana
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, on the recommendation of Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has approved of the reopening of a depot for the issue of stores to the Aborigines at Umberatana under your charge and you are requested to be good enough to inform me how the Stores are to be conveyed to you in order that a supply may be forwarded as soon as possible.

[Biggs]

215
15 August 1872
Mr L. Egan
Tarpeena
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, as it is considered desirable that no inducement should exist for the Aborigines to visit public houses, it has been determined to place the Stores at Tarpeena under the charge of Mr C.T. Shepheard. You are therefore requested to deliver to him all articles you have on hand belonging to this Department and to supply him with a statement of the issues ... during the current month to enable him to fill up the necessary return.

[Biggs]
15 August 1872
Mr C.T. Shepheard
Tarpeena

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 27th ultimo’, addressed to E.H. Derrington Esq., M.P., that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has approved of the Stores for Aborigines at Tarpeena being placed under your charge and that Mr Egan has been directed to deliver to you, on application, those he has on hand.
You are requested to communicate with Mr Grist of Mt Burr and make arrangements to supply him from time to time with the usual rations .... For the few Aborigines entitled to relief in his neighbourhood. I forward by this post a parcel containing printed forms of return which are to be filled up on the 1st of each month and forwarded to this Office; also copies of the regulations relating to the issue of stores, for your guidance.

[Biggs]

15 August 1872
E.M. Derrington Esq., M.P.
Mount Gambier

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has approved of the Stores for Aborigines at Tarpeena being placed under the charge of Mr C.T. Shepheard as suggested by you in your letter of 29th Ultimo.

[Biggs]

15 August 1872
Mr Robert Grist
Mt Burr

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the depot for stores for the Aborigines at Tarpeena has been placed under the charge of Mr. C.T. Shepheard and that he has been instructed to supply you with rations &c for the relief of those natives in your neighbourhood who are entitled to it. I forward a copy of the regulations relating to the issue of stores for your guidance.

[Biggs]

16 August 1872
Mr T.D. Phillips
Arrowie

Sir,
In the Return for March last recently sent in to this office by you, you state the Natives at Arrowie are in want of Blankets &c; please inform me if the number forwarded to you (15) have been received and issued by you, and if any further supply is necessary.

[Biggs]
220
20 August 1872
Mr. T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
The Tender of Messrs Moore & Son for the supply of Eight Boats with copper fastenings, for the use of the Aborigines at Goolwa and McGrath’s Flat at £ 6. 10. 0 each boat, having been accepted, I forward herewith the contract for each of them to sign, which you are requested to retain until the work has been completed.

[Biggs]

221
20 Aug 1872
Messrs Matthew Moore & Son
Goolwa
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that your tender for the supply of Eight Boats for the Aborigines at £6.10.0 each with copper fastenings has been accepted, and request you will each sign the contract for the performance of the work, which has been forwarded to Mr Moriarty.

[Biggs]

222
20 Aug 1872
Mr Rowland Smith
Strathalbyn
Sir,
With reference to the tender sent in by you, for the supply of eight Boats for the Aborigines, I have the honor to inform you that the tenders of Messrs M. Moore & Son at £ 6. 10. 0 each boat, with copper fastenings, has been accepted.

[Biggs]

223
Similar letter sent to Mr John Nelson, Milang.

[Biggs]

224
Similar letter to Mr W. Gordon, Goolwa; ‘tender sent in too late’.

[Biggs]

225
9 Sept 1872
Mr. C. T. Shepheard
Tarpeena
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letters of 3rd and 5th Instant, that a supply of stores will be forwarded to you by the earliest opportunity for the use of the Aborigines at Tarpeena and Mt Burr; but, as some days will necessarily elapse before they can reach you, any cases of real necessity may be met by borrowing any articles required and repaying them on the arrival of the Stores – In future inconvenience if this kind may be avoided by our applying to this Office for fresh supplies early enough for them to reach their destination before those on hand become expended.

[Biggs]
226
9 Sept 1872
Mr. R. Grist
Mt Burr
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that a supply of Stores will be forwarded to Mr Shepheard by the earliest
opportunity for the use of the Aborigines at Tarpeena and Mt Burr, but as some days will necessarily
elapse before any can reach you any cases of real necessity may, in the meantime, be met by your
borrowing the articles required and repaying them on receipt of the Government Stores.
[Biggs]

227
30 Sept 1872
The Revd. Geo. Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you with reference to your letter of 12th Instant, that it will again be brought
under the consideration of the Government when appointments are being made under the Vaccination
Act.
[Biggs]

228
30 Sept 1872
L.P. Butfield, J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector Of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to forward to you a
copy of a letter from J.H. Angas Esq., M.P., in which he complains that no blankets have been received at
Arrowie for the use of the Aborigines during the two last winters and states that those intended for that
depot had been used by you. Fifteen Blankets were sent from the Office for Arrowie in 1871 and a
similar number in 1872 and the Commissioner desires you to explain the circumstances connected with
their disposal.
[Biggs]

229
30 Sept 1872
Mr Thos Fowler
Melrose
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 18th instant and to state that the advice you
seek should be obtained from a solicitor.
[Biggs]

230
30 Oct 1872
Messrs A.D. Tassie & Co
Gentlemen,
A package containing 15? Blankets, addressed to Mr T. Phillips was sent from this Office to Port Augusta
in March last to be forwarded to Arrowie, and, as I have been informed that it has not reached its
destination, you are requested to inform me what has become of it. A similar package was also
despatched for the same place on 7th instant with other stores.
[Biggs]
231
30 Oct 1872
Henry Snelling Esq.,
Kangaroo Island
Sir,
Your letter of 13th instant, reporting that the Aborigines Stores addressed to you had been landed at Kingscote instead of Middle River, has been submitted to Messrs J. Newman & Son who state that they have seen the master of the “Albert” and he admits to having acted wrongly and has promised to take the goods to their proper destination. Messrs Newman & Son ?? they would have sent the Stores by the “?Calais” had that vessel been about to sail for Kangaroo Island.

[Biggs]

232
30 Oct 1872
Mr A. Webb [Long Island]
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to the request made by you for Boats to be supplied for the use of the Aborigines at Long Island, that the balance available for “Provisions &c” for the Aborigines for the remainder of the current year will not allow of any Sum being expended in the purchase of boats.

[Biggs]

233a
9 Nov 1872
Corpl J. Dann [Milang]
Memo
Corpl. Dann is requested to state if the Aboriginal named “Coyappa”, returned by him as having been killed by gunshot, is the same person as “Dick Martin” whom P.T. Crofton has reported as having met his death in that manner – and should such not be the case, Corpl. Dann is requested to give any particulars of the accident which may have come to his knowledge and to state whether or not an inquest has been held.

[Biggs]

233b
9 Nov 1872
The Revd. Geo Taplin
Memo
Mr Taplin is requested to give the particulars of the accident [actually, a false report] which resulted in the death of the Aboriginal named “Redman”, [brother of Pompey Jackson and Benjamin Varcoe] entered in the Return for October, and to state whether or not an inquest was held to enquire into it.
12 Dec 1872
C.B. Young Esq.
Sir,
I am instructed to inform you, in reply to your letter of 5th ultimo, addressed to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands and asking that a different amount should be allowed by the Government to supply meat to the children in the Native School at Lacepede Bay, that it is not considered desirable to grant the request, as the funds at the disposal of the Government are very limited and, if an exception was made in his instance, similar applications would be made from other institutions which the vote for Aborigines would be unable to meet.
I enclose the account sent in to this Office by you.

[Biggs]

27 Dec 1872
J. Higgins Esq.
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reference to your letter of 7th instant, addressed to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands, that it is not considered advisable to establish a Depot for the issue of rations to the Aborigines at Port Victor or Encounter Bay, but when necessity arises, Mr Moriarty, the Issuer of Stores at Goolwa, will supply to the Police Trooper at Victor Harbour on his application such of the usual Stores as may be required for the sick and indigent natives in that neighbourhood.

[Biggs, now sub-Protector of Aborigines]

27 Dec 1872
Mr T. Moriarty [Goolwa]
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to the application made by the Clerk of the District Council of Encounter Bay for Rations to be issued to the Aborigines at Port Victor & which are referred to you for report, that it is not considered necessary to establish a depot at that place, that Mr Higgins has been informed that you will issue such stores as may be necessary to the police at Port Victor, on application, for the sick and indigent Natives in the neighbourhood of Encounter Bay.

[Biggs, SPA]

6 January 1873
Rvd Geo. Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 26th Ultimo’, that the Aboriginal alluded to by you has been committed for trial and is now in the Adelaide Gaol.

[Biggs, SPA]
8 January 1873
The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
I have the honor to report that Messrs Hay, Hann & Co, the contractors for the supply, during the current month, of 1600 blue blankets for Aborigines, have delivered at the Government Store half the number contracted for, viz.; 800.
Having inspected these and weighed several bundles of 20 each, I found that, in no case are the blankets equal in weight to the sample and in many instances they are deficient in size also.
The terms of the contract require that the blankets shall be equal and similar to the sample and the price is 8/6 ... against 6/9 paid for the same article in 1872.
The quality of the blankets appears ?? and the deficiency in weight it about 5? lbs in 20 blankets, which might ?? 80 lbs, while many of those measured were 6 inches short one way and 3 inches the other.

[Biggs, SPA]

9 January 1873
Messrs Hay, Hann & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to notify you that the Blankets for Aborigines delivered by you at the Government Store as portion of the number for the supply of which you have contracted, have been examined and it is found that in no case, are they equal in weight to the pattern, while, in many instances, they are deficient both in size and weight.

[Biggs, SPA]

15 January 1873
Mr Stephen Johnson
c./- Mr Chas Thorpe
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you in reply to your letter of 3rd instant enquiring if you can take up a Section of land in the Hundred of Hutchinson free of payment or by instalment, that there are no Aboriginal Reserves in the Hundred named, and that you can, if you wish, avail yourself of the present law regarding the acquisition of land.

[Biggs, SPA]

16 January 1873
The Revd. Thos Field M.A.
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the School books & material applied for in your letter of 13 instant were forwarded on the 14th instant to Miss Armstrong, Lacepede Bay.

[Biggs, SPA]
242
24 January 1873
J.P. Butfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor to remind you that the report of your late visit to the Aborigines’ depot in the Far North has not yet reached this Office, and to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has enquired why it has not been sent in.
[Biggs, SPA]

243
30 January 1873
Revd W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 13th instant, that the “Prima Donna” left Port Adelaide on 17th ultimo with the Aborigines Stores for Point Pierce on board, and the Captain states that he landed them on the morning of 31st Dec at the usual place and lit a fire to attract attention from the station.
I presume the Stores have consequently reached your hands before now.
[Biggs, SPA]

244
1 April 1873
Mr R. Bruce
Walleberdina
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 4th ultimo, that, when no issues have been made during the month, it is usual to send in the return showing that such is the case.
[Biggs, SPA]

245
2 April 1873
Corpl J. Field
Narracoorte
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 7th ultimo, that there is nothing in this office to show that any account for meat supplied to the Aborigines by Mr Riddle has been received during the last twelve months beyond those which have been passed for payment, viz. 20 May 1872 – 14/8 and 15 Feb £ 1.
[Biggs, SPA]
4 April 1873
Mrs C. Smith
[Mt Gambier]
Madam,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to the account sent in by you against the Aborigines Department for the maintenance of two adult half-caste females, Jane Carey and Annie McCullach, that, previous to my leaving Mt Gambier, I was informed that the first-named woman is married to a man resident in Victoria and that she is merely on a visit to this colony, and that the other has been working for wages and is now in Service, and, further, that she denies having been maintained by you for the period charged in your account.
Under the circumstances this Department cannot bear the cost of supporting these females and whatever amount may be due to you from them must be paid by themselves.

[Biggs, SPA]

8 April 1873
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co.
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that your Tender for the supply of one thousand and eight hundred blue blankets for the Aborigines, according to specification, at nine shillings and five pence .... (9/5) has been accepted; and that the usual contract and ..... will be prepared for your signature in a few days.

[Biggs, SPA]
4 April 1873
Sec: Crown Lands &c
Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands, that, in compliance with his instructions, I have visited the following places where depots are established for the issue of rations and stores to the Aborigines, viz.: Milang, Wellington, Goolwa, Lacepede Bay, Guichen Bay, Narracoorte, Penola, McDonnell Bay, Point McLeay, Swanport, McGrath’s Flat, Tarpeena, … ? …. ? five last named ? all the depots [are] under the charge of the police. At Milang [I found?] several natives encamped close to the township, there were but two sick amongst them and they were all well satisfied with the manner in which they wants and necessities were attended to by Corporal Dann. During the late harvest the able-bodied had been employed by the settlers and adequately remunerated. ?? children, which I examined, shewed that they had profited by the instruction they received

[249] at the school at Point McLeay – At Wellington there were but few natives present and these were chiefly old and infirm; they were camped about a mile from the township and seemed satisfied with the assistance they receive from the Government. Police Trooper Crofton experiences much difficulty in obtaining the conviction of persons who supply intoxicating liquors to the natives; there being no local court nearer than Strathalbyn a distance of thirty miles, and the delay which necessarily arises before a case is heard affording opportunity for tampering with the witnesses. Apart from the fact that they occasionally obtain liquor and then become troublesome, the Aborigines are generally quiet and orderly.

About thirty natives were camped in ? near to the township of Goolwa at the time of my visit. I those with whom I had an opportunity of conversing spoke in high terms of the kindness with which they were treated by Police Trooper Moriarty who had charge of the Stores. Many who are usually located at Goolwa had gone in search of game to the Coorong & neighbourhood where I met them subsequently. They were well provided and contented. The issues which have been supplied are very much ?? by the natives as they give them the ?? of obtaining food and game. Many of them ? pursue game and are very successful in killing wild fowls &c for their own use and for sale. Here, as well as at other places I explained to them the great danger of the practice which they, as well as many Europeans, indulge in, of allowing the hammer of a loaded gun to rest on the cap, showing them that in that state a gun was more liable to accidental explosion [illegible]

At Lacepede Bay several natives were encamped near the township and I found them … there were a few …… who required daily stores but the others now obtain fish generally for their support and some are employed by the settlers. A School for Native children is established at Kingston, and is supported by private contributions, the inmates receiving the ordinary ?? rations from the Government. The average number attending school is twelve, and those I examined appeared to have been carefully instructed. This is the only depot where I found the place for keeping the stores exposed to the weather, but a trifling outlay on the building will put it in a proper state.

There are but few natives present at Guichen Bay on my visit, and those I found and ?? with were not in want of any assistance and I may say the same with regards to Penola & Narracoorte. At the former place there was one man suffering from chronic liver complaint and required assistance, being unable to be employed on the stations.

When I visited Point McLeay, there were not so many natives as …. ? ….. because of their being about visiting their friends. This depot is under the charge of the Rev. Geo. Taplin, who is most ?? … [illegible] the condition of the Aborigines and the manner in which I have heard the natives speak of him and the Institution which he superintends shews that his efforts are duly appreciated. As natives from various parts flock to Point McLeay, there are generally many who cannot obtain a living for themselves and
must consequently be supported at the public expense. The able-bodied are employed in farm work and many of them reside in cottages belonging to the Institution. The chapel and School are both well attended and in various parts I have found evidences amongst the Aborigines of the advantages they had gained by a training at Point McLeay. The evils which existed until lately from the natives becoming possessed of colonial wine have abated, owing to the removal of the person who is supposed to have supplied them, from the neighbourhood.

At Swanport I found but three natives, one only of whom required relief.

At Swanport I found but three natives, one only of whom required relief. There is a portion of the natives frequenting Tarpeena, some at the time of my visit employed in the destruction of thistles and those to whom I spoke were quite satisfied with the assistance they received through Mr Shepheard, who appears to take much interest in their welfare.

No adult natives receive rations at Mt Gambier, but Mrs Smith has under her charge some half-caste children whom she educated and maintains, receiving payment from the Government. From the communication I made of the children, she appears to discharge her duties faithfully.

Subsequently to my visit to McGrath’s Flat I met several Aborigines belonging to Swanport and found that them well provided for and contented. During my time at the P.C. district upon the settlers as well as Aborigines themselves much useful information as to the latters’ requirements and the manner in which the rations and stores supplied by the Government are distributed, and although reports had reached me that pigs sometimes are kept upon the rations, I have not been able to discover that such is the case, and as it [illegible] ... The rations would have to use of the Aborigines and have in all cases found them to be of excellent quality. The natives themselves speaking most favourably of them. As all the natives on the Lake & river request made for additional canoes, and, I think it will be advisable, as far as practicable, to comply with the request, as the absence of suitable timber prevents the natives from furnishing themselves with boats and the possession of boats of description affords them the means of readily obtaining food ... and so renders them less dependent on the public for support.

[Biggs, SPA]

255
2 May 1873
Messrs Hay, Hann & Co.
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 8th Ultimo’ offering certain patterns of Blankets for the Aborigines for the ensuing year, that the Tender of Messrs Wills & Co for the supply of the required number at 9/5 ½ each had been accepted prior to the receipt of your letter.

[Biggs, SPA]

256
2 May 1873
Messrs Hay, Hann & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands has complied with the request contained in your letter of 15 Feb last, that you should be relieved of the liability to deliver the total 1600 Blankets contracted for, accepting the number supplied (1523) as a completion of the contract.

[Biggs, SPA]
3 May 1873
Mr Robt Grist
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 24 Ultimo’, that any ?? will be ?? to ??
the Aborigines stores at Tarpeena being properly disposed of, and that, on my present visit to that place,
I neither saw nor heard anything to lead me to suppose that they were not made proper use of.
-

13 May 1873
Mr P.T. Richards P.T.
Sir,
I have the honor to in you, in reply to your letter of 16th Ultimo, that G.W. Hawkes Esq., S.M. the Acting
Trustee of the Native Institution at Poonindie has expressed his willingness to receive the three
halfcaste boys attended to by you and states that they will be fed, clothed and educated at the
Institution without any cost to the Government.

16 May 1873
The Revd Geo. Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 8th instant, regarding the Blankets which have
been supplied to you for the Aborigines at Point McLeay, that the storeman who packed the bales is
positive that he put up 120 blankets; and, as you say that the packages do not appear to have been
opened, it is very difficult to account for the deficiency you speak of.  The weight of the blankets is not
necessarily 8 lbs per pair, as you imagine, the pattern blanket, in accordance with which the contractor
agreed to supply the number required not weighing 10 lbs but, as the blankets lose weight on arrival in
the colony, the manufacturers have made them to weigh more, in England, than the pattern.
The rottenness? seems to be owing to the Yellow dye and ?? in the pattern as well as in some of the
blankets supplied, for the current year, but the terms of the contract have been complied with and the
whole supply has been issued.  It will be well, however, in future, to abandon the yellow stripes &c as
they cannot be ?made without danger of injury to the material.

19 May 1873
Revd Geo Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter of 18 February, in which you suggest that
means should be adopted to restrict the number of dogs ?held by the Aborigines, that, as the Dog Act
specifically exempts them from its operation, they cannot be, legally, be interfered with but should it be
shewn that injury or annoyance to the public arises from the great number of apparently useless
animals kept by the natives, it will be desirable to take steps to have the Act referred to amended.

[Biggs, SPA]
16 May 1873  
W.H. Humphries P.T.  
Sir,  
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of 10th inst, that there is no objection to your giving a blanket to the Aborigines you allude to provided that by so doing, you do not … any other in …. Of if, in fact you must not give any direction as to who are the most worthy objects to receive blankets from the supply sent to you. The damages Flour is to be destroyed, an entry being made in the next monthly return to that effect.  
[Biggs, SPA]

30 May 1873  
Mr A. Webb [Long Island]  
Sir,  
In compliance with the request made in your letter of 26 instant I forward by this day’s post a supply of pens and paper for your use in connection with your duties as issuer of rations to the Aborigines. It is not usual to supply postage stamps from this Office, all letters posted unpaid being paid for on receipt. The thread and needles to which you allude have been recently forwarded to you.  
[Biggs, SPA]

4 June 1873  
The Hon. Secretary  
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association  
Sir,  
Mr. W. W. Hughes having represented that injury will result to the farmers in the Hundred of Baker and to himself, if the block of land about to be reserved for the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association …….. to remain of the shape at present proposed, I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner for Crown Lands &c to request you will be good enough to inform me whether the Association objects to the boundaries being altered as shown in the accompanying land in order to avoid inflicting the injury complained of by Mr. Hughes.  
[Biggs, SPA]

11 June 1873  
Corporal J. Field  
Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 4th instant enclosing a certificate by Dr Gunning that three bags of Flour received by you in May 1869 are unfit for food for the Aborigines. As the flour alluded to is, no doubt, quite good enough for animals, you are requested to endeavour to obtain, in exchange for the three bags of unsound flour, one bag at least of good seconds flour. This will be estimating the damaged article at a less price than pollard, to which it surely must be equal in value.  
[Biggs, SPA]
265
19 June 1873
G.W. Hawkes Esq., S.M.
Acting Trustee
Poonindie Native Institution

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that I forwarded to the Government a copy of the Report made to you by Mr. Holden, regarding the Wurley Natives of Port Lincoln District, which you were kind enough to give me the opportunity of tracing, and that the Honorable the Chief Secretary has expressed the great satisfaction which a perusal of it has afforded him.

[Biggs, SPA]

266
2 July 1873
W.R. Randell Esq
Mannum

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16th Ultimo’ enclosing an account for £ 7.10.0 the cost of a boat obtained by you for the aborigines at Mannum.

If you refer to my letter of 3 July 1872, you will find that the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c authorized the allowance of £ 10 to £ 12 in the purchase of Two boats, being at a rate not exceeding £ 6 each, at which price you stated they could be obtained, consequently as one boat only has been supplied and Messrs Moore & Son furnished exactly the same article at £ 5.10.0 to this department in October last, the sum of £ 6 together with the cost of conveyance (15/-) will be made payable to you at the Treasury.

[Biggs, SPA]

267
11th July 1873
Revd. W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce Mission

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you with reference to your letters of 4th and 5th instant, that every endeavour was made by Messrs Newman & Son to get the Stores for Aborigines landed at Point Pierce and as they saw no prospect of doing so they were forwarded via Wallaroo. I have again requested them to use every means to ensure the landing of the next supply at Point Pierce and have pointed out to them the difficulty which exists in getting them conveyed from Wallaroo. You may therefore feel assured that they will be forwarded by the direct route, if possible.

[Biggs, SPA]

268
14 July 1873
Mr A. Harte P.T.

Sir,
As application has been made by Mr. R. Lawson for the supply of blankets for Aborigines at Padthaway and as it appears from your letter of 9th instant that those recently received by you will not be required for issue at Penola for some time, you are requested to forward them by the earliest opportunity to Mr Lawson to whom I have written to that effect.

The account for cartage will be passed for payment when received at this Office.

[Biggs, SPA]
269

29 July 1873

Boats for Aborigines

Tenders will be received at this Office till noon of 16th August for the supply of fourteen boats for Aborigines to be delivered at Goolwa for Milang by 7th October next.

Specification may be seen at this Office, at Corporal Dann’s, Milang, and at the Police Station, Goolwa.

Tenders to be marked outside “On public service”, to be addressed to the Sub-Protector of Aborigines Adelaide and to have the words “Tender for Boats’ on the left hand corners of the Envelopes.

Neither the lowest nor any other Tender will, necessarily, be accepted.

[Biggs, SPA]

270

Specification for the Supply of Fourteen Boats for Aborigines.

Aborigines Office, Adelaide

29 July 1873

The boats are to be of similar make to those supplied by Messrs Moore & Son to the Aborigines Department in 1872.

Each boat is to be 4 (fourteen) feet long over all, not under 4 ½ (four and a half) feet wide and 18 (eighteen inches) deep; the ?middle range to be one inch in thickness of good seasoned yellow pine, the planking outside to be of the same material ¾ (three-quarters) of an inch thick. The floor also to be of yellow pine. Two thwarts to be in each boat, 1 ½ (one and a half) inch thick of yellow pine, the two ends to be of the same. Gunwales fore and aft to be 1 and 1/8 (one and one-eighth) inch wide of hard wood. Floor timbers & side timbers to be not less that 36 (thirty six) in number and of Stringybark. Ten (10) hard gum? To be in each boat, 2 (two) on each thwart, 2 (two) at each end to take the keel & up each ??rood?. Two iron ring belts in each boat, one at each end and the rising to be ?in place fore & aft under the thwarts to give strength to the timber & thwarts. Three boards to be worked inside, fore & aft, one for the ?Kilson and one on each side along the bilge. ?? to be made for mast & hole in thwart. The costs of tar with pitch, oakum &c to be applied after the work has been inspected and approved. The fastenings to be of copper throughout. Each boat to be finished off in a workmanlike manner to the satisfaction of the officer in charge of the Aborigines Department and the boats to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa by 7th October 1873.

[Biggs, SPA]

271

1 August 1873

Corporal Dann

Milang

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of the Specification for the supply of Boats for the Aborigines, Tenders for which have been called for by Notice in the Government Gazette of 31st Ultimo and to request you will afford opportunities to persons desirous of tendering, of making themselves acquainted with the conditions contained therein.

[Biggs, SPA]

272

1 August 1873

Mr. T. Moriarty P.T.

Goolwa

Same as above to Corporal Dann.

[Biggs, SPA]
5 August 1873
Mr P.F. Ingerson
Sir,
Referring to your letter of 21st Ultimo addressed to the Commissioner of Police, I have the honor to request you will give me the name and address of the person who will undertake the issue of blankets to the Aborigines alluded to by you and the route by which the package should be forwarded.  
[Biggs, SPA]

18 [?] August 1873
Mr. A. Webb
[Long Island]
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you in reply to your letter of 5th instant, that no remuneration is made to the persons who issue the Government rations to the Aborigines at the various depots throughout the colony.  
[Biggs, SPA]

15 August 1873
Revd W.J. Kuhn
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you in reply to your enquiry concerning remuneration to persons issuing the Government rations to the Aborigines, that, in no instance, is any payment made for such service.  
[Biggs, SPA]

9th September 1873
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your tender for supply of Fourteen Boats for Aborigines has been accepted, and it will be necessary for you to call at the Police station Milang, ?? an Agreement ?? has been forwarded to Corporal Dann.  
[New Sub-Protector: G. C. Hamilton]

9th September 1873
Corporal Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to forward to you herewith, form of Agreement to be entered into by Mr John Nelson of Milang, whose tender has been accepted for the supply of Boats for Aborigines. And to request that you will be good enough to obtain Mr Nelson’s signature to the Agreement, witnessed by you, and return same to me here.  
[Hamilton]
13th September 1873
Corporal Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 11th instant stating that Mr Nelson declined to sign the agreement in reference to Boats for Aborigines unless more time is allowed for completing the Contract.
In reply, I have to request that you will be good enough to intimate to Mr Nelson that he will be allowed one month’s extension of time, viz., to the 7th November 1873, for complaint his contract referred to.

[Hamilton]

17 September 1873
R. Barr Smith Esq
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 28th ultimo’ pointing out the desirability of obtaining rations for the Aborigines at Warrakimbo, and stating that your Manager there, Mr Chas Maslin, will undertake the distribution of such stores.
In reply I have to state that a depot will be established at Warrakimbo, for the Aborigines there, in accordance with your request.
A Supply of Stores with the necessary forms, instructions, etc. will be forwarded from this Office, on your furnishing me with particulars as to the most direct and economical route by which stores can be forwarded to Warrakimbo.

[Hamilton]

18th September 1873
Messrs J. Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to state that the Stores ordered to be forwarded on the 5th ult. to Mr W.R. Thompson of Wallianippie, Streaky Bay, for the Aborigines depot, have not yet reached their destination.
Mr Thompson informs me that he has received long since, the freight notes for all the stores ordered as above, signed by A. Munro of the “Freebridge” – I shall be glad if you will cause enquiry to be made in response to this matter, with a view to ascertaining why the above stores have not reached Mr Thompson.

[Hamilton]

22nd September 1873
Corporal Sullivan
Port Lincoln
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1st inst reporting the case of “Charley” an Aboriginal and his Lubra “Urley”.
In reply I have to inform you that I have had a personal interview with Mrs Cotton and the Native female “Urley” who appears to be a girl of about 12 years old. “Urley” informed me that she accompanied Mrs Cotton from Port Lincoln of her own free will, and that she prefers remaining with Mrs Cotton, to returning to Port Lincoln.

[Hamilton]
281
26th September 1873
Messrs A.D. Tassie & Co
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that a depot for Aborigines' Stores, having been established at Warrakimbo Run, about 40 miles from Port Augusta, the following stores will be forwarded to you by Messrs J. Newman & Son of Port Adelaide, and I have to request you will make arrangements to send these stores on to Warrakimbo by the most direct & economical route for returning wool drays.
Stores ??
1 Ton Flour
200 lbs Sugar
42 lbs Tobacco??

282
26th September 1873
Revd F.W. Cox
Acting Secretary
Aborigines' Friends' Association
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 4th inst, referring to the case of Mr J.A. Ophel of Point McLeay [Schoolmaster], I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your application for £ 60 5/- on behalf of Mr Ophel cannot be entertained, as it is considered that this amount should be paid from the annual vote of £ 100 from this Department to the Aborigines' Friends' Association.

283
31st October 1873
Corpl Field
Narracoorte
Sir,
In June last you forwarded to this office an a/c from Wm. Marshall for £ 1. 10/- for Coffins & Interment of Aboriginal “Jimmy” which was passed for payment in July last, and it appears have been since paid to Mr Marshall. On 3rd September last, you sent another a/c from Mr Marshall dated 30th Aug last, being for

Coffin for “Mr [Mt?] Barker Jimmy” £1.10.0
Digging ground for “” 10.0
Conveyance of remains from Cockatoo Valley to Narracoorte
£1. 0. 0
Total £3

The a/c was also certified by you and was passed for payment in September last, & has been paid.
I desire now to learn from you whether these two a/cs were for different Aborigines, or do they refer to the same “Jimmy”, if so, it appears that Mr Marshall has been paid twice for the Coffins &c.

[Hamilton]
3rd November 1873
Mr P.C. Sims
Nuriootpa
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst, referring to a balance of £ 80 3.7 represented to be due from this Office to the late Mr R. Moore.
In reply, I have to inform you that I am unable to say whether this amount is correct or otherwise, as no a/c has ever been forwarded to this office.
You had better furnish me with some particulars as to what the claim is for – such as date, ?? in full &c – perhaps the Police Trooper at Blanchetown can assist you in sending a proper a/c – as probably he received the stores which were carted by the late Mr Moore.

[Hamilton]

7th December 1873
Corpl Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inspect seven of the Canoes, which Mr Nelson, the Contractor, informs me are now ready, and if you find them built in accordance with Specifications, Mr Nelson can finish the necessary painting, Tarring &c at once, to enable these Canoes to be put in the water, when the remainder of them are completed. I shall probably go down myself and finally inspect & pass or otherwise, the whole of them.
P.S. It may be advisable for you to compare these canoes with one of those built by Mr Moore last year, as these were to be on same model &c.

[Hamilton]

7th November 1873
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5th inst., stating that seven of the Canoes for Aborigines now building by you, are ready for inspection.
In reply, I have to state that Corporal Dann of Milang, has been instructed to inspect the Canoes now ready and if his report is favourable, you can finish these Canoes and put them in the water.
I have also to remind you that the additional time granted to you for the completion of your contract has expired – and it will be necessary for you to have the remainder of the Canoes ready for inspection not later than the 21st of this month.

[Hamilton]
287
12th November 1873
Messrs J. Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
On the 16th October last I requested you to forward the following Stores to P. T. Crosland, Streaky Bay. I have just learned from Mr Crossland that only the Medicine and Tinware have reached him per "Grace Darling" – the other parcel of ?Drapery per "Gov. Blue" not having reached him yet. I shall be glad if you will cause enquiry to be made into this matter.
Stores referred to:
1 parcel Tinware
1 do Medicine
1 do Drapery &c

288
12th November 1873
Messrs J. Newman & Co
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
It is particularly requested that all accounts against this Department, for Services or Supplies, be forwarded to this Office before the 25th day of each month. No accounts will be passed for payment unless sent in within three months of the date at which the expense are incurred, except under special circumstances.

289
12th November 1873
Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your report of the 5th inst. concerning the Aborigines at Wellington, has been submitted to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c.
In reply, I have to state that the Honorable the Commissioner, while admitting the evils, does not see how additional or more stringent legislation can be devised to check the practices referred to in the Report. In this case the Police are zealous in the performance of their duty, and if the Magistrates impose a heavy fine when there is a case proved, it should deter offenders.

290
13th November 1873
Mr W.C.T. Shepheard
Tarpeena
Sir,
With reference to Mr Shepheard’s letter of the 1st inst, I have to state that cases of severe illness or accidents among the Aborigines, could be dealt with by sending them to the Assistant Colonial Surgeon at Mount Gambier, or to the nearest legally qualified Medical man appointed to attend the Destitute poor and Aborigines.
291
15th November 1873
Mr Robert Grist
Mount Burr
S.E.
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that a Depot will be opened under your charge, at Mt Burr for the distribution of Clothing & Rations to the Aborigines in that locality who may be entitled to relief.
I forward by this post, a parcel containing printed forms of Returns, which are to be filled up on the final day of each month and forwarded to this Office, also copies of the Regulations relating to the issue of stores &c for your general guidance.

[Hamilton]

292
17th November 1873
Messrs. S. Drew & Co.
Kooringa
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 15th inst – I have the honor to inform you that the a/c for £19. 6. 9 Cartage to Bimbowie, has been passed in the Schedule for the month, and is now payable at the Treasury.
I have also to state, that in future, it will be desirable that you should forward the Stores for the Aborigines at Bimbowie.

[Hamilton]

293
21st November 1873
J.H. Angas Esq., M.P.
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 12th inst, requesting that a supply of Rations may be issued for the Aborigines at Warrakimbo Station.
In reply I have to inform you that a Depot will be opened at Warrakimbo, under the charge of your Manager (Mr Chas Maslin) for the issue of Rations to those Aborigines in that locality entitled to relief.

[Hamilton]

294
30th November 1873
Mr J.S. Wood
Meningie
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22nd ulto, stating that owing to your removal from McGrath’s Flat you would be unable to continue the distribution of Stores at the Aborigines’ depot there.
In reply, I have to inform you that Mr Thomas McCallum has undertaken the charge of the Depot at McGrath’s Flat and you will be good enough to hand over to him all stores &c remaining in stock.

[Hamilton]
295
16th December 1873
Mr J. Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, that your offer has been accepted, to build Three Canoes for the Aborigines at £ 6. 10.0 each, to include the additional work I pointed out to you when at Milang on the 5th Inst. I have forwarded the necessary agreement for your signature, to Corporal Dann of Milang.

[Hamilton]

296
16th December 1873
Corpl Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 12th inst, stating that Mr Nelson had delivered the Fourteen Canoes for Aborigines and that they are ready for distribution. In reply, I have to inform you that Five of these Canoes will be retained by you for the Aborigines under your Charge at Milang & its vicinity, one to be given to the Native “Johnny Rankine” the remainder of the boats you will be good enough to forward as follows –

Five for Revd. G. Taplin, Point McLeay
Two for Mr J.E.D. Crofton P.T., Wellington
Two for Mr J.R. Ewens P.T., Blanchetown

I have written to Mr Nelson informing him that his offer to build Three canoes for £ 6. 10.0 each has been accepted & enclose agreement for his signature, which you will please witness & return to me.

[Hamilton]

297
16th December 1873
W.West Erskine Esq., M.P.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 22nd of June last I have the honor to inform you, that I have given instructions to Corporal Dann of Milang to supply the Native “Johnny Rankine” with one of the new Canoes, which have just been completed for the Aborigines belonging to the Murray and Lakes Districts.

[Hamilton]

298
20th December 1873
Mr J.R. Ewens P.T.
Blanchetown,
Sir,
The Tracing of native Reserves at Blanchetown ?? [illegible] by M. ?T. K. ?? letter of the 9th inst., is forwarded herewith – Section 46 is leased to Mr T. O. Smeaton until 30th June 1874. Section 42 is unleashed.

[Hamilton]
299
30th December 1873
Mr R.F. Morris, Corporal
Kingston
Lacepede Bay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 18th inst forwarding a/c from J.H. Smith for £6 for Three Coffins supplied for Aborigines at Kingston, I have to state that I have had considerable difficulty in getting this a/c passed, the charge of £2 for each coffin being considered too high – the money will be paid this time, but in future you will be good enough to have a plain deal coffin at 25/- provided in these cases.

[Hamilton]

300
3rd January 1874
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 2nd inst stating that you have 300 Blankets for Aborigines ready for delivery, I have the honor to suggest, that you will be good enough to have the 300 Blankets forwarded to the Government Store forthwith with the remainder of the Contract number viz., (1500), delivered before the 1st February next in Terms of your contract.

[Hamilton]

301
5th January 1874
Mr T.F. Sheppeard
Tarpeena
Sir,
In your “Return of Stores issued” in December last at Tarpeena, I see you make a note of having issued certain stores to Mr Grist at Mount Burr; it will not be necessary to do so in future, as a Depot has been opened at Mount Burr under the charge of Mr Robert Grist – to whom a supply of Rations &c was forwarded in November last.

[Hamilton]

302
5th January 1874
Mr Grist
Mount Burr
Sir,
Referring to your Memo of the 14th December last, received this day, stating that you have only received a part of the Rations I forwarded to you on the 13th November last, I observe that Mr Sheppeard of Tarpeena Dept, has sent you 400 lbs flour and 50 lbs Sugar, I presume to ?? these stores before he became aware your depot being formed at Mount Burr.
On the ?14th? November last, ½ Ton flour and 100 lbs Sugar were forwarded to you by Messrs J. Newman & Son from Port Adelaide. These stores ought to have reached you along with the Tea, Rice &c – which you acknowledge the receipt of – I shall communicate with Messrs Newman & Son to ascertain when & how they were shipped – you had also better enquire of the Agents at Mt Burr and request to this non-delivery of the flour & sugar.

[Hamilton]
303
5th January 1874
Messrs John Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
On the 13th November last, a supply of Aborigines Stores were forwarded to you for transmission to Mr Robert Grist of Mount Burr. I am informed by Mr Grist that he has received all the stores shipped by you, with the exception of

½ Ton Flour
100 lbs Sugar

Will you be good enough to inform me at what Port in the S.E. the flour and sugar were delivered.

[Hamilton]

No 304

305
8th January 1874
Messrs J. Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
On the 18th September last, ½ ton of seconds flour was forwarded to you for shipment to Miss J. Armstrong, Native School, Lacepede bay – Miss Armstrong informs me that the flour was “scarcely fit to eat and very unwholesome.”

I should be glad if you will, in future, call my attention to any inferiority in flour to be shipped by you from this Department.

[Hamilton]

306
13th January 1874
D. McKenzie Esq.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st inst., stating, that you had not yet received the supply of stores for the depot at Franklin Harbor, which were ordered to be forwarded to you in August last, I have the honor to inform you that Messrs J. Newman & Son were unable to ship these stores, as no opportunity offered for Franklin Harbor till the 30th Ultimo, when they were sent by the “Lubra”, and have I presume ? this reached your hands – Be so good as to examine them and let me know whether they have arrived in good condition &c.
The Blankets for your depot will be forwarded per first opportunity.

In future, it will be advisable to let me have early intimation of any stores being required at Franklin Harbor.

[Hamilton]
307
28th January 1874
Mr. E.H. Deane P.T.,
Wellington
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 20th inst, I have the honor to forward you herewith, copies of instructions for your future guidance in issuing Rations to the Aborigines, you will be good enough to file these and hand them over to your successor – when you are leaving the station –
I send back the “December” Return from your depot, as it requires some corrections – the number of rations should be entered on the particular day on which they were issued, and the totals entered in the proper column to shew how the 400 [ ] is made up – I enclose for your assistance the “November” Return made out by Mr Crofton – Be good enough to make out a fresh Return for “December” and forward both to this Office as soon as possible.

[Hamilton]

308
28th January 1874
The Clerk of the Local Destitute Board
Of Mount Gambier
Sir,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with the following information.
The Contract Price for Pauper Funerals at Mount Gambier for the current year – stating separately the charge for Coffins and that for the other expenses.

[Hamilton]

309
29th January 1874
Mr John Nelson
Milang
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 19th inst, stating your inability to finish the three Canoes within the specified time for the reason stated.
In reply I have to request, that you will be good enough to inform me when you are likely to be able to complete the Canoes.

[Hamilton]
310

30th January 1874
The Commissioner of Crown Lands &c

Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to bring under your notice the question of Blankets for Aborigines for 1875.
During the past year several complaints have reached this office in reference to the Blankets supplied for 1873-4.
It appears that the orange strips at each end and the broad arrow in the centre of these blankets, are produced by a chemical dye, which has been found to injure the fabric to such a degree, that the fabric to such a degree, that the blankets become comparatively worthless, after being a few weeks in use and exposed to the weather. I noticed this evil during my recent visits to various Depots.
I have been informed that the [311] cost of this distinguishing work, adds one shilling (1/-) to the price of each Blanket.
Before orders are called for the supply of blankets for 1875, I beg respectfully to submit for your consideration, the expediency of adopting, instead of the present style of Blanket, which might be banded, at the Government store, the banding could be performed by the Storeman at a cost of about Ten shillings (10/-) per hundred Blankets.

[Hamilton]

312

4th February 1874
Daniel Gooch Esq.
Bungaree

Sir,
In reference to the Annual issue of Blankets for Aborigines, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with a return of the number of Blankets supplied to the natives at Bungaree in 1873, to guide me in forwarding you a supply for 1874.
Will you also state whether Blankets, stores &c for “Parallana” are still to be forwarded via Bungaree, as on former occasions.

[Hamilton]

313

9th February 1874
Mr Jno Warwick
Angipena

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 31st ultimo, stating that you are unable to furnish formal detailed returns of issues of stores at the Depot at Angipena.
In reply, I beg to inform you that Clause 4 of the Instructions to Issuers of Stores at Aboriginal Depots require that the Monthly returns be regularly kept and forwarded to this office. I may also say that various Depots exist at Stations in the Far North, from which these Returns are regularly received.

[Hamilton]
314
11th February 1874
Mr J. Newman & Son
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have seen a report that the Schooner “Grace Darling” which sailed on Feb 6th last for Streaky Bay &c, has put back ?? and with lays? damaged; if this report is correct, will you be good enough to inform me whether the Aborigines Stores shipped in this Vessel, have been damaged – and to what extent – and were they insured?

[Hamilton]

315
16th February 1874
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that ?? of this date only Six hundred (600) Aborigines blankets have been received from you at the Government Store, and I have to request, that, you will be good enough to cause the remaining Twelve hundred (1200) blankets to be delivered without delay, as the greater portion of them have to be issued immediately, to ensure their arrival at remote Depots in the Interior, before the wet season commences.

[Hamilton]

316a
18th February 1874
Mr Wm Crossland P.T.
Sir,
This a/c is returned to Mr Crossland, expenses of this nature should only be incurred when certified absolutely necessary by a legally qualified Medical man, or a Justice of the Peace. Under the circumstances however, if a fresh a/c is forwarded for £ 1-, duly certified by the Special Magistrate at Streaky Bay, it will be recommended for payment.

[Hamilton]

316b
20th February 1874
Corporal Dann
Milang
Memo/
Referring to Mr Dann’s Memo of the 14th inst., relative to the three worn-out canoes at Milang, I have to state, that the Canoes in question may be given to the natives to use as firewood, but if there are any fittings in these Canoes or items worth likely to become useful in repairing other Canoes, Mr Moore had better take charge of and preserve such articles.

[Hamilton]
20th February 1874
Mr R. Grist
Tarpeena
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 2nd inst., I have the honor to inform you that, the Aborigines Depot at Mount Burr can be removed to Millicent, and I have to state that you will be good enough to inform me when the change has been made and also state the most direct route for forwarding Stores to Millicent.

[Hamilton]

25th February 1874
A H Landseer Esq., J.P.
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to state, that on the 12th January last, a supply of Aborigines’ Stores were forwarded to Milang for transmission to Mr. McLeod at Chowilla, River Murray, Inspector of Sheep, &c.
Mr McLeod, visiting on the 19th inst., states that these stores had not reached him. I shall be glad if you will be good enough to cause enquiry to be made and inform me when these Stores were shipped from Milang and by what Steamer.

[Hamilton]

28 February 1874
Blankets for Aborigines

Sealed Tenders will be received at this Office, up to noon of the 21st March for the supply of One Thousand Eight Hundred (1800) Blankets for Aborigines. Each Blanket must be Seven (7) feet long by five (5) feet 6 (6) inches wide, and must weigh not less than four (4) pounds.
The Tender must be accompanied with sample blankets, which may be white, grey or black.
The Sample of Blankets for which tenders are accepted, will be retained by the Government.
Delivery to be made at the Government Store, North Terrace, during January 1875. Each tender to be marked on the envelope “On Public Service.” With the words “Tender for Blankets” in the corner.
The Tender will not necessarily be accepted,

[Hamilton]

3rd March 1874
Mr A.H. Florance
Millicent
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 27th Ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that your offer to undertake the distribution of the Aborigines’ Stores at Millicent has been accepted.
Mr R. Grist has been written to, and instructed to hand over to you, all stores, instructions &c now in his possession.
Will you be good enough to inform me, whether ½ ton of Flour and 100 lbs Sugar, forwarded to Mt Burr in November last, have yet been received at the Depot.

[Hamilton]
321
3rd March 1874
Mr R. Grist
Mt Burr
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honor to inform you, that the Aborigines Depot at Millicent has been placed under the charge of Mr A.H. Florance, and I have to request, that you will be good enough to transfer to him, all Stores, Instructions, &c/ that are in your custody. [Hamilton]

322
7th March 1874
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to remind you, that considerable delay has occurred on your part, in completing the three Canoes for Aborigines, and it will be necessary for you to take immediate steps to have them finished ready for inspection; without any further loss of time. [Hamilton]

323
9th March 1874
Mr Hy Humphries P.T.
Border Town
Sir,
Perceiving from your last few Returns of the .... That the quantity ... blankets? &c? is more than sufficient for .... their wants, I have to request that you will be good enough to cause 100 lbs of Sugar to be forwarded to Corporal J. Field of Narracoorte, for the use of the Aborigines Depot at that place. In your next monthly Return be good enough to make a note that 100 lbs of Sugar was transferred to Narracoorte Depot. [Hamilton]

324
9th March 1874
Corporal J. Field
Sir,
Referring to your Remarks in the February Return for your Depot, states that the Sugar you have on hand is .... .... Owing to having been at the Depot a great many years, that I have instructed P.T. Humphries of Border Town to forward to you 100 lbs of Sugar, he having a larger stock at that Depot than is required.
You will be good enough to acknowledge receipt of the Sugar when it has arrived at Narracoorte and forward the a/c for cartage duly certified &c. [Hamilton]
11th March 1874
D. McKenzie Esq.
Franklin Harbor
Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo, stating that you had only received one parcel of Tinware for the Aborigines at your Depot, and that the Blankets, Blue Shirts &c &c had not come to hand, I have the honor to inform you that, on making enquiry, I learn from Messrs. Newman & Son, Govt Shipping Agents at Port Adelaide, that they were not aware of the “Lubra”’s intention of calling at “Arno” Bay till within half an hour of her sailing and it appears owing to some omission on the part of Messrs Newman, the goods referred to were not forwarded. They will be sent however by first opportunity – and if you know of such, advise me to that effect.

[Hamilton]

13th March 1874
Revd W.J. Kuhn

Memo/
The Stores Return from Point Pierce Depot or February last shows a balance on hand of Flour of only 1460 lbs instead of 3460 lbs.
In December last 4000 lbs flour were forwarded to Point Pierce Depot.
Will Mr Kuhn be good enough to look into the matter and furnish some explanation in the next monthly Return for his Depot.

[Hamilton]

17th March 1874
Messrs A. R. Ewens
     W.J. Walker
     B. Morris

Gentlemen,
I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c, to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th December last, recommending Medical services rendered by Mrs D. McAdam to sick and infirm Aborigines at Coolaloo, for consideration.
In reply, I have to inform you, that the Honorable the Commissioner is unable to comply with your request, as a Depot exists at Kingston for the relief of Aborigines, and their medical wants are, when necessary, attended to by Dr. Britton of that place.

[Hamilton]

17th March 1874
Messrs Wills & Co

Gentlemen,
I have the honor to remind you, that a balance of the Contract number of Blankets (1800) for this Department, amounting to 322, has not yet been delivered to the Government Store, and as there are some urgent requisitions still on hand, I have to request that you will be good enough to cause the remainder of the blankets to be delivered without delay.

[Hamilton]
329
17th March 1874
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 28th ultimo, applying for Canoes for the use of the Aborigines at Long Island Depot, I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of Two Canoes being procured for that purpose. Early steps will be taken to have these Canoes built and forwarded to their destination. [Hamilton]

330
19th March 1874
J.H. Angas Esq., M.P.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st December last, and of the 11th and 6th inst., applying for the establishment of an Aboriginal depot at Stuart’s Creek, Far North, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that he is unable to accede to your request, as the number of Depots now existing are sufficient for the requirements of the Natives in the Far North. The Commissioner has approved of your application for a supply of Blankets, which will be forwarded at once, addressed to your Storekeeper (Mr John Canham) at Stuart’s Creek. [Hamilton]

331
20th March 1874
W.L. Beare Esq
Clare
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 12th inst, applying for the establishment of an Aboriginal depot at Clare, I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that he is unable to comply with our request, as Depots exist at Bungaree and at Bundaleer, and the few natives residing at Clare could obtain relief from the former of these Depots. The Honorable the Commissioner has approved of your application for Blankets, and they will be forwarded without delay. [Hamilton]

332
21st March 1874
Mr J. K. Bors
Mount Gambier
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to request that you will be good enough to inform me, whether the Aboriginal “Edward Blucher” is still in occupation of the Northern portion of Section No. 104, Hundred of Mingbool. [Hamilton]
23rd March 1874
Mr T. Moriarty P.T., Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 14th inst., forwarding a/c of £ 4 from Messrs Usher & Dowland, for the Burial of Aboriginal “George Bennett”, I have by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to inform Messrs Usher & Dowland that the Contract price of Aboriginal and Destitute funerals &c in Adelaide is £ 1. 2. / - with 1/- per mile for conveyance when over 2 miles from General Post Office.
This Department will pay one half (£ 2) of the account referred to leaving the Goolwa Corporation to settle the other.
Note: a/c returned herewith.

[Hamilton]

25th March 1874
H.C. Hawson Esq
Hill Plain
Deniliquin NSW
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 14th inst, with regard to the Native woman “Fanny” alias “Kulchillia” I have the honor to inform you that she arrived at Port Adelaide on the 20th inst, and was so ill, that on landing, she had to be removed to the Adelaide Hospital, where she died on 23rd inst., the cause of death being “Phthisis.”
Arrangements had been made for her free passage to Port Lincoln by this Department.

[Hamilton]

26th March 1874
The Steward
Adelaide Hospital
Sir,
Referring to your communication of the 23rd inst, as to the disposal of clothing left by the Aboriginals “Fanny Brown” and “Fred. Gordon”, who died in the Adelaide Hospital on the 23rd inst, I have the honor to inform you that the Clothing had better be retained at the Hospital for a time, as it may be applied for by next of kin to the deceased; in the event of its being unclaimed, it might be handed over to any Aboriginals who may require clothing in their discharge from the Hospital.

[Hamilton]

2nd April 1874
Messrs A.D. Tassie & Co
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
On the 7th January last, a supply of Stores for Aborigines Depot at Mundowadana were forwarded by Messrs Newman & Son via Port Augusta. Mr J.W. Merritt, the issuer of Stores at Mundowadana, writing on the 12th Ultimo, informs me that the Stores have not yet reached their destination. Will you be good enough to let me know whether they have been despatched from Port Augusta.
It is very desirable that all Aborigines Stores – especially the Blankets – should reach the more remote Depots in the Far North before the wet season commences.

[Hamilton]
8th April 1874
Mr Wm Smith
L-Corporal of Police
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 31st Ultimo, applying for Rations &c on behalf of the Aboriginal “Emily Rankine” – I have the honor to inform you that as this woman appears unable to procure her subsistence, it will be desirable that she should be forwarded to the nearest Depot – viz. Bungaree, or to any other Depot where her friends reside, at which she would receive the necessary rations and Assistance.

With regard to her request for a free pass on railway, to visit the townships on the line – I require some more information as to the object of this travelling.

[Hamilton]

8th April 1874
Mr Wm Crossland P.T., Streaky Bay
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo, applying for repairs to Aborigines Boat at Streaky Bay Depot, and stating that the cost of such repairs would be 15/- (fifteen shillings) In reply, I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands & to convey to you his authority to incur an expenditure not exceeding 15/- (fifteen shillings) for repairing the Boat referred to.

You will be required to certify that the work have been performed in a satisfactory and workmanlike manner, when forwarding the a/c to this Office.

[Hamilton]

8th April 1874
Corpl Shaw
Overland Corner
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, stating that the balance of flour now on hand at your Depot was unfit for human use, and that the Natives do not want to take it. As the flour referred to is doubtless good enough for animals, you are requested to endeavour to obtain for every three bags of the unsound flour, one bag of good seconds flour, this will be estimating the damaged article at a less price than pollard, to which it must be equal in value.

[Hamilton]

8th April 1874
Mr H. Turpin
Crystal Brook
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st inst., applying for a supply of Returns &c for the Aborigines at Crystal Brook, I have the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c, to inform you that a supply of stores were forwarded to you on the 8th April 1873 and that since that date, the usual monthly returns of stores issued have never been received in this office, and I have to remind you that Rations &c can only be supplied in cases where the issuer will undertake to furnish regularly the necessary returns to this office.

[Hamilton]
341
10th April 1874
Mr A.H. Florance
Millicent,
Sir,
I reply to your letter of the 6th instant, requesting a supply of “Strong Duck of Twill” for Trowsers for male Aborigines – I have the honor to inform you that the Government do not supply these articles of dress to Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

342
B. Additional

Blankets for Aborigines

15th April 1874
Sealed Tenders will be received at this Office, up to noon of the 8th of May next ensuing, for the supply of one thousand eight hundred (1800) Blankets for Aborigines.
Each Blanket must be seven (7) feet long, by five (5) feet, six (6) inches wide, and must weigh not less than four (4) pounds.
The Tenders must be accompanied with sample blankets, white or blue.
The sample of blankets for which a tender is accepted, will be retained by the Government.
Delivery to be made at the Government Store, North Terrace, during January 1875. Each tender to be entitled on the Envelope “On Public Service” with the words “Tender for Blankets” in the corner.
No Tender will necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

343
15th April 1874
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that on the 14th instant, I examined the three Canoes, built by you at Milang for the Aborigines Department.
I found that all the Canoes leaked considerably, the planking not having been joined together close enough and the caulking appears defective; one of the Canoes shows a fractured plank, which should have the piece cut out, and replaced by sounder timber, in some places the gunwales do not consist of one piece of timber from end to end, where this occurs, the edges or ends should overlap to form a strong joining.
Corporal Dann will point these defects out, and show you what will require to be done before the Canoes can be passed.

[Hamilton]
344
16th Murray 1874
Messrs D. & W. Murray
Gentlemen,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your Tender for the supply of Blankets for Aborigines for 1875, has not been accepted. The Sample Blankets left at this Office, can be obtained on application. [Hamilton]

345
16th April 1874
Messrs Hay, Hann & Co
Identical letter to 344 [Hamilton]

346
17th April 1874
Revd George Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd inst, on the subject of the recent assault on P.T. Moriarty – by the Goolwa natives &c, I have to inform you, that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands fully concurs with the sentiments expressed by you, and as the assault on the Police Trooper was a most aggravated one, the Commissioner thinks the prisoners should be made to serve the full terms of imprisonment awarded for this offence. [Hamilton]

347
20th April 1874
Mr Henry Snelling
Kangaroo Island
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, stating that you had not yet received the Aborigines Stores forwarded for you on the 25th November last, I have to state that instructions were given by me when ordering these stores to have them sent to the Port without delay, but it appears they had not arrived there when the vessel sailed, and no opportunity has since offered to forward them. The “Albert” is the only vessel that goes regularly to Kangaroo Island but her Captain will not take these goods, as he does not go near your residence [at Middle River]. I have requested Messrs J. Newman & Son to forward by the first opportunity occurring. [Hamilton]

348
23rd April 1874
Corporal Shaw
Overland Corner
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 21st inst, with reference to the exchange of the damaged Aborigines’ flour at Overland Corner, I have the honor to in you, that the arrangement proposed by you may be carried out and you will be good enough to make a note explaining the exchange of flour, in your next monthly Return. [Hamilton]
24th April 1874
Mr E. H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 20th instant, I have to inform you that the 70 Blankets for Aborigines at Wellington will be forwarded to that Depot on the 29th instant, by Hill’s Waggon – I was under the impression that that Blankets had long since reached Wellington – but found the Government Storeman forgot to forward them – The Fishing Lines (12) you will find inside the Bale of Blankets.
In reference to your application for Canoes for two old natives at Wellington, I have to state, that the Funds at the disposal of this Department for the current year, will not admit of any further expenditure in Canoes for the Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

25th April 1874
Corporal Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 23rd instant, will you be good enough to have the Three Canoes at Milang forwarded as follows –
2, for Mr T. McCallum – McGrath’s Flat (to be sent by Kruse)
1, for Mr Taplin, Pt McLeay (by first opportunity)
Mr Nelson’s a/c for these Canoes will be passed in the Schedule for this month –
I will forward in a few days, Copy of agreement for him to sign for building the two Canoes referred to in your letter.

[Hamilton]

28th April 1874
Mr Saml Penny
Border Town
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, applying on behalf of a number of the Tatiara Aboriginals, for Sections of land for their own use, I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to furnish him with the following information relative to your application –
1 The names or number of the Natives who wish to have land;
2 Where this land is situated [and] whether in separate blocks or together and [very faint] ... Surveyed or not.

[Hamilton]
352
29th April 1874
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to remind you that your Report on the Aborigines in the Far North for 1873 has not yet reached this office, and to request that, you will be good enough to forward it at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]

353
30th April 1874
Mr T. McCallum Jnr
McGrath’s Flat
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 28th inst, concerning the case of the Three Aborigines now lying under sentence of death in Robe Gaol, I beg to state that I have laid the same before the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c.
The best course for you to adopt, would be to forward a memorial to His Excellency the Governor, containing a statement of all the circumstances that could be urged in favour of these Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

354
1st May 1874
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, that I have forwarded to Corporal Dann, Milang, copy of Agreement for the construction of the Two Canoes required for this Department, and I have to request that, you will call and sign the same at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]

355
5th May 1874
Mr R.W. Tims P.T.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 27th ultimo, enquiring whether there is any objection to your supplying the Aborigines with guns and ammunition, I have the honor to inform you that, under the circumstances to which you allude, and with a view to prevent any misunderstanding arising from your action, it will be desirable that you should abstain from the practice referred to, and leave the Natives to make their own arrangements with private persons for the purchase of guns &c

[Hamilton]

356
7th May 1874
Memo/
The Revd. Mr Taplin of Point McLeay reports, with reference to the Aborigines Stores forwarded to him on the 9th April last, that the Sugar (500 lbs) was deficient in weight, as the Gross weight of all bags included, was only 500 lbs, also that the box of soap weighed 13 lbs, but when it was delivered it looked as if 3 or 4 bars had been taken out, & that the Boatman who brought it across the Lake in calling attention to this circumstance – said, it was in the same condition on its arrival at Milang.

[Hamilton]
The Revd Mr Taplin of Point McLeay reports with reference to the Aborigines Stores forwarded to him in April last, that a box containing soap looked as if 3 or 4 bars of soap had been taken out of it, and that the boatman who brought it across the Lake in calling Mr Taplin’s attention to it, said it was in the same condition when it arrived at Milang.

Will Mr Martin be good enough to state, whether this Box of soap was in the condition represented by Mr Taplin, on its delivery at Milang.

Thos McKenzie Esq
Local Court
Border Town
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th instant enquiring, on behalf of Henry Parsons, who has married an Aboriginal, whether he could procure a Section of land from the Government – I have the honor to inform you that Parsons had better forward an application to this office, stating where the section of land is situated – when he wishes to have, and all further particulars relating thereto.

Revd George Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th instant, acknowledging receipt of Aborigines Stores, and stating that the Sugar and Soap were deficient in weight, I have the honor to inform you that, I have made enquiries into the matter with the following result,

The Govt Storekeeper reports, that, the articles referred to, were all weighted in the Govt Store before they left, and were without exception, full weight.

The Carrier, Martin, produced to me the weight from Mr Landseer, showing, that the full quantities of Stores were delivered at Milang – with the exception of a few pounds of rice which it appears were short, owing to the chafing the bags received on the waggon.

W.R. Thompson Esq.
Wallianippie
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Return of Stores issued to the Aborigines during April last, and with reference to your request for a fresh supply of Stores, I beg to remind you that the annual supply of stores to Wallianippie, has hitherto been Three Tons of Flour with a proportionate quantity of Tea, Sugar, &c., and the Funds at the disposal of this Department will not admit of any increase of stores for Wallianippie, consistently with the claims of other Depots.

A supply of Stores will be forwarded to you by next vessel, for issue during the remainder of the current year.
361
20th May 1874
Messrs D. & W. Murray
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you, that your tender has been accepted for the supply of 1800 Blue Blankets, as per sample, No. 7 @ 7/6 each, in terms of Gazette Notice of Call for Tenders for Blankets for Aborigines for 1875, dated the 15th April 1874.
The Sample Blankets left at this office can be obtained on application, with the exception of No. 7 which will be retained by the Government.

[Hamilton]

362
20th May 1874
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that your Tender for the supply of Blankets for Aborigines for 1875 has not been accepted.
The sample Blankets left at this office can be obtained on application.
Copies to other Tenderers.

[Hamilton]

363
21st May 1874
Mr T. McCallum Jnr
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 28th April last, on behalf of the Three Aborigines lying under sentence of death in Robe Gaol for Murder, I have the honor to inform you, that His Excellency the Governor in chief has been pleased to exercise his prerogative of mercy in their case, and the sentences have been commuted to imprisonment for Two years, with hard labor.

[Hamilton]

364
Duplicate of 363

365
4th June 1874
N. Oldham Esq
Hon. Treasurer
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that £ 1800 being the balance and last instalment of the Grant in Aid to the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association, for the financial last year ending 30th June inst., and be included in the Schedule of a/cs for the Current ?? but before this item can be passed, the Auditor General will require some evidence of the performance of the conditions on which this Grant is paid.
Should you be unable to furnish a half yearly Balance Sheet, a statement may be forwarded signed by yourself & the Chairman, showing that if not actively in hand, the required amount is available as hereto.
In future, I would be desirable to obtain an alteration in the financial year of the Association, to make it accord with the Government year.

[Hamilton]
366
5th June 1874
Mr A. Webb
Long Island
[Too fragile to copy]

367
5th June 1874
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Memo/
In the “May” Return for Goolwa, Mr Moriarty wrote, that the Bale of Blankets forwarded in February last, on being opened on the 1st May ?? were found to contain only 94 Blankets instead of 100, I find on enquiry that all the other Bales contain 100 Blankets, In this instance, an original Bale was forwarded to Goolwa without being opened and examined at the Govt Store prior to its dispatch, before calling upon the Contractors for Blanket to make good this deficiency, I wish to have a statement from Mr Moriarty – as to whether he counted the Blankets carefully before their issue, and is positive about the Bale containing only 94.  

[Hamilton]

368
5th June 1874
Mr John Watts
Stockport
Sir,
Referring to the remarks in your “April” Return, stating that you are about to leave Stockport, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that the Depot at Stockport will be closed, and you will be good enough to inform any of the Natives, who may be about Stockport, that for the future, their Blankets & Rations will be obtainable at Bungaree, where a Depot exists for the Clare District.

[Hamilton]

369
8th June 1874
G.C. Hawker Esq
Bungaree
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 4th inst, applying for Rations for Aborigines at Bungaree, I have the honor to inform you that a supply will be forwarded to Bungaree and your Manager there (Mr Gooch) will be duly advised of their dispatch.

[Hamilton]
370
12th June 1874
Messrs A.D. Tassie & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to state, that I have just learned from letters received from Mount Freeling and Blanchewater, dated 1st instant that the Blankets for Aborigines, which were forwarded from Adelaide in February last, to those Depots, had not reached their destinations.
Will you be good enough to inform me whether these Blankets have yet left Port Augusta, & if so – the date of their despatch.

[Hamilton]

371
16th June 1874
Mr A.J. Florance
Millicent
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 4th inst, enquiring whether Coffins can be supplied for Aborigines, I have the honor to inform you that when necessary, Coffins may be obtained, but they must be of the plainest description, and for Adults at a cost not exceeding One pound five shillings (£ 1. 5. 0).

[Hamilton]

372
18th June 1874
Thos Wilson Esq., J.P.
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your letter of the 9th inst, addressed to the Hon Attorney General in reference to the case of the Tasmanian Female Native in Kangaroo Island, has been submitted to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands. And in reply, I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to state, that Mr H. Snelling of Middle River has hitherto had charge of the Aborigines in Kangaroo Island and is supplied with Rations, Blankets &c for their use.
I have written to Mr Snelling to ascertain whether he is willing to continue to look after this native woman and if he declines to act in future – the Stores &c could be transferred to you, or any person commended by you, who would undertake this duty.

[Hamilton]

373
18th June 1874
Mr H. Snelling
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, Mr Thos Wilson J.P. of American River, Kangaroo Island, in forwarding the certificate of the death of the Tasmanian female Native known as “Big Sall”, states that, Special Constable Bell reports that the Companion of “Big Sall” known as “?” came to his house on the 1st inst, and reported the death. Will you be good enough to inform me, if you are willing to continue to look after this Native woman, and supply her with the Rations &c forwarded to you by this Department.

[Hamilton]
22nd June 1874
Corpl Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to examine the two Canoes which will be brought by Mr Nelson to Milang about this date, and report to me whether the following work has been duly completed.
Each Canoe to have had two coats of tar, with pitch, oakum &c and be properly watertight &c
Three bottom boards to be properly fitted inside each Canoe –
You will then be good enough to take delivery of the Canoes, and have them forwarded addressed as under:
  Mr Arthur Webb
  Long Island
  Murray Bridge.

Hamilton

23rd June 1874
N. Oldham
Treasurer
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Sir,
Referring to my letter of the 4th Inst. (62/74) I have the honor to inform you that, as the present financial half year terminates on the 20th inst, it is necessary that the Balance of £ 150: Grant in Aid for the AFA, should be drawn from the Treasury on or before the 30th inst., to enable this to be done. May I request that you will be good enough to furnish the financial statement for the Auditor General – not later than the ?? 29th inst.

Hamilton

29th June 1874
Messrs A.D. Tassie & Co
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 17th inst., stating that you are forwarding the Rations on that date to the Mission Depot at Kopperamanna – but that the Blankets?? Had not arrived at Port August, I have to state that, on making enquiry at the Government Store & Messrs Newman & Son, Govt Shipping Agent – I find that the Blankets were shipped on the 4th inst. at Port Adelaide by “R. Shepherd” for Port Augusta, & I presume reached that Port on the 17th inst. – they were packed in a parcel shipped with an arrow [and marked] “Bale Sundries”.

Hamilton
377
1st July 1874
Mr H. Turpin
Crystal Brook
Referring to your letter of the 24th inst, forwarding a/cs for Freight, Wharfage, Cartage, &c of the Aborigines Stores for Crystal Brook, I have the honor to inform you that all a/cs against Government Departments should be accompanied with the necessary Vouchers to enable them to pass through Audit Office – will you therefore be good enough to forward many Cart notes, receipts &c in reference to the Stores in your a/cs.
You state, that you applied for payment some time ago for the Freight &c of the ton of flour forwarded in 1873. I can find no record of any a/c being received from you in this office.

[Hamilton]

378
1st July 1874
Mr James Allan
? St A’Beckett ?
Far North
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 20th ult., addressed to Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector, Far North, in reference to the misconduct of the Lake Hope Blacks, who ?? ?? in the habit of robbing the shepherds’ huts on their way to and from Caroona for Ochre, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that steps have been taken to forward a supply of ochre to the Mission depot at Lake Hope, with a view to keep these Natives in their own District, and avoid the evils alluded to.

[Hamilton]

379
7th July 1874
Mr A.J. Florance
Millicent
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 30th ult., in reference to persons supplying the Aborigines with intoxicating liquor, I have the honor to inform you that, it would be desirable to draw the attention of the nearest Police to cases of this nature, so that the necessary action may be taken for the conviction of the offenders.
With regard to your second question, as to the non-payment of Aborigines by persons employing them, I would state that the Natives should, before entering into service, have, if possible, a written agreement, clearly defining the nature of the service, terms of payment &c &c And should the employer fail to perform his part of the contract, an ordinary information could be laid under the “Master & Servants” Act – and the matter decided by Two Justices.

[Hamilton]
10th July 1874
Mr H.T. Smith P.T.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd inst, reporting the nonarrival of Aborigines Stores at Mt Freeling – and stating that you had ?? two bags of flour for the use of the Natives, I have the honor to inform you that the Rations have reached your depot. You can deduct the flour supplied by you ?? ?? in your Returns explaining the circumstances.
In reference to the delay in forwarding Stores to Mount Freeling, I have been informed by A.D. Tassie & Co. that they were obliged to detain these Stores for some months owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining means of transport to the remote Depots in the Far North.

18th July 1874
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Sir,
I have the honor to call your attention to an error that has arisen in forwarding Blankets to Venus Bay. It appears that on the 27th July last 4 ?? on order for Mr McLeod of Chowilla, River Murray, but owing to the Storeman at the Govt Store having misread this name, the Bale of Blankets were addressed to you & forwarded by the “Grace Darling” about the 18th March last.
Will you be good enough to state, whether you have received the 2nd Bale of Blankets, as I can find no entry in your letters & Returns to that effect.
In the event of their having reached you, they had better be retained, as your supply for 1875.

13th July 1874
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Sir,
Note ? sent – Moriarty
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst, forwarding sums herein, I have the honor to inform you that the correspondence bearing upon this case – has been sent to this office ?? who report that this action cannot be defended with any hope of success, inasmuch as no bargain was made as to the sum to be charged, under these circumstances this Department will pay the amount of Plaintiff’s claim with costs of ??, and I have to request that you will be good enough to forward to this office the undertaken a/c – certified by you as correct.
In future it will be desirable that, with regard to funeral charges for Aborigines, a bargain should be made in each case.

14th July 1874
Revd George Taplin
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., forwarding two Circulars relative to an enquiry into the System of Kinship among the Aborigines, and seeking the assistance of this Department in pursuing such enquiries, I have the honor to inform you, that steps have been taken to forward the Circulars in question, to Dr Milnes, Protector of Aborigines, Port Darwin, and P.T. Gason of Barrow’s Creek.
15th July 1874
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 14th inst, I have the honor to inform you that, there will be no objection to
the Natives disposing of their dead in accordance with their own funeral customs, provided the practice
does not become a public nuisance by damaging and fatally injuring the health of the white
community.
In cases where this evil is likely to be the result, it will be expedient that you should make the most
economical arrangement possible, to have the funeral performed in the usual way.

[Hamilton]

15th July 874
Mr G.A. Yorke
Collinsfield
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 13th inst, applying for Blankets for Natives at Collinsfield, I beg to state that I
can find no ?? of an annual supply of Blankets having been made to this locality as stated by you, except
?Broughton, to which place some Blankets were sent last year addressed c/- Mr Ferguson.
If those now applied for are for the Natives in Broughton, will you be good enough to furnish me with
particulars as to the direct route by which to forward the Blankets.

[Hamilton]

16th July 1874
J.P. Bullpitt Esq., S.M.
Sir,
Referring to your minutes of the 22nd ulto. and the 7th inst., on the subject of forwarding a supply of
ochre from ?Moona to the Lake Hope district with a view to put a stop to the Annual Migrations of the
Lake Hope Blacks to the southward, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of
Crown Lands &c to request that, you will make the best arrangements you can in this matter, for
forwarding the ochre, as it is very desirable that the Blacks should be kept from travelling through the
Country, and annoying the shepherds by robbing their huts, which may lead to loss of life.
The Commissioner will be glad to hear that this action will have the desired effect as if so, the money it
costs, will have been well spent.

[Hamilton]

13th July 1874
A McLeod Esq.,
Inspector of Sheep
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st inst., stating that the yearly supply of Blankets for Chowilla had not yet
reached you, I have the honor to state that the ?? Blankets were ordered for Chowilla on the 27th
February last, but, on enquiry at the Government Store, I find that the Storeman forwarded the Chowilla
Blankets to Venus Bay, having misread your name for Mr Clode, the issuer there.
Your Bale of Blankets will leave for Milang on the 15th inst., and be forwarded thence by Steamer to Cal
Lal, River Murray, by first opportunity.

[Hamilton]
27th July 1874
The Revd R.W. Holden
Poonindie
Sir,
I have the honor to state, that three Aboriginals from Poonindie, named “John Narup”, “George Unicombe” and “Peter Martin” have forwarded an application (through Mr G.W. Hawkes) to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c soliciting from the Government a Grant of Land each, of 40 acres, in the Port Lincoln District.
I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to say – that before the application can be entertained, the Natives will have to furnish full particulars, as to the exact situation of the land required by them –
Perhaps you will be good enough to communicate the substance of this letter to the three Natives in question. I understand they return to Port Lincoln – by Steamer, tomorrow.

[Hamilton]

3rd August 1874
Mr A.J. Florance
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 31st ulto, asking on behalf of certain natives, whether the Government would grant them a piece of ground as a Reserve for cultivation purposes, I have the honor to inform you that the Natives referred to will be required to select the land they wish for, and in making application, furnish full particulars as to site, number of section – if in separate blocks, or together, and whether surveyed or unsurveyed – An application should also be accompanied with testimonials certifying that they are sober, steady & industrious, and possessed of some farming skills &c.

[Hamilton]

3rd August 1874
A.D. Tassie % Co.
Memo/
By direction of the Auditor General, attention is called to the objectionable system of rendering accounts – adopted by several Firms transacting agency business with the Aborigines Department.
As an instance, A.D. Tassie & Co have entered parts of their February, March, and April accounts, in the month of May, and the balance of them in July.
This causes great waste of time in auditing the accounts, and multiplies the chance of their being twice? Presented/ for payment.
Messrs Tassie & Co are requested to prevent, as far as possible, any recurrence of the system complained of.

[Hamilton]
5th August 1874
The South Australian Carrying Co.
Memo/
By direction of the Auditor General, attention is called to the objectionable system of rendering accounts, adopted by several Firms transacting agency business with the Aborigines department. As an instance, the South Australian Carrying Co send in their March and April accounts before they have rendered those for January and February. This causes great waste of time in auditing the accounts, and multiplies the chances of their being twice passed for payment. The South Australian Carrying Co are requested to prevent, as far as possible, a recurrence of the system complained of.

[Hamilton]

10th August 1874
Corpl Dann
Milang
Memo/
Corporal Dann is hereby authorised to procure five loads of firewood for the use of the old, Sick and infirm Natives at Milang. The quantity of firewood already used for 1874 is considerably in excess of that supplied during previous years. It will therefore be necessary to impress upon the Natives, the necessity of their being more careful in future in using the fuel obtained from this Department.

[Hamilton]

13th August 1874
Mr A.H. Florance
Millicent
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 8th inst, asking, whether in the event of the Aborigines at Millicent obtaining a grant of land, the Government would furnish them with the necessary farming tools and implements, I have the honor to inform you that the articles referred to are not supplied by the government.

[Hamilton]

14th August 1874
Corpl Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 12th inst, on the subject of firewood for the Aborigines at Milang, I have the honor to inform you that the fuel supplied by this Department is for the use of the sick, old and infirm Natives only. With regard to the few able-bodied natives at Milang, I assume they derive some benefit from the use of the firewood supplied to the other Natives.

[Hamilton]
27th August 1874
Revd George Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 23rd ulto, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the

“Police authorities have been instructed to persuade the Natives to leave Adelaide, but that is all that can be done, no coercive measure can be taken to make them go into the country without infringing the liberty of the subject; the Natives live by ?? for the European population, and however much their positions, morally and physically, might be improved by their leaving large towns, they cannot be forced to do so, against their own consent.”

[Hamilton]

29th August 1874
The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
In view of the general Classification of the Offices in the civil service now about to be made, I have the honor respectfully to ask that you will be good enough to reconsider the proposed classification of the office of Sub-Protector of Aborigines at Adelaide.

In support of this request, I beg to submit that all the other Sub-Inspectors in the service are proposed to be placed in the Fourth and some in the Third Class. But the duties of these officers are not more onerous and do not ?? so many as are performed by a head of the Aborigines Department, who has the whole of the responsibility attached to the office devolving upon him, both as regards the expenditure of the Aborigines ??, the conduct of the general correspondence and inspection of Depots.

Under these considerations, I would respectfully suggest that I ought be placed in an equal position with the other Officers agreed to.

[Hamilton]

3rd September 1874
Mr T. McCallum
McGrath’s Flat
Sir,
On referring to your “August” return, I notice that an unusually large quantity of Rations has been issued during that month, and that most of the Natives who obtained relief are entered as being out of employment.

As the Government Rations are intended for the old, sick and infirm Natives, I have to impress upon you, that every precaution should be taken to give no encouragement to the idle or able-bodied, who should be in a position to furnish themselves with food in a locality where fish and game generally abound.

The shearing season now commenced will doubtless afford employment to many of the Natives in your District.

[Hamilton]
No 401

402
10th September 1874
Mr Robert Rodgers
Port Augusta
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 2nd instant, addressed to the Surveyor General, enquiring into the mode of application for a section of land for an Aboriginal named “Sam”, I have the honor to inform you that a request of this nature should be forwarded to the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide, giving full particulars and situation of the land applied for. The Applicant will also be required to furnish satisfactory testimonials as to the character and general fitness to cultivate the land.

[Hamilton]

403
10th September 1874
The Revd William Wilson
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ulto., applying for twelve muzzle-loading Enfield rifles for the use of the Aborigines at the Mission Station on Yorke’s Peninsula.
In reply, I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that the Government do not consider it desirable to grant this request.

[Hamilton]

404
11th September 1874
Mr R.T. Wilson
District Clerk
Point Sturt
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst., applying for Rations & Blankets for some Aborigines at Point Sturt, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that as a Depot exists at Milang (7 miles from Point Sturt) any cases of actual necessity arising among the Natives at Point Sturt and coming under your notice, may be dealt with by your communicating with Corporal Dann at Milang their wants, so that they may be relieved without delay.

[Hamilton]

405
11th September 1874
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 8th inst., stating that the repairs to the Native Canoes at Goolwa, have been completed, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that, you will inspect these Canoes, and, if you find that the repairs have been executed in a proper manner, and in every respect to your satisfaction, you will pass the work and forward me a certificate to that effect.

[Hamilton]
11th September 1874
D.C.F. Moodie Esq.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 11th ulto., relative to the case of three Aborigines who were found guilty of Murder at the sittings of the Circuit Court held at Robe on the 24th April last, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that, the matter has been submitted to the Law Officers of the Crown, who report that none of the Aboriginals referred to were admitted as “Queen’s Evidence”.

[Hamilton]

19th September 1874
G.W. Hawkes Esq., S.M.
Sir,
Referring to the application of the 24th ulto., from “John Narup”, “George Wincombe” and “Peter Martin”, three Aboriginals, ?soliciting from the Government a grant of land each, in the district of Port Lincoln. I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that upon careful enquiry into all the circumstances of the case, and after correspondence with the Superintendent of the Poonindie Native Institution, the Honorable the Commissioner has come to the conclusion to decline granting the application referred to.

[Hamilton]

8th October 1874
J.P. Buttfeld Esq., J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
Referring to your Telegram of the 21st August last, stating that the cost of forwarding Ochre to Lake Hope would be £39 per ton for not less than four tons, I am directed by the Honorable the commissioner to say that he is sorry he cannot sanction this amount.
Will it be possible during the ensuing Wool season to get the ochre carted at a cheaper rate?

[Hamilton]

19th October 1874
The Clerk of the Encounter Bay District Council
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., requesting that arrangements may be made for the issue of Rations to the Aborigines at Port Victor, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, it is not considered necessary to establish a Depot for the issue of Rations to the Natives at Port Victor, P.T. Moriarty, the issuer at Goolwa, will be instructed to forward temporary supplies to the Police Trooper at Victor Harbor, on his application, for the relief of such cases of necessity as may arise among the Natives in that locality.

[Hamilton]
20th October 1874
Revd George Taplin
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 8th inst., I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the Aborigines Department will pay for the burials of Heathen natives at Point McLeay to an extent not exceeding the cost of funerals of the Destitute Poor in Adelaide, as per Contractors' price list for current year, viz. – during 1874 –

- Adults - £1. 2. 0 each
- 14 years and under 0. 14. 0 each

[Hamilton]

29th October 1874
Mr H. Vogelsang
Kopperamanna
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that half (½) a ton of Red ochre has been forwarded to your depot at Kopperamanna for distribution among the Salt Water natives at Lake Hope.
The government have supplied this Ochre with a view to keep these Blacks in their own District and prevent their annual migration to the southward in search of ochre, which has led to frequent robberies at Shepherd's huts on the line of route and interference with the Aborigines in the settled districts.
You will be good enough to report to me whether the issue of this Ochre has led to the desired results, so that, if necessary, further supplies may be forwarded to Kopperamanna.

[Hamilton]

29th October 1874
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to in you that half (½) a ton of Red Ochre has been purchased in Adelaide, and forwarded to Mr Vogelsang of the Lutheran Mission at Kopperamanna, for distribution among the Salt Water natives.
I have also to request that, you will furnish Mr Vogelsang with such instructions as you may deem necessary for his guidance in issuing the Ochre.
You will be good enough to report for the information of Honorable the Commissioner the results of this experiment, so that, if necessary, further supplies of ochre can be forwarded.

[Hamilton]
413
18th November 1874
Mr James Bryant
Yardea
Memo/
The Returns from Yardea for the months of August, September and October, are returned herewith, and the attention of Mr Bryant is called to several errors appearing therein, which he will be good enough to have corrected.
It is necessary that these Returns should be correctly kept, and punctually forwarded to this office, and it has been decided by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c that those Depots neglecting to furnish such Returns shall cease to have Stores &c supplied to them for the Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

414
19th November 1874
Mr R. Bruce
Walleberdina
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 8th inst., intimating your wish to cease issuing rations to the Natives at Walleberdina, & asking if the residue of the Stores could be transferred to Warrakimbo, I have the honor to inform you that, as the quantity of Stores on hand at your depot is so small, they might as well be retained by you for the relief of any natives who may be in need of temporary assistance.

[Hamilton]

415
25th November 1874
Mr A.H. Florance
Millicent
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 31st ulto., I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that your resignation as Issuer of Aborigines Stores at Millicent from the 30th inst., has been accepted, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to transfer all stores &c now in your custody to Police Trooper P. Shiels, stationed at Millicent, under whose charge the Aborigines depot will be placed from the 1st proximo.

[Hamilton]

416
26th November 1874
Mr P. Shiels P.T.
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of crown Lands &c to inform you, that the Aborigines Depot at Millicent has been placed under your charge from the 1st proximo. Mr A.H. Florance, the present issuer, has been instructed to hand over to you all Stores &c in his custody. Copies of instructions for your future guidance in issuing the Returns &c herewith, also monthly Return forms in separate parcel by this Post.

[Hamilton]
417
27th November 1874
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Sir,
With reference to a supply of Stores now forwarded via Port Augusta for transmission to the Aborigines Depot at Yardea, I beg to inform you that, an arrangement exists between Mr Acraman and this Department for the cartage, free of charge, of these stores by the returning Wool drays belonging to the Yardea station and to request that you will in future forward the Aborigines Stores for Yardea in this manner.

[Hamilton]

418
1st December 1874
Mr P. McQuillan P.C.
Kadina
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 24th ulto, addressed to the Inspector of Police at Clare, and calling attention to the state of some Natives who require relief at Kadina, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that the Police trooper in charge of the Depot at Wallaroo, has been instructed to forward you a temporary supply of Rations &c for the relief of the Aborigines referred to.
In extreme cases of illness &c among the natives coming under your notice, they might be forwarded to Wallaroo by Rail, so that they could obtain the requisite Medical assistance at the Hospital there – and the a/cs for their conveyance, when properly certified, should be forwarded through the officer-in-charge of the Depot to this office.

[Hamilton]

419
1st December 1874
Mr James Hiern
Hollenberg?
Gawler Ranges
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 11th ulto, applying for the establishment of an Aborigines Depot at your Station in the Gawler Ranges, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that your request will be granted, provided you will undertake to relieve this Department of the costs of cartage by conveying the stores when your wool teams are returning from the Port of shipment.
The Issuer of Stores will have to comply with the usual regulations, a copy of which is forwarded herewith.
If you are willing to accept the Stores on these terms, be good enough to furnish me with full particulars as to route &c to enable a supply to be forwarded without delay.

[Hamilton]
420
10\textsuperscript{th} December 1874
Messrs Acraman, Main & Co
Gentlemen,
In reply to your letter of the 9\textsuperscript{th} inst. in reference to the question of Cartage of Aborigines Stores from Port Augusta to the Depot at Yardea, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands \&c to state, that your promise of the 29\textsuperscript{th} July 1871, to cart these stores, free of charge to this Department, will be considered as usual to imply only when your return wool drays have not sufficient loading, and under the circumstances? by you in your letter of the 9\textsuperscript{th} inst., you will not be expected to provide free cartage so long as the balance of loading is ?? ??.
I have further to request that you will be good enough to inform this Department, when you are again in a position to carry the Aborigines Stores, without cost or inconvenience for yourselves.

[Hamilton]

421
10\textsuperscript{th} December 1874
A D Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
Referring to the subject of my letter to you, dared 27\textsuperscript{th} ulto., I have the honor to request, that you will be good enough to forward by first opportunity, the Aborigines Stores now at Pt Augusta for Yardea Depot. The instructions contained in the above letter you will not act upon at present, as Messrs Acraman, Main & Co. have represented to this Department that having more loading for Yardea than their teams can carry, they are unable to take the Aborigines Stores.
It has been decided that the promise of Messrs Acraman, Main & Co to carry Aborigines Stores free of charge to Yardea, will apply only to those occasions when they can take the Stores without cost or inconvenience to themselves.

[Hamilton]

422
15\textsuperscript{th} November 1874
Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 12\textsuperscript{th} inst., in reference to the death by drowning of the Aboriginal “Benjamin Tippoo” near Goolwa on the 26\textsuperscript{th} ultimo, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands \&c to inform you, that the following verdict was returned at an Inquest duly held before Mr Goode J.P. — “That the deceased came by his death through falling out of his boat, the weather being very rough, and that it was purely accidental.”
It would therefore appear that no suspicious circumstances appeared in the evidence brought before the Jury.

[Hamilton]
16th December 1874
Corpl Dann [plus see 424]

Milang,
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that a party of Natives from the Milang District, who are named in the margin hereof, have been for some months loitering about Adelaide, and were recently committed for drunkenness and vagrancy. It has been decided to forward them to Milang on the 17th inst., and I have to request that you will do what you can to induce these natives to remain in their own district, and impress upon them that any repetition of the offences referred to, will render them liable to be imprisoned for longer periods.

In margin: John Nipper Mary jane Nipper Ellen Nipper
Henry Hunter
Jemmy?Jenny? Hackett Christine Hackett
Jimmy Scrubber

[Hamilton]

16th December 1874
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that a party of Natives from the Goolwa District, and who are named in the Margin hereof, have been for some months loitering about Adelaide, and were recently committed for drunkenness and vagrancy. It has been decided to forward these natives to Goolwa on the 17th inst., and I have to request that you will do what you can to induce them to remain in their own District, and impress upon them that any repetition of the offences referred to, will render them liable to be imprisoned for longer periods.

In Margin: Bob Thompson alias Newland Maria Thompson alias Newland
Martha Newland
Ann Dungar alias Lush? Luah?
William Young Amelia Young
Billy Bully

[Hamilton]
425
22nd December 1874
Mr P. Shiels P.T.
Millicent
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 18th inst., on the subject of Medical attendance for the Aborigines, I have
the honor to inform you, that the services of a Medical man should only be procured when absolutely
necessary in any case of serious illness or accident among the Natives.

[Hamilton]

426a
19/12/74
E.B. Scott Esq., J.P.
Superintendent
Yatala Labor Prison
With reference to the Aboriginal “Old Man Dick” and two others, I understand are to be discharged at
once, & you will probably get the warrant of release today – I will arrange for their passage to Robe by
the “Penola” on the 22nd inst., and also for Aboriginal “Billy White” by the schooner “Strathmore” to
sail on the 22nd inst., for Port Augusta.
If the two “Newlands” can be sent up to Adelaide, not later than the 24th inst., I will forward them to
Goolwa.

[Hamilton]

426b
7/1/75
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Referring to the remarks in Mr Dann’s December Return from Milang – that the “Natives complain they
cannot visit Adelaide to sell their leeches”, I have to state that there can be no objection to Natives
actually employed in this way, paying short visits to Adelaide to dispose of their leeches &c – but they
should understand that if found by the Police – hanging about Adelaide – in company with the white
vagrants – and get drunk – they will be liable to be arrested & sent to prison – furnish me with the
names of the Natives who leave Milang for this purpose.

[Hamilton]

427
7th January 1875
Thos McKenzie Esq.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th and 29th May last, applying on behalf of H. Parsons, who has married
an Aboriginal woman, for a section of land & stating that, Parsons had selected Sect. 20, Wirrega Area, I
have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that
as Parsons bears a very unfavourable character, the Commissioner cannot recommend that the
Selection should be allowed.
11th January 1875
J.H. Angas Esq., M.P.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., stating that the Aborigines at Stuart’s Creek are in a very destitute condition & suffering from Measles, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that a supply of Rations and Medicines have been ordered to be forwarded at once, via Port Augusta to Stuart’s Creek, addressed to your manager there, who will be duly advised of their despatch.

In margin:
- 1 ½ tons Flour
- 300 lbs Sugar
- 43 lbs Tea
- 10 lbs Tobacco
- 112 lbs Rice
- 112 lbs Sago?
- 1 Parcel medicine

14/1/75
L. Corpl Smith
Redruth
Referring to the case of “Emily Rankine” alluded to in your letter of the 13th inst., it is desirable that she should ?? be examined by your Local Medical Officer, and if he considers it necessary, you can forward her to Adelaide by first train. ?? advising by telegram, so that provision can be made for her removal, on her arrival in Adelaide, to the Hospital.
This woman appears to make a practice of coming to Adelaide – and during her last visit was found by the Police living on the Park Lands and was arrested and locked up for drunkenness & associating with white vagabonds about there.

22nd January 1875
The Revd G. Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 29th ulto, on the subject of the alleged murder of the Aboriginal “Benjamin Tippoo” at Goolwa, I have the honor by direction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that a very full report of all matters connected with this case has been made by P.T. Moriarty & that the Commissioner is fully convinced that Tippoo’s death was caused by drowning & not otherwise, & that there are no suspicious circumstances calling for police inquiry.

[Hamilton]
12th February 1875
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c request, that you will be good enough to forward at your earliest convenience, your Report in reference to the Aborigines in the Far North, for the half-year ended 31st December 1874.

[Hamilton]

15th February 1875
G. Addison Esq., M.D.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 1st inst., applying for the appointment of a medical officer to Aborigines in the Mount Gambier District, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that, you will be good enough to state, terms on which you will undertake the medical attendance on Aborigines within a radius of 20 miles from Mt Gambier, excepting within its immediate neighbourhood when Dr Jackson would attend – naming a yearly stipend o include all expenses [434] or a fixed sum for attendance, and the rate per mile, for each individual case, when called upon.

[Hamilton]

19th February 1875
Sealed Tenders will be received at this Office up to noon of the 13th of March next ensuing, for the supply of One thousand Eight hundred (1800) Blue Blankets for Aborigines – Each blanket must be seven (7) feet long by five (5) fee six (6) inches wide and must weigh not less than five pounds.
The Tenders must be accompanied with sample blankets.
The sample of blankets for which a tender is accepted will be retained by the Government.
Delivery to be made at the Government Store – North Terrace, as follows – viz.,
Nine hundred (900) blankets during September 1875, and
Nine hundred (900) blankets during January 1876,
Each gender to be marked on the Envelope – “On Public service” with the words “Tender for Blankets” in the corner.
No tender will necessarily be accepted.
25th February 1875
Mr Jas Hiern
[Hiltruby?] Gawler Ranges?
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 16th inst. applying for Medicines, Trowsers for the male Natives, and cloth for the women’s dresses, and stating that the supply of Blankets and Shirts already received, will be insufficient for the demand, I have the honor to inform you, that the funds at the disposal of this Department are limited and will not admit of any increase at present in the number of Blankets &c for your Station.
It is only the sick and infirm Natives who are strictly entitled to receive these articles—Medicines and some serge for the Native women & children will be forwarded to you early in March next.
Monthly return forms are again sent in separate parcel by this Post, as you state, those forwarded on a former occasion have not reached you.
I also enclose copies of instructions for your future guidance in issuing the Rations &c.

[Hamilton]

6th March 1875
Mr Chas Forward
Nilpena
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 22nd uto, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that it has been determined not to supply Rations &c to those Depots failing to forward the usual monthly Return of issue to this office.
The Returns from your Depot have not been received since February 1874, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to inform me whether it is your intention to comply with the conditions on which Stores are forwarded for distribution to the Natives.

[Hamilton]
438-445
26th February 1875

The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c

Sir,

I have the honor to forward my report of the proceedings of the Aborigines Department for the six months and year ended 31st December 1874.

The condition of the Aborigines is not so satisfactory as could be desired, they appear to suffer still from the injurious effects of our occupancy of their country, and these evils, if they have not increased, do not seem to have diminished much of late years.

Since the Natives have made a step in advance towards civilized life, they have evidently become more susceptible to disease, this is indicated by the last Census returns, which reveal a decrease of 1674 in their numbers between the years 1861 and 1871, this rate of mortality appears to continue as shown by the deaths amounting to 65, while the births were only 26, during the past half year, much of this excessive mortality doubtless proceeds from causes that might to a great extent be prevented. The Aborigines of the present day are not so active in their habits as formerly in their wild state, they have more helpless and subject to the ill effects proceeding from their life of exposure and comparative inaction.

Their hunting grounds are now greatly diminished as agricultural settlement progresses, thus depriving them of their natural food. Another circumstance is referred to in some of the sub-reports appended, viz.- that except at certain seasons of the year, such as shearing time, the Aborigines experience greater difficulty in finding employment, as runs become fenced, their services appear to be less in demand – and their peculiar habits of life unfit them for a sudden change to the heavy and continuous work of ordinary laborers.

The system now in force for the protection and support of the Natives, has been in operation about fifteen years, its merits and failings have therefore been tested by experience.

In ministering to their physical necessities and alleviating the hardships of their positions it has accomplished a good deal, but it seems to have failed in checking the high rate of mortality by arresting the causes that are operating in producing the premature decay of the race.

The absence of adequate provisions for the education and training of the children and the regular employment of the Adults in profitable industrious pursuits is also a great want.

The practice of supplying food and clothing except in exchange for an equivalent in labor is objectionable in its tendency to pauperize by leading to improvident habits and indolence.

A much better state of affairs exists at the Mission stations at Poonindie – Point McLeay and Pt Pierce – where nearly 300 Natives including children, are instructed and usefully employed – their health is reported to be much improved, the deaths &c is lower and births more numerous.
The difficulties attending first attempts to bring savages under new conditions of life and accustom them to civilized usages &c – in a fair way to be overcome, and the systematic efforts made at these institutions are gradually producing substantial results.

The extension of similar stations in various parts of the Province would be exceedingly desirable. I would respectfully recommend that at least four be established – viz. – in the north – on the Murray – in the Western District about Streaky Bay – and in the South East, the object of primary importance should be to make these stations self-supporting in a few years – to accomplish this, Reserves would be required of several thousand acres [441] carefully selected with regard to situation and soil, so that, not only pastoral and agricultural pursuits could be followed, but also to enable hops, arrowroot and ?Tous-les-Mois to be grown, which under favourable conditions would be the most suitable and profitable industries – Silk culture if possible should also be attempted – occupation of a light and varied nature would then be provided for both old and young, adapted to the peculiar disposition of the Aboriginal.

To aid in making these efforts a success it would be desirable to introduce special Legislation of a paternal character – which would provide for Native Schools, making education compulsory to prevent the children being kept away by their parents.

A system of Certificates might be adopted with great advantage – under which the Natives cold leave the stations and enter the service of an employer for wages, and obtain redress in the event of attempts being made to deprive them of their earnings – evil-disposed persons would also be prevented from withdrawing willing and industrious Aboriginal laborers from the Stations under false pretences.

In Victoria during the last few years, active steps have been taken to [442] improve the condition of the Aborigines and the last official Report shows that the results are highly satisfactory and encouraging. It appears that experiments have been tried for some years on the principal Stations – viz. Coranderrk – Lake Condah – Framlingham – Lake Tyers – Lake Wellington – and Lake Hindmarsh – with the object of producing crops that would require neither heavy nor sustained labor and which would yield a sufficient return to at least pay for the support of the Natives. Crops of various kinds were tried, but it was not until a hop plantation was established [i.e. at Coranderrk] that complete success was obtained, the culture of this plant, with arrowroot and tous-les-mois, is now general and forms the staple produce of their station.

On Coranderrk the season’s crop of hops produced a gross ?? of £ 1140. 4. 0, leaving after wages &c were deducted net sum of £ 983. 5. 10, greater ?? are expected in future years which will make the station entirely self-supporting.

It is stated that the natives labor cheerfully in the hop grounds receiving wages in proportion to the time they give –

These Stations are fully stocked with sheep and cattle in the arrangement of which the Natives are said to display [443] as much shrewdness as most European overseers. The general health of the Victorian Aborigines appears pretty good, sickness in some districts is prevalent during certain seasons of the year, but is not attended with fatal results. The births on some stations are in excess of the deaths. Sanitary arrangements are carefully carried out and Medical Officers periodically inspect and report on the state of each Station –
The attention paid to the education of the young is another noticeable feature. Native Schools are attached to each Station, at which, it is stated, the instruction received is not inferior to that imparted at the state schools. The pupils submit to periodical examinations and at one school three passed the Standard of Education required by law, one of whom was a boy only eleven years old.

Of the Natives generally the report referred to, finally remarks – “The conditions of the Aborigines from the foundation of the Colony, was never as prosperous as at the present time, useful employments have been found for the Adults of both sexes, the children are educated and trained by competent teachers, and the material interests of both the aged and the young are carefully guarded.

444

The wise liberality of the Parliament of Victoria may perhaps induce the Governments of the neighbouring Colonies to enact laws similar to those under which the Natives of Victoria are now prosperous, and to provide means for the support of the Aboriginal population and for the education of the children.”

Dr Black of Cape Town, who has – under the auspices of the Government of that Colony – been pursuing Ethnological researches with respect to the South African tribes, has recently directed his attention to the Aborigines of Australia, for a similar purpose, and through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, has communicated with His Excellency the Governor of south Australia, on this subject.

In acknowledging the receipt of His Excellency Mr Musgrave’s reply, Dr Black has forwarded an interesting paper on “Inquiries into Australian Aboriginal Folklore” a copy of which I have appended to this Report.

The Criminal returns show a slight increase compared with the numbers for the previous half-year, 51 Aborigines have been convicted for various offences chiefly drunkenness and vagrancy, the summary steps taken in reference to the Natives who were loitering about Adelaide a few months back – have had a salutary [445] effect, and the city has been quite free from them since, In one or two instances natives have asked permission to pay a visit to Adelaide to dispose of their leeches &c – and were provided with a passport by the Police-in-charge of the Natives.

Nineteen convictions have been obtained against persons for supplying intoxicating liquors, and penalties imposed varying from a fine of £1 to three months imprisonment. This is so serious an offence and so mischievous in its results that severe penalties are necessary for its repression, in some of the American States two years imprisonment can be awarded for this crime –

I have to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by the Commissioner of Police in various matters pertaining to the administration of this department, The Police are frequently called upon to act in the interests of the Aborigines, and their zeal and discretion in performing these –duties deserve commendation –

Thanks are also due to the Medical Officers of the Adelaide Hospital, for the care and attention with which Aboriginal patients are treated in that Institution.
446
18th March 1875
Mr G. L. Debney
Sir,
Crown Lands Ranger Hack having reported that you are willing to undertake the duty of Issuer of Blankets, Rations &c to the Aborigines in the Crystal Brook District, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that the Aborigines Depot will therefore be placed under your control.
A supply of Blankets were recently forwarded, addressed to Mr H. Turpin, and which I believe are now lying at Port Pirie. I shall communicate with Mr Turpin & request him to have them sent on to you.
I forward in separate parcel by this Post, monthly return forms, also copies of the regulations relative to the issue of Returns &c for your guidance.

[Hamilton]

447
18th March 1875
Mr H. Turpin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 16th ulto., stating your inability to continue to act as Issuer of Aborigines Rations &c for the Crystal Brook district, and suggesting the transfer of these duties to some one else, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that the Depot has been placed under the charge of Mr G.L. Debney of Crystal Brook, and I have to request that you will be good enough in the event of the Blankets being still at Port Pirie, to give an order for them to be forwarded to Mr Debney.

[Hamilton]

448
19th March 1875
Revd R.W. Holden [Poonindie]
Sir,
Referring to your February Return in which you remark that the balance of Flour on hand (336 lbs) is quite unfit for human food, and that the Natives cannot eat it, I have the honor to inform you that the flour in this condition may be destroyed, a note to that effect being made in your next month’s return in explanation thereof.
As it will probably be desirable to have a smaller quantity of flour kept in stock, I have now ordered only half a ton to be sent to Poonindie.
Messrs Newman & Son, Govt Shipping Agents, have instructions to examine & compare with sample, all flour forwarded by them, previous to shipping it.
I shall be glad, if you will in future, call my attention to any defect in the Aborigines Stores – when you are acknowledging their receipt.

[Hamilton]
25th March 1875
Geo. Addison Esq., M.D.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 8th inst., I have the honor to inform you in that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has accepted your offer to supply the Aborigines with Medicines and Medical & Surgical attendance, within a radius of twenty miles of Mount Gambier (excluding the Natives resident within the boundaries of the township of Mount Gambier, who will be attended by Dr Jackson) for the sum of Fifty (£50) pounds per annum, from the 1st April 1875. You will accordingly from that date, be ready to perform your duties, as Medical Officer when called upon to do so by the Police or Issuers at the Depots at Tarpeena and McDonnell Bay, or when applied to by any of the Aborigines of the District.
Instructions to which I beg to direct your attention are forwarded herewith, also some blank forms of returns.

[Hamilton]

25th March 1875
Instructions to the Medical Officer of the Mount Gambier District
1. The Medical Officer for Mt Gambier District will give advice & Medicines to all sick Aboriginal Natives on personal application to him at his residence at Mt Gambier.
2. He will attend at their wurleys or other dwelling places, within Twenty (20) miles of Mt Gambier, such of the natives as may at any time require medical & surgical aid, and are unable to apply personally at his residence; and will render them whatever professional medical assistance they may stand in need of.
3. He will keep a record of all cases of disease, accidents &c, coming under his observation and treatment, and forward to this office a return quarterly, stating – the name of the native – the sex, age, disease or injury, and result in each case; also a report of the general conditions of the natives in the district, with such suggestions as he may see fit to make for the promotion of their health and amelioration of their condition.

[Hamilton]

30th March 1875
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
In your letter of the 23rd inst., referring to the Stores for Stuart’s Creek, which are still at Pt Augusta, you state, that the quantity is only about 23 cwt. & too small to induce teams to take it up – I find in reference to my Books, that the Stores forwarded to Pt Augusta for Stuart’s Creek in Jany last, consisted of 1 ½ tons flour with other goods amounting to about 36 cwt, at the same time, a similar quantity of Stores were forwarded for Strangway’s Springs on the same line of route and about 50 miles further than Stuart’s Creek. Under these circumstances, I did not anticipate in finding teams for these two lots which would amount to over three tons.

[Hamilton]
452
31st March 1875
Mr T.G. Tims, P.T.
Port McDonnell
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that Dr G. Addison of Mount Gambier, has been appointed by the Government, Medical Officer to Aborigines within a radius of Twenty (20) miles from Mount Gambier Township, and you will be good enough to call upon him to attend to any native in your district, whenever they are in need of medical or surgical aid.

[Hamilton]

453
31st March 1875
Similar letter to Mr C.T. Sheppeard, Tarpeena.

[Hamilton]

454
3rd April 1875
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your Tender has been accepted for the supply of 1800 Blue Blankets for Aborigines for 1875-6, as per sample submitted by you, @ 7/9 ½ each, in terms of Government Gazette notice of call for tenders for Blankets, dated 17th March 1875.
The sample Blankets will be retained at this office.

[Hamilton]

455
3rd April 1875
J. Miller Anderson Esq.
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your Tender for the supply of Blankets for Aborigines in 1875-6, has not been accepted. The sample Blankets left at this office (the one from Govt Stors excepted) can be obtained on application.

[Hamilton]

456
10th April 1875
Mr P. Shiels P.T.
Millicent
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 5th inst., enquiring as to what natives will be entitled to Blankets on the 1st May next, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the Blankets supplied to Depots are intended for the Old, Sick, and infirm natives. The able-bodied who can obtain their ?? from wages, should furnish themselves with food & clothing. If you find after enquiry, that the number to? should? be ? at your depot, will not be sufficient to meet the most of your cases? – an application can be made for a further supply.

[Hamilton]
457
12th April 1875
Messrs Hamlin & Price
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to have enquiry made as to the manner in which half a ton of flour was addressed, ordered on the 13th Ulto., for Poonindie, Port Lincoln. The Revd Mr Holden of Poonindie, informs me that this flour was simply marked [with an upwards arrow] and on its arrival at Pt Lincoln was taken away to another Depot, but having heard of this in time he was able to have it traced and removed to Poonindie.

[Hamilton]

458
16th April 1875
Mr Wm Campbell P.T.
Kingston
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst., applying for Blankets and Rations for Aborigines at Kingston, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the under-mentioned articles will be forwarded to you, which you will be good enough to issue as occasion arises to any Natives who may be in destitute circumstances and entitled to relief.

200 lbs flour
50 lbs sugar
12 lbs Tea
12 lbs Sago
6 Single Blankets

The Receipt of these be good enough to acknowledge

[Hamilton]

459
19th April 1875
Mr T.P. Richards P.T.
[Fowlers Bay]
Ir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st inst., applying for a supply of Aborigines Stores for the Depot at Fowlers’ Bay, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your application did not reach this office till the 14th inst., nearly a week after the “Grace Darling” had sailed for Western Ports. It is doubtful if any opportunity will occur for sending Stores to Fowlers’ Bay before the next trip of that vessel which will probably be in May next. In future it would be desirable to have your application for Rations be forwarded to me so as to ensure their being shipped in time to reach the Depot – before the supplies on hand are exhausted.
This Department does not furnish Fishing Nets to Depots – You can have a supply of Netting Twine, Corks & lead &c for the purpose of having a Net made by the Natives.

[Hamilton]
19th April 1875
W.R. Thomson Esq
Wallianippie
Sir,
Referring to your remarks in the March Return from Wallianippie Depot, respecting the state of the Aborigines, and pointing out that a supply of Rations will shortly be needed, I have the honor to inform you, that this Return did not reach this office till the 14th inst., nearly a week after the “Grace Darling” had sailed for Streaky Bay and I fear no opportunity will occur to forward supplies to Wallianippie till the next trip made by that vessel, about the middle of May next.
If in the meantime, you require rations for any urgent cases – perhaps assistance could be obtained from the Depot at Streaky Bay, and any Stores borrowed could be returned when your supplies come to hand.

[Hamilton]

20th April 1875
Mr John Kerr P.T.
Victor Harbor
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., (addressed to the Chief Inspector of Police) applying for Rations on behalf of some Aborigines at Victor Harbor, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, P.T. Moriarty, the issuer at the Goolwa Depot, will be instructed to forward you a supply of Rations, on our application, for the relief of such cases of necessity as may arise among the natives at Victor Harbor.
Copy of instructions for your guidance in distributing the rations is forwarded herewith.

[Hamilton]

20th April 1875
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to the Application made by P.T. Kerr of Victor Harbor for Rations for some aborigines in that locality, and which was forwarded to you for Report, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to state that Mr Kerr has been informed that you will forward to him, on his application, such stores as may be necessary for the relief of the natives at Victor Harbor.

[Hamilton]

21st April 1875
Mrs C. Smith
Mount Gambier
Madam,
In reply to your letter of the 15th inst., with reference to the case of the half-caste boy “Lora Young”, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to state what amount of Premium and what term of service would be necessary in order to have this boy apprenticed to Mr M. McKenzie for learning the tailoring trade.

[Hamilton]
20th April 1875
Mr J. Field, Corporal
Narracoorte
Sir,
In reply to your memo, accompanying the March Return of Stores issued &c suggesting that you be authorised to purchase a small quantity of Rations for the Depot, Narracoorte, I have the honor to inform you that, I have instructed Mr H. Humphries P.T. of Border Town, to forward you the following supplies, he having a larger Stock at his Depot than is needed for the present requirement of the Natives in that locality.

400 lbs flour
50 lbs sugar
20 lbs Tea
20 lbs Rice.

[Hamilton]

23rd April 1875
Henry Scott, Esq
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., forwarding extract from a letter received by you from Messrs. H. Pontt & Sons of Curnamoona Station, calling attention to the condition of the Aborigines in that locality, who are represented as being in want of Rations &c, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that a temporary supply of Stores will be forwarded to Messrs Pontt for the relief of the natives, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to inform me by what route stores are usually sent to Curnamoona.

[Hamilton]

27th April 1875
Mr Wm Ross
Moolooloo
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, upon the recommendation of Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines, the Honorable the Commissioner has approved of the transfer from Nilpena to Moolooloo, of the Depot for the issue of rations to sick & infirm Aborigines, and before sending any Stores to the latter place, I have to request that you will inform me whether you are willing to undertake the charge of Stores, and to supply regularly the necessary Returns to this office.
In the event of your agreeing to do so – will you be good enough to furnish me with the average number of blacks at your station, for my guidance in forwarding a supply of Rations.

[Hamilton]
27th April 1875
Messrs Pontt & Sons
Curnamoona
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that, upon the recommendation of Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of a temporary supply of Rations &c being forwarded to you for the relief of the sick and infirm Aborigines who occasionally visit Curnamoona, and I have to request that you will be good enough to acknowledge receipt of these issues (as detailed below) as soon as they have reached you.

1000 lbs flour
150 lbs sugar
20 lbs tea
56 lbs rice
5 lbs tobacco
20 single blankets

30th April 1875
Hon Attorney General
Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to solicit the appointment of Clerk of the Adelaide Local Court, in the event of that office becoming vacant by the promotion of Mr Lewis.
I have been in the Civil Service of South Australia since the 1st of April 1865, during the great part of which period I have held office in the Local Court Department as Clerk of the Courts at Gumeracha &c &c.

5th May 1875
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 1st inst., asking for authority to have Blue Serge made into petticoats for certain old female natives at Wellington, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, you are hereby authorised to have the articles of dress referred to, made at a cost not to exceed Two shillings and Sixpence (2/6) each.
11th May 1875
Revd. George Taplin
Sir,
With reference to your letter of the 27th Ulto., suggesting the formation of a Native Station at Cape Jaffa, and the employment of the Natives as Lifeboat Crews, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to furnish some further information on this subject – viz.:
Supposing that a Boat’s Crew could be found among the Coorong Natives, how could they be kept together at the Station so as to be available when required;
What would be the probable cost of such a station, and could it be made an appendage to the Point McLeay Establishment, and under occasional supervision from there, so far as the natives were concerned;
What means of communication would there be with Kingston when any urgent need arose? [Hamilton]

12th May 1875
Mr Alfred Leonard
Edithburgh
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 5th inst., addressed to the Hon Attorney General, applying for Rations and Blankets for the Aborigines at Edithburgh, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, a depot will be formed at Edithburgh and placed under your charge for the issue of Rations &c to the Old, Sick and Infirm Natives in that locality.
I forward by this post a parcel containing printed forms of Return which are to be filled up on the 1st of each month, and transmitted to this office; also copies of the Regulations relating to the issue of Stores &c, for your guidance. [Hamilton]

13th May 1875
A.D. Tassie & Co
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., addressed to the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c stating that an application was made to you by Messrs Gooch and Hayward to hand over to them the agency? of certain goods for the Aborigines at Edithburgh, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the stores in question were forwarded, at the special request of Mr Henry Scott of Adelaide, to Messrs Gooch and Hayward, his Pt Augusta agents, for the teams of Messrs Pontt & Sons Curnamooona. This is an exceptional case and is not intended in any way to convey the idea that there ever has been any neglect on your part as the Authorized Agents of Her Majesty’s Government at Port Augusta. [Hamilton]
474
17th May 1875
Mr T. Richards, P.T.
[Fowlers Bay]
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 18th Ulto., in response to the sickness now so prevalent among the Natives at Fowlers Bay, I have the honor to inform you that, considerable difficulty is felt in applying our mode of medical treatment to sick blacks, if they are kept provided with rations and blankets, and simple remedies applied when they are likely to prove beneficial, I do not see that anything further can be done with any advantage to the natives themselves. In many cases the administration of medicines to the Aborigines does more harm than good.
When medical comforts are absolutely necessary, they can be supplied under Clause Three of the General Instructions to Issuers &c a copy of which I presume is in your possession.
With regard to the practice of the native doctors, to which your refer, I fear there will be some difficulty in bringing cases of this nature under the operation of our Criminal [475] laws, when any gross case of this kind and the life of the native is in danger – perhaps as an experiment, an Information might be laid under the Police Act or Assault Act, ansd the offender charged before Two Justices, with committing an aggravated assault, inflicting grievous bodily harm &c.

[Hamilton]

476
19th May 1875
Mr Wm Ross
Moolooloo
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., intimating that you are willing to take charge of Rations &c for the Aborigines, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, a Depot for the relief of the Aborigines will be opened at Moolooloo and placed under your management. A supply of Rations and Blankets, as per list herewith has been ordered to be sent to you; and by this post, in separate parcel, printed forms of Return are forwarded to you, which are to be filled up on the 1st of each month and transmitted to this office. It is not necessary that you should prepay the postage on any returns or letters you may have, to forward here – I also enclose copies of the Instructions to Issuers &c for your future guidance.

[Hamilton]

477
28th May 1875
Mr C. McKenzie
Mount Gambier
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 27th Ulto., addressed to Mrs C. Smith of Mount Gambier, on the subject of the apprenticeship of the Aboriginal “Lora Young” to you for learning the trade of a tailor, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to enquire whether you will take this Native boy as an apprentice from the 1st of July next, for a premium of £30.

[Hamilton]
27th May 1875
The Revd. R.W. Holden
Poonindie
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 18th inst., requesting authority to detain two Aboriginal children, named Elizabeth & Alfred ?Nernidtke? at Poonindie Native Institution, in the event of any attempt being made by their stepfather G. Unicomb, to demand them therefrom, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the children referred to may be kept at Poonindie as requested by you.

[Hamilton]

14th June 1875
Mr William Lyon
East Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., on behalf of the half-caste “George Muckray”, who is desirous to obtain a Section of land from Government, I have the honor to inform you that his application should specify the land he requires – No. of section, where situated &c &c and be accompanied by certificates as to his general character and fitness to cultivate the land.

[Hamilton]

16th June 1875
George Warland Esq
Kooringa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th inst., calling attention to the condition of the Natives at Mundowadana in the Far North, and requesting that a supply of Rations be forwarded for their relief, I have the honor to inform you that a stock of stores was received at the Depot at Mundowadana in July 1874 – since which date no returns of Rations issued have been received in his office – notwithstanding that, Mr Merritt, the issuer at the Depot, has been several times requested to furnish such Returns. The Conditions on which Stores are supplied to Depots for the Aborigines, require that the necessary Returns should be regularly sent to this office.

[Hamilton]

18th June 1875
Mr Chas McKenzie
Mount Gambier
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd inst., with reference to the Apprenticeship of the Aboriginal boy “Lora Young” to you for learning the trade of a Tailor, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your offer to take this boy has been accepted on the terms proposed by you, and that he can remain with you two weeks on trial, before the necessary indentures are entered into.

[Hamilton]
482
3r July 1875
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letters of the 24th and 29th Ulto., applying for repairs to a canoe belonging to Abor. Newland, at Goolwa, I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable the Commissioner has approved of this work being executed at a cost not exceeding £ 2. 15./- and on its completion, you will be good enough to forward me a certificate that repairs have been performed in a proper manner and to your satisfaction.

[Hamilton]

483
5th July 1875
Geo Warland Esq
Kooringa
Sir,
I am in receipt of your letter of 1st inst., stating that no Rations have been issued at the Mundowadana Depot since 1873, and that on taking over the Books &c from the late Issuer Mr. Merritt, who left the Station in August 1874, no mention was made of Stores for Aborigines except those forwarded in 1873.
In reply, I have the honor to inform you that I find a supply of Blankets and Rations was forwarded from Port Augusta to Mundowadana by Messrs Tassie & Co. on the 17th June 1874 and I have a letter from Mr Merritt dated 18th July 1874 acknowledging their receipt by him.
Mr Merritt should have notified to me that he was about to leave the Depot, and that he had handed over all stores to his successor.
I shall feel obliged if you will now obtain a report from your present Overseer as to the disposal of the Rations forwarded in July 1874 &c received by Mr Merritt.
I enclose for your information copy of Instructions to Issuers &c [484] should your Manager at the Station be willing to take charge of Rations for the Aborigines and furnish the required Return regularly to this office, a supply of stores will be forwarded to Mundowadana.

[Hamilton]

485
7th July 1875
Mr Thos Adams
Poonindie
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 3rd inst., stating that you have not yet received a reply to your letter of the 8th April last, applying for a Section of land, I have the honor to inform you that your application, with others of a similar nature, are now under the consideration of the Cabinet, and as soon as a decision has been arrived at, the result will be immediately communicated to you.

[Hamilton]
486
8th July 1875
The Revd. R.W. Holden
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st inst., applying for a wooden leg for the Native boy, who was recently forwarded from the Adelaide Hospital to Poonindie, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to forward me the following measurements, viz., the girth round the stump where the leg was amputated, and the length required for wooden leg. Dr Hammond could perhaps make the necessary measurements, and on their receipt, I will have the wooden leg prepared and sent to you.

[Hamilton]

488
9th July 1875
Mr T. P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 26th ulto., applying for a light cart for the purpose of removing old, sick, and infirm natives from the bush to the Depot at Fowlers’ Bay, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your request cannot be complied with.

[Hamilton]

489
12th July 1875
Mr C.F. Sheppheard
Tarpeena
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 1st inst., requesting a further supply of Rations &c for the Aborigines at Tarpeena, that it has been determined to close the Depot at Tarpeena (owing to its being no longer necessary) when the Stores now on hand have been issued.

[Hamilton]

490
12th July 1875
J.J. Swinden Esq., S.P.
Sir,
I have issued a Minute from the Honorable the Commissioner stating that you recently called upon him and represented that during a late visit to the North, you had noticed some of the Aborigines in a diseased state suffering from the effects of syphilis. This Minute has been forwarded to Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines in the Far North, for him to report on.
In the meantime I shall be glad if will favor me with some further information as to the precise localities in which these blacks were observed in the alleged condition, so that steps may be taken without delay to have medical aid rendered where necessary.

[Hamilton]
14th July 1875
The Revd G. Taplin
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 28th ulto., asking for information in reference to the “Status Native Marriages have in law” I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your letter has been laid before the Law Officers for their opinion, and the Crown Solicitor reports thereon as follows:-
“The within letter suggests the idea that the writer holds himself authorised to declare the ‘indissolubility’ or otherwise of marriages, but in my opinion he has merely to exercise his office in case there appears to be no legal objection to the marriage of Black of White people who apply to him to have the ceremony performed, under the Marriage Act of 1867.”
“The Colony having been constituted about 40 years ago, there can be very few marriages affected by any native law, if there was any in existence.”
“In my opinion, no marriage, since the Constitution of the Colony, has been legal which was not celebrated according to English law [492] Marriage in England means, the union voluntary and for life, of one man with one woman, and according to certain forms and ceremonies, but I understand the Blacks have usually more than one wife or Lubra, and if this is to be taken as marriage, according to this, prosecutions for Bigamy would be plentiful, unless it could be held that the Black or Native Law is superior to the English Law.”
“I need scarcely point out that the Blacks are in all things under English Law as it exists in this Province in marriage as well as in other duties and obligations—”
The Hon Attorney General reports “I agree with Mr Taplin, that marriages solemnized according to Native customs before South Australia was constituted a Colony would be valid in law, and that he is to be commended for abstaining from raising any question with respect to their validity – Probably no very serious questions with respect to rights of property will arise, and with the Ethical and Religious questions Mr Taplin is eminently qualified [493] to deal.”
The Honorable Commissioner further directs me to say, that so far as he can judge the Minister referred to by you in your letter alluded to, was right, but it becomes him to speak with great hesitation on so abstruse, delicate and difficult a subject, he would suggest that questions should not be raised on this matter until it becomes absolutely necessary, and that in the present case he sees no necessity for any practical decision – and he does not think that the Law Officers of Her Majesty in this Colony ought to be called upon to answer abstract questions.
[Hamilton]

19th July 1875
Mr James Warwick
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 7th inst., acknowledging receipt of Blankets, and requesting a supply of Rations for the Aboriginal depot at Angipena, I have the honor to inform you that, stores have not been forwarded to your depot in consequence of your declining to furnish the returns requested by this office. Vide your letter to me dated 31st January 1874, and to which I replied on the 9th February 1874. Should you be willing to forward the usual monthly returns, a supply of Stores will be sent to you, for issue to the natives entitled to relief at Angipena.
[Hamilton]
495
30th July 1875

The Commissioner of Crown Lands &c

Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to suggest that, some provision should be introduced into the proposed Waste Lands Amendment Act now before Parliament, under which it would be lawful for the Governor with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, to grant occupation licences to approved Aboriginal natives, permitting them to occupy land for agricultural purposes, with a life interest therein, or for a term of years.

[Hamilton]

496
30th August 1875
W.A. Crouch Esq., J.P.

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst., calling in question the correctness of the Returns sent in by the Issuer (Mr Sheppeard) of Stores at the Aborigines depot at Tarpeena.

In reply I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that, the matter to which you have referred shall receive due attention –

I have also to state that, no stores have been forwarded to the depot at Tarpeena since February last and in July last, it was intimated to Mr Sheppeard that this Depot would be closed, as soon as the few stores on hand had been all issued.

[Hamilton]
30th August 1875  
Mr C.F. Sheppeard  
Sir,  

I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to call your attention to the following statements made by Mr W.A. Crouch J.P. and Sergeant Besley, Crown Lands Ranger, in reference to the Aborigines Depot at Tarpeena and calling in question the correctness of the Returns sent in by you. –

Mr Crouch states on Augt 23rd 1875:- “Being a resident near Tarpeena and a Justice of the Peace, I consider it my duty to inform you that I have not seen or heard of any aborigines being at my place Kalangadoo or Sutton’s (these are stations around Tarpeena) for nearly twelve months, the last were a party who were kangarooing, and left this neighbourhood before shearing time. Sergeant Besley rode for several days around Tarpeena calling at shepherds and the stations and could not find one Aboriginal. Under these circumstances I consider the Aboriginal station at Tarpeena should be closed. I am afraid that if an investigation took place, that most of the Returns [498] are only imaginary Aboriginals or defunct ones.”

Sergeant Besley, Crown Lands Ranger, stated, on the 12th May 1875:- “I beg respectfully to state that 63 Natives would more than embrace every Aboriginal Native in the whole County of Grey, where there are four other Depots, and at no period of the year would the number at Tarpeena exceed 25. I am of opinion that Mr Sheppheard’s average number of natives during the year cannot exceed 6. – Mr Crouch J.P. and all the residents around Tarpeena, look upon the depot there as a farce, and state – It is a very rare thing indeed to see an Aboriginal about there, and that months often elapse without their seeing one. The Natives I have seen state, they have very rarely received Stores from Mr Sheppheard, but they make no complaint against him.”

I am further directed to ask if you have any thing to say in reference to the above statements.

[Hamilton]

30th August 1875  
Geo. Addison Esq., M.D.  
Sir,  

I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to draw your attention to the latter part of Clause Three of the Instructions issued to you on the 25th March last, for your guidance as Medical Officer to the Aborigines in the Mount Gambier District, and to request that you will be good enough to visit and inspect the native camps within the limits of your district at least once during every three months — and forward to this office with your usual Medical return — a Report in response to the general conditions of the Natives, with such suggestions as you may deem it necessary to make for the promotion of their health &c.

[Hamilton]

30th August 1875  
Mr William Spurr  
Koolungda  

Sir,  

Referring to your letter of the 16th inst., intimating your desire to obtain a Lease of Section 160 in the Hundred of Boucaut, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me whether the section in question is now occupied by any Aborigines, or has it been abandoned, and if so, when and under what circumstances will the Aborigines give it up.

[Hamilton]
7th September 1875
Corporal Leahey
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 26th ulto., I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to convey to you his authority for the expenditure of a sum not exceeding Thirty Shillings (30/-) for the purchase of Firewood for the use of the sick Aborigines at the Port Augusta Depot. The a/c from A. Mackay, enclosed by you, will be passed in the Schedule for current month.

[Hamilton]

7th September 1875
John Hogarth Esq.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 23rd ulto., I regret to learn that the Aborigines’ stores for Strangway’s Springs has been so long in reaching their destination. Messrs Tassie and Co, Port Augusta, have instructions to forward by first opportunities all stores for the Depots in the Far North. Probably during the wool carting season, in October and November, will in future, be the best time for despatching the stores to your depot, and I shall have a supply forwarded to you via Pt Augusta early next month, for the coming year. The Blankets for Aborigines will in future be forwarded to Pt Augusta during September, to ensure their arrival at the remote depots in the Far North before the commencement of the winter season.

[Hamilton]

7th September 1875
Revd Geo. Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letters of the 27th April and 20th May last, on the subject of the formation of an Aboriginal Station at Cape Jaffa with a view to the employment of the Natives in lifeboat services there, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you, that your suggestions herein have been submitted to the Marine Board, who report that, they do not contemplate maintaining a Lifeboat crew at Cape Jaffa, and did they intend doing so, they have doubts whether full reliance could be at all times placed on a Native crew. If it is intended to form an Aboriginal station in the South East, the Board recommend that it be established at Robe, where the Natives would have an opportunity of taking part in the periodical exercise of the lifeboats and of giving proof of their fitness for Government employment under such circumstances the Board would be prepared to pay them at the same rate as Europeans are paid viz.- ?4/- per day when actually employed. With a view to take action upon the recommendation of the Marine Board, P.T. Morris, the officer in charge of the Aboriginal Station at Robe, was communicated with, & he reports, that there are only fourteen (14) Aboriginals in his District, viz.- three women, four children, and seven men, of whom only four were able-bodied and these have been on sheep stations nearly all their life and are averse to going into a boat of any kind even for fishing, and that none of them are strong enough to pull a 16-ft oar which they would have to do in a life boat. Under these circumstances the Honorable Commissioner considers it would be absurd to attempt to establish a life boat crew with these aborigines.

[Hamilton]
In accordance with the Honorable the Commissioner’s Minute of the 10th inst., instructing me to report to him on the debate in Parliament on the ?? inst., on the subject of the Aborigines’ Vote for 1876, I have the honor to report the following remarks for the Honorable Commissioner’s consideration:-

Aborigines Blankets
With respect to the statements made alleging that some of the blankets supplied to the natives were of inferior quality, I beg to say that, the blankets issued for the current year were superior to those issued during past years, the objectionable mode of branding them having been abandoned. The first instalment of blankets for the ensuing year have just been obtained from the contractors, and having inspected them, I find they are fully equal to the sample, and in every respect a better blanket than those issued to the natives during the last three years.

Far Northern Interior
The pastoral settlement of the newly discovered country in the Musgrave, Mann and Tonkinson Ranges in the Interior, will doubtless encroach more or less on the Camping grounds of the natives on these localities, their favorite haunts on the banks of creeks and water holes where game is plentiful and generally the first spots appropriated for the flocks and herds of the white settlers, and the wilder Aborigines who have had little intercourse with Europeans will naturally be disposed to regard these proceedings as an infringement of their rights, and probably disputes and collisions will, leading to retaliation, and ending in unhappy consequences on both sides. In view of these circumstances I would respectfully suggest the expediency of a Sub-Protector of Aborigines being appointed for the Interior, to watch over the interests and welfare of the natives and to promote a good understanding between them and the Europeans, - Should this view meet the Honorable Commissioner’s approval, I would further suggest whether this office could be conferred on Sergeant Gason who is now stationed at Barrow’s Creek - this officer has lived for some years among the natives of the Northern Interior and his intimate acquaintance with the habits, customs, and languages of many of the tribes is evidenced in a work recently written by him on the “Dyerie” of Cooper’s Creek.

Existing depots in the Far North
The statement alleging that pastoral lessees are not now utilized for distributing rations and blankets is not correct. The depots at present in existence number eighteen, - of these two are at Police Stations, one under the Sub-Protector at Blinman, and the remaining fifteen are in charge of the Overseers or Managers of private Stations or runs. Mr Buttfield Sub-Protector of Aborigines in the Far North states in his last Report that, “the depots in his District are numerous, at convenient places and well supplied with rations, medicines, etc.-”

Additional Native Institutions
In the last report of this department, reference was made to the desirability of increasing the number of stations similar to those now existing at Poonindie, Point MacLeay and Point Pierce. It is perhaps more properly in the province of Private Societies to initiate a work of this kind, and in the event of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association or other ?? society taking action in the matter, I would respectfully recommend the setting apart of special reserves? and if necessary pecuniary assistance by a grant in aid of this object.
Half-caste Children

Mr Taplin and others have frequently drawn attention to the want of more systematic treatment of the children of the Natives especially the half-castes. Mr Taplin in a recent report says, “It is exceedingly desirable that the Aborigines should be compelled to send their children to school to be educated, of course this could only be done where there are Native schools. The old natives do not see the good of education, but they would respect a Government measure.”

“A law to facilitate the adoption of ½ caste and quadroon children by benevolent white people would do much good. I mean a law which would render valid the conveyance of the child to the person adopting it, and secure the child against going back to the Tribe,”

[509] I would submit for the Honorable Commissioner’s consideration, whether these children could be dealt with under the provisions of the Destitute Persons’ Relief Act 26 of 1872, by bringing them before two Justices as “destitute” of “neglected” and committing them to the Industrial School at Magill, - the training and discipline they would there undergo would probably fit them for becoming useful members of society.

14/9/75

[Hamilton]

510
16th September 1875
Mr Wm Spurr
Hd of Boucaut
Kalunga
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., respecting Section 60 Hd. Of Boucaut, and stating that some sheep were taken from this Section some months ago, but that the shepherd still remains in the house on the Section, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to state, what sheep and whose shepherd are referred to by you.

[Hamilton]

511
16th September 1875
W.R. Thompson Esq
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16th ulto., applying for a boat for the use of the natives at the Aboriginal Depot at Wallanippie, - and in reply I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that your application has been approved of and a boat will be forwarded shortly to your depot.
I have also to request that, you will take charge of this boat and exercise a general supervision over it.

[Hamilton]

512
20th September 1875
A. Leonard Esq
Sir
In reply to your letter of the 17th inst., I have the honor to inform you that, in no instance is any emuneration made to the Issuers of Government rations to the Aborigines at the various depots throughout the Colony.

[Hamilton]
24th September 1875
A.D. Tassie & Co.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to inform you that the Blankets for the Aboriginal Depots in the Far North for the ensuing year, are now being dispatched to Port Augusta, and I have to request that you will be good enough to make all practicable arrangements for forwarding them to their respective destinations during the present wool-carting season.

[Hamilton]

25th September 1875
R.J. Turner Esq.

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to forward you herewith form of Indentures, in duplicate, for execution by the parties named therein, for the Apprenticeship of an Aboriginal boy to Mr C. McKenzie of Mount Gambier – Tailor, and I have to request that you will be good enough to return, when executed, one copy of the Indenture to me.

The Premium of £30, due to Mr McKenzie, will be included in the Schedule of a/cs for Current month and will be payable at Treasury about the 5th Proximo.

[Hamilton]

25th September 1875
Mr C. McKenzie

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of crown Lands &c to inform you that, the Indentures for the apprenticeship of Aborl. “Lora Young” to you have been forwarded to Mr R.J. Turner S.M., for execution by the parties named therein.

The premium of £30 due to you herein will be passed in the a/cs of the Current month, and payable to you at the Treasury about the 5th prox.

I enclose a procuration order form to enable you to appoint some person to obtain the money.

[Hamilton]

5th October 1875
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst., reporting the case of “Old Buffalo”, who had been forwarded by you to Strathalbyn for medical treatment, I have the honor to inform you that, the steps taken herein were quite justifiable under the circumstance you state.

[Hamilton]
12th October 1875
Ulrich Huebbe Esq., L.L.D.
Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 25th ulto., applying for the establishment of an Aboriginal depot at the Lutheran Mission Station on the River Finke, McDonnell Ranges, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands & to inform you that, your application has been approved and a supply of Rations, Blankets &c &c will be forwarded at the cost of this Department to Port Augusta only, the charges of land transport from that Port to their destination will have to be defrayed by the Mission.

I forward in separate parcel by this post, copies of instructions for the guidance of the Issuer of Stores at the Depot; also printed forms of Monthly Returns to be furnished regularly to this office.

[Hamilton]

18th October 1875
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Gentlemen,

In reference to the Aboriginal Stores now forwarded to you for the Lutheran Mission Station, Finke's Creek, Far North, I have the honor to inform you that, the charges of their land transport from Port Augusta to their destination will not be paid by this Department. You will therefore be good enough to retain these stores at Port Augusta, until you receive instructions from the Revd Mr Schwarz for their despatch to their depot.

[Hamilton]

27th October 1875
J.P. Buttfield, J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 27th ulto., and memo of the 12th inst., suggesting that official Postage Stamps should be supplied to the Issuers at the several depots in the Far North to cover the postage of their monthly Returns &c I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that, this question has been submitted to Postmaster General who reports – "That in the case of unpaid letters returned, the officer receiving them pays the charge to be collected in the ? in official Stamps, instead of coin, and that he sees no difficulty whatever in your entrusting your messenger? with sufficient stamps to pay for your correspondence on receipt, thus rendering unnecessary the second journey of which you complain. You would procure a check against your messenger, in the amount of postage marked on the ?? as payable -

[Hamilton]

10th November 1875
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable Commissioner to convey to you his authority to incur an expenditure not exceeding the sum of one pound five shillings (£ 1. 5. 0) for the purchase of two zinc-lined cases for the storage of the Aborigines' flour at the Wellington Depot. 

You will be good enough to forward me the a/c properly certified by you, that these cases have been supplied and fitted to your satisfaction.

[Hamilton]
522
10th November 1875
Ulrich Hubbe Esq., L.L.D.
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 2nd inst., representing on behalf of the Lutheran Mission to the Aborigines on the Finke River, their inability to convey the stores supplied by this Department, from Pt Augusta to the Depot near the Alice Springs. And in reply, I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that, this Department will be prepared to pay one half of the cost of transport of the Stores in question from Pt Augusta to the Depot, at current rates of cartage.

[Hamilton]

523
12th November 1875
N.E. Phillipson Esq
Beltana
Memo/
Attention is drawn to the June Return from the Mt Deception Depot, which acknowledges receipt of the following Aborigines' stores, viz.-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>2000 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>200 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>56 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>50 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sago</td>
<td>20 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The quantity of Stores forwarded to this Depot and receipt of which is acknowledged in Mr Phillipson's letter of the 7th July last (288/75) was, viz.-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>2000 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>250 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>43 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>56 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>10 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sago</td>
<td>20 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The current balance on hand at end of July last should therefore be, viz.-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>1455 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>159 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>20 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>56 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>10 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sago</td>
<td>20 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note this and correct errors in next monthly Returns.

[Hamilton]
Canoes for Aborigines

15th November 1875

Sealed tenders will be received at this office up to noon on the 4th December next ensuing, for the supply of thirteen (13) Canoes for Aborigines, to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa by the 20th Jany 1876. Specifications may be seen at this office, & at the Police Stations at Milang and Goolwa. Each tender to be marked on the Envelope “On Public Service” with the words “Tender for Canoes” in the corner, and to be addressed to the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide. No tender will necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

Aborigines Department

Specification for the Supply of Thirteen (13) Canoes for Aborigines

The Canoes are to be of similar make to those supplied to the Aborigines Department by Messrs Moore & Son in 1873. Each Canoe to be fourteen (4) feet long over all, four and a half (4 ½) feet wide and eighteen inches (18) deep, with round bottom without keel, slightly curved from centre to ends, the middle range to be one (1) inch thick of good seasoned yellow pine, the planking outside to be of the same material three-quarters (3/4) in. thick, properly worked into each end, the floor also to be of yellow pine. Two thwarts to be in each boat, one and a half (1 ½ inches thick of yellow pine. The two ends to be of the same. Gunwales fore and aft to be one and one eighth (1 1/8) inches thick by two and half (2 ½) in wide. [526] of good seasoned hard wood, Floor timbers and side timbers to be not less than thirty six (36) in number, of stringy bark 1 12/2 in x 1 in and fifteen in apart, with a half-?timber between, Ten (10) hard gum ?? to be in each Canoe, fastened with two (2) ? bolts and into each knee, Two iron ring bolts to be in each Canoe etc. Two iron ring belts in each boat, one at each end and the rising to be ?in place fore & aft under the thwarts to give strength to the timber & thwarts. Three boards to be worked inside, fore & aft, one for the ?Kilson and one on each side along the bilge. ?? to be made for mast & hole in thwart. [ 526 ] The costs of tar with pitch, oakum &c to be applied after the work has been inspected and approved. The fastenings to be of copper throughout. Each boat to be finished off in a workmanlike manner to the satisfaction of the officer in charge of the Aborigines Department and the boats to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa by 20th January 1876.

[Hamilton]
In reply to your letter of the 8th inst., reporting the destruction by a Storm of wind, of the Aborigines Store at Chowilla, and which you state has been so completely destroyed as to be unfit to be put up again – I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the remains of this Store can be transferred to the Sheep Department, as suggested by you.

Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to transmit to you herewith, Copy of specification for supply of Canoes for Aborigines, the call for tender for which will appear in the Government Gazette of the 18th inst., and I have to request that, you will be good enough to give intending Tenderers an opportunity of seeing the specification.

Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Same letter as 528.

Dr R.A. Creelman
Kingston
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to enquire whether you would be willing to undertake the duties of Medical Officer to Aborigines at Lacepede Bay, and to name a sum per annum for which you would supply Medical attendance & Medicines to all Aborigines requiring such within a radius of 20 (twenty) miles from Kingston.

Revd. George Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd inst., applying for Canoes for the Aborigines at Point Mcleay &c, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, Tenders are now being called for a supply of canoes for sundry depots, and the claims of the natives at Point McLeay will be duly considered when these Canoes are being distributed.
23rd November 1875
The Revd. F.W. Cox, Chairman
J. Pickering Esq., Hon. Secretary
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Gentlemen,
In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., asking, on behalf of the Committee of the AFA, that certain specified blocks of land on the Coorong may be granted for the use of the Association, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, to grant the blocks referred to would very much interfere with the travelling stock, and not only include the land generally travelled by hundreds of thousands of sheep during the year, but also take in the last watering place between the Flat and Meningie.
The Honorable Commissioner would therefore suggest that, the Society consider the subject with the view to asking for a site that would not cause so much inconvenience to ??

[Hamilton]

29th November 1875
Revd. George Taplin
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th inst., enquiring whether there is any Act of Parliament to regulate the carrying of firearms by Aborigines, and pointing out that the Natives are very careless in the use of guns &c, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, if the locality is within “proclaimed counties” and provision of the Firearms Act No. 6 of 1875 (copy of which I enclose) (as no licences can be granted to boys under 14 years of age) all younger than that age may be punished for using a gun for sport, and those of 14 years and upwards, for not having a licence - of course it must be shewn that they do use guns for sport.
The natives are also liable for offences under the “Bushfires Act”, such as using ignitible wadding during certain summer months &c &c.

[Hamilton]

1st December 1875
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your memo, of the 25th ulto., recommending P.C. Kerr’s application for a boat for the use of the Natives at Victor Harbor, I have the honor to inform you that, the Aborigines took so little care of the boats formerly supplied to Victor Harbor & Port Elliott that they soon became quite useless, and the Honorable the Commissioner now declines to grant P.C. Kerr’s request.

[Hamilton]
535
3rd December 1875
R. B. Penny Esq., M.R.C.S.L.
Border Town
Sir,
I have the honor to draw your attention to the latter part of Clause Three of the Instructions issued to you on your appointment as Medical Officer to the Aborigines in the Tatiara District, and to request that you will be good enough to visit and inspect the native Camps within the limits of your district, at least once during every three months, and forward to this office, with your usual Medical Return, a report in reference to the general condition of the Aborigines, with such suggestions as you may deem it necessary to make for the promotion of their health &c.

[Hamilton]

536
3rd December 1875
J.P. Buttfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Inspector of Aborigines, Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to forward, as soon as practicable after the 31st inst., your Report for the current year in reference to the Aborigines of your district.

[Hamilton]

537
9th December 1875
John A. Creelman Esq., M.R.C.S.L.
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 23rd inst., I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner has accepted your offer to supply Medicines and Medical and Surgical attendance to the Aborigines within a radius of 20 (twenty) miles from Kingston, for the sum of £ 35 (thirty five pounds) per annum from the 15th January 1876.
You will accordingly from that date be prepared to perform your duties as Medical Officer when called upon to do so by the Police or Issuers at the Aboriginal Depots within the limits of your district, or when applied to by any of the Aborigines.
Instructions to which I beg to direct your attention, are forwarded herewith, also, in separate packet by this post, blank forms of returns to be furnished to this office at the end of each quarter.

[Hamilton]
538
9th December 1875
John A. Creelman Esq., M.R.C.S.L.

Instructions to the Medical Officer for Aborigines in the Lacepede Bay District

1. The Medical Officer for the Lacepede Bay District will give advice and Medicines to all sick Aboriginal Natives on personal application to him at his residence at Kingston.

2. He will attend at their wurleys or other dwelling places within 20 (twenty) miles of Kingston, such of the natives as may at any time require medical or surgical aid, and are unable to apply personally at his residence, and will render them whatever professional assistance and medicines they may stand in need of,

3. He will keep a record of all cases of disease, accidents &c coming under his observation and treatment, and forward to this office a return quarterly stating, name of each native, sex, age, disease or injury, & result in each case, also report of the general condition of the natives, with such suggestions as he may deem necessary to offer for the promotion of their health and amelioration of their condition.

[Hamilton]

539
9th December 1875
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that, your tender has been accepted for the supply of Thirteen Canoes for Aborigines, and I have to request that, you will call at the Police Station, Milang, to execute the usual agreement, which has been forwarded to Corporal Dann.

[Hamilton]

540
9th December 1875
Corpl Dann
Milang
Sir,

I have the honor to forward you herewith form of agreement to be entered into by Mr J. Nelson of Milang, whose tender has been accepted for the supply of thirteen Canoes for Aborigines.

I have directed Mr Nelson to call at the Police Station, Milang, and you will be good enough to return the agreement after it has been duly executed by him.

[Hamilton]

541
10th December 1875
Mr Wm Ross
Moolooloo
Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 6th inst., asking that a supply of Stores, including 40 lbs of Tobacco, may be forwarded to the depot at Moolooloo for the use of the old, sick & infirm Aborigines, I have the honor to inform you that, the stores supplied by the Department to Moolooloo, contain the authorised proportions of each article, as forwarded to the various depots in the Far North –

Will you be good enough in future, to forward your monthly Returns to this office through Mr Butfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman.

[Hamilton]
542
13th December 1875
Revd George Taplin
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 19th inst., stating that twelve months had elapsed since you saw a Police Trooper in the vicinity of Point McLeay, and that bad characters are consequently giving you trouble, I have the honor to inform you that, steps have been taken with a view to the more frequent patrolling of the Point McLeay Peninsula by the Police.

[Hamilton]

543
20th December 1875
Miss J. Armstrong
Madam,
I have the honor to inform you that Dr. J.C. Creelman of Kingston has been appointed Medical Officer to the Aborigines, within a radius of twenty (20) miles from Kingston, and you will be good enough to call upon him to attend any Natives in your charge whenever they are in need of Medicines or Medical or Surgical assistance.

[Hamilton]

544
20th December 1875
Corporal R.F. Morris
Lcepede Bay
Sir,
I have the honor .... that, Dr. J.A. Creelman of Kingston - as for 543

[Hamilton]

545
19th January 1876
Mr John Nelson
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 16th inst., asking for another fortnight for the completion of your contract for ther Canoes for Aborigines, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, an extension of time of one fortnight from the 21st inst. will be allowed to you.

[Hamilton]

546
21st January 1876
Mr Thomas Adams
Poonindie
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 8th inst., desiring to learn the result of your application of the 8th April last, for a grant of land, I have the honor by direction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, no authority exists for making such grants as that proposed, a clause conferring the necessary powers was inserted in the proposed Land Bill, introduced by the Government into Parliament at the close of last session, but this measure has not yet become law.

[Hamilton]
25th January 1876
Mr T. McCallum
McGrath's Flat
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 20th inst., applying for Canoes and Sails for the Aborigines at McGrath’s Flat, I have the honor to inform you that, the funds at the disposal of the Department for the current year, will not admit of any further expenditure for Canoes, and sails are not supplied to the Aborigines by this Department.

[Hamilton]

25th January 1876
Geo. Addison Esq., M.D.
Sir,
I have the honor to remind you that, your Medical Return and report, in reference to the Aborigines of the Mount Gambier District, for the quarter ended 31st December 1875, has not yet reached this office, and to request that you will be good enough to forward the same at your earliest possible convenience.

[Hamilton]

5th February 1876
C.H. Oldham Esq
Bimbowie
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 29th ulto., stating that there are no Rations or Stores of any kind at Bimbowie Depot, I have the honor to inform you that the following supplies for Bimbowie were ordered in the 5th November last, viz.:

2 tons flour
500 lbs sugar
86 lbs tea
20 lbs tobacco
56 lbs rice
56 lbs soap

And on same date I advised Mr ? of their despatch, per Rail to Kooringa, c/- T. Bath – Probably these Stores have been detained at Kooringa owing to want of an opportunity to forward.
I have telegraphed to Mr Bath on the subject.

[Hamilton]
Blankets for Aborigines

8th February 1876

Sealed Tenders will be received at this office, up to noon of the 29th February instant, for the supply of one thousand eight hundred (1800) blue blankets for Aborigines.

Each blanket must be seven (7) feet long, by five (5) feet six (6) inches wide, must weigh not less than five (5) pounds, and must be equal in quality to the sample, which may be seen at this Office.

Delivery to be made at the Government Store, North Terrace, as follows, viz.:
Nine hundred (900) blankets during September 1876, and
Nine hundred (900) during January 1877.

Each tender to be marked on the envelope “On Public Service” with the words “Tender for Blankets” in the corner.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

8th February 1876
Mr T. Bath
Kooringa

Sir,

Referring to your Telegram of the 3rd inst., and note of the 4th inst., stating that the stores for Aborigines Depot at Bimbowie are still at Kooringa, I have the honor to request that you will make every effort to have these stores despatched to their destination with the least possible delay.

[Hamilton]

11th February 1876
Corporal J. Dann
Milang

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will be good enough, before taking delivery of the Aborigines’ Canoes from the Contractor (J. Nelson) to examine them and report to me when the following work has been completed according to Specification, viz.-

1. Eight bolts & nuts in each Canoe – viz. – two bolts in each knee fore and aft;
2. Stop for Mast and ?hole in thwart?;
3. Two ring bolts fore and aft in each canoe;
4. Outside edge of planking to be bevelled off at ends;
5. Three floor boards fitted in each canoe;
6. Two coats tar, and caulking where required, making canoes perfectly watertight.

[Hamilton]
553
16th February 1876
Mr John Canham
Stuart’s Creek
Sir,
I have the honor to forward you herewith, copies of instructions for your future guidance in issuing
Rations to the Aborigines at Stuart’s Creek, also printed forms for monthly return which you will be good
enough to have transmitted regularly to this office.
These forms should be sent by parcel post, and it is not necessary for you to prepay the postage
thereon.

[Hamilton]

554
6th February 1876
J.H. Angas Esq
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 15th inst., asking that a further supply of Rations may be forwarded for the
relief of the old, sick and infirm Aborigines at Stuart’s Creek, I have the honor by direction of the
Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, a supply of stores will be sent in
accordance with your request.

[Hamilton]
I have the honor to forward my report for the year ended 31st December 1875.

The tendency of the Aborigines to succumb to disease when exposed to the influences of the unfavourable side of civilization has been exhibited to a very marked extent during the past year, by an exceptionally high rate of mortality – 52 births and 140 deaths have been recorded being an excess of 88 deaths over births, the causes of death included 38 from consumption and 55 from Measles. Probably these figures can only be accepted as approximate, for perfect accuracy in instances of this nature are almost impossible when dealing with Native tribes in circumstances such as those of the Aborigines. The epidemic of measles is stated to have first attacked the Whites and afterwards spread among the Blacks who appear to have suffered most severely in the Northern and Western Districts.

The depots in the infected localities were supplied with Medicines specifically prepared and medical comforts for the relief of the sufferers, but there is several reasons to believe [556] that considerable difficulty is experienced in attempting to apply European medical treatment successfully to the Aborigines generally, it appears that the administration of drugs is not attended with very beneficial results except when the patients can be kept under control.

The blacks seem to be liable now to many diseases which had no existence among them prior to the advent of the Europeans; a report from Mr Taplin (appended) will be found to contain some interesting observations on the subject.

The Native Institution at Point MacLeay [is] more fortunate in this respect than Poonindie .. has been exempt from the prevailing epidemics, no case of either measles or Scarletina [Scarlet Fever?] having occurred among its inmates. I recently visited Point MacLeay Station and remarked that the health of the Native community was very satisfactory with a few exceptions suffering from cold and influenza – there was a general appearance of order, cleanliness and comfort very visible throughout the establishment and the regular employment, discipline and sanitary arrangements enforced here seem to be very successful in [557] promoting the moral and physical well being of the natives connected with the Institution. About 40 children attend the School and presented a neat and orderly appearance, their proficiency in reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic was very creditable.

The criminal records show a considerable decrease in offences committed by Aborigines, compared with returns for the previous year, with the exception of one case of murder – that of a native near Venus Bay – Scarcely any crime of a felonious nature appears in the list, drunkenness is the besetting sin of the Aboriginal, and on the whole their conduct contrasts very favourably with that of the Europeans. The offence of supplying intoxicating liquors to the natives is apparently as frequent as ever, 32 convictions have been obtained during the year. Notwithstanding the exertions of the Police, who I believe are active in their efforts to check this evil, there are doubtless many offenders who escape punishment chiefly owing to the difficulty in obtaining convicting evidence from the blacks.

A census of the “Narrinyeri” who inhabit [558] the Lower Murray and the Lakes, has just been compiled by Mr Taplin and shows that 588 of these natives still exist, their numbers are estimated to have been
over 3000 at the time this Province was proclaimed – The preservation of this remnant of a once powerful tribe is probably due in part to their possessing more than ordinary intelligence – vitality – and capacity for improvement, as also to the ameliorating influence of the Point MacLeay Institution during the last 17 years. It is a pity that so many of this tribe should still be exposed to the evils of a wurley life, but the limited reserve at Pt MacLeay, consisting of only 730 acres, precludes the employment and support of as many natives as could be desired, the necessity for having a larger area in this locality has been recently brought under the attention of the Government; and steps are now being taken to place at the disposal of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association an additional block of land on the Coorong, containing about three square miles.

A Native School has been conducted for some years at Lacepede Bay, in connection with the Church of England; it is supported by [559] private subscriptions, and an annual grant of £20 from this Department, with supplies of Rations and clothing.

Mr H. Smith S.M. recently visited this Institution and courteously forwarded me the following notes of its inspection:

“On the 4th inst., I visited the Native School at Kingston, kept by Miss Armstrong; The time of my visit happened to be one of the hottest days of a very hot time, and all the natives were absent bathing. It appears that only Six attend the School now and for some time past the attendance has never exceeded eight, and then only in the winter. I examined their copy Books and found satisfactory progress, their arithmetic also was pretty good. In consequence of the small attendance, Miss Armstrong says the school is to be closed.”

The pastoral settlement of the newly discovered country in the Musgrave, Mann, and MacDonnell Ranges in the interior, as doubtless encroached more or less on the hunting grounds of the Natives of these localities, their favourite resorts on the banks of creeks and lakes where game is plentiful [560] are general the first spots appropriated by the white settlers for their flocks and herds. And as the Aborigines are naturally disposed to regard these proceedings as an infringement of their rights it is very desirable that all possible precautions should be taken to avoid the disputes and collisions which so often lead to retaliation and arbitrary and indiscriminate reprisals on both sides.

With a view to the protection of the interests of the natives of these localities who are expected to be peaceably disposed and ?easily ?Managed? by Europeans, a new station is about to be formed on the reserve of 900 square miles recently set apart by the Government for the purposes of the Lutheran Missionaries, and situated on the Finke River, McDonnell Ranges, about 50 miles west of the Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

The Missionaries and their party left Adelaide in September last, but as they have about 1100 miles to travel, some time will necessarily elapse before their destination is reached and preliminary difficulties overcome, and it will probably be next year before they are in a position to report results.

In the previous report from this Department [561] reference was made to a Communication from Dr Black of Cape Town to His Excellency Sir H. Musgrave, suggesting the desirability of steps being taken, to collect Aboriginal folklore and information of an Ethnological nature respecting the Australian Natives, with a view to ?talking ?? ?? a series of questions on the subjects now proposed by Mr Taplin, adopted and embodied in a circular about 100 copies of which were distributed only last year by ?? of the agency of the Police and Survey Department and some private ?? in those parts of the province from whence
the information sought for, would most ?? be obtained. Up to this date 25 replies thereto have been received some of which are tolerably complete and full, affording a prospect that eventually valuable contribution will be made to Australian ethnological science when a larger number of returns come to hand and are arranged in a collected form and published –

A wide field for enquiries of this nature exists in the Northern Territory where there are numerous tribes, with whose language, manners, and customs we are still imperfectly acquainted. A supply of the Circulars and questions [562] have been forwarded late Dr Grey, Protector of Aborigines at Port Darwin, and subsequently to his successor Dr ?Sturt but no contributions have yet been received from either of these Officers.

I beg to draw attention to various suggestions which appeared in the last two reports of this department in reference to the desirability of additional special legislation with respect to the Aborigines – There are several Ordinances and Acts now existing which were passed in the early days of the Colony for the natives, that might now be amended and consolidated with advantage.

There are now 54 depots in the Province for the distribution of blankets, rations, medicines, and medical comforts to the natives in need of such relief – 21 of these depots are in charge of Pastoral Lessees, 22 at Police Stations, 6 at Mission stations, & 5 in private hands. – Depots were opened during the year at – Moolooloo, Edithburgh, Hiltruby & Finke River, and closed at Nilpena, Tarpeena and Walleberdina. 

[Hamilton]

563
25th February 1876
Mr E.H. Deane, P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to apply to Mr Richard Tregalgas of Wellington, for payment of a Sum of £ 1. 12. 0 the amount claimed by an Aboriginal named “William McHughes” under the circumstances set forth in the annexed Statement.
Should Mr Tregilgas refuse to pay this money, you are requested to ascertain, if possible, the grounds of his refusal and report same to me at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]

564
28th February 1876
Mr A Leonard
Edithburgh
Sir,
Referring to annexed Extract from the “Register” of this date, commenting on the condition of the Aborigines of the Southern part of Y. Peninsula, in the vicinity of Edithburgh and Sultana, I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to furnish me with a report for the information of the Honorable the Commissioner respecting the correctness or otherwise of the Statements contained in the extract referred to.

[Hamilton]
2nd March 876
The Revd Geo. Taplin
Point McLeay

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 22nd ulto., with reference to the case of Abor. McHughes, I have the honor to inform you that, P.T. Deane of Wellington has been directed to apply to Mr R. Tregilgas for payment of the amount claimed by McHughes, and I now enclose for your information the report which has been received from P.T. Deane containing the results of his application for this money.

[Hamilton]

3rd March 1876
Mr W. W. O’Connor P.T.
Narracoorte

I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to call your attention to the subject of Medical attendance on the Aborigines in the Narracoorte district, and to state that, in future, Medical Officers’ a/cs for service rendered to Aborigines, must be certified by the Police Officer in charge of the Aboriginal depot “that the medical aid was absolutely necessary, was duly afforded, and that the charges are fair and reasonable.”

[Hamilton]

3rd March 1876
Mr P. Shiels P.T.
Millicent

Similar letter to 566

[Hamilton]

8th March 1876
Messrs G. & R. Wills & Co

Gentlemen,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your tender of the 28th ulto., has been accepted for the supply of 1800 Blue Blankets @ 7/7 ½ each, in terms of Gov Gazette Notice of Call for Tenders for Blankets for Aborigines for 1876-7, dated the 8th February 1876.

[Hamilton]
569
8th March 1876
Corporal J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 4th, reporting that the Canoes for Aborigines are to be delivered by the Contractor at Milang on the 8th inst., I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough, when you have taken delivery of these Canoes, to have nine of them forwarded by first opportunity, addressed ?? viz:
Five Canoes - The Revd Geo. Taplin, Point Mcleay
Two do - Mr E.H. Deane P.T., Wellington
Two do - Mr A. Webb, Long Island, River Murray

The remaining Four Canoes will be retained by you for distribution to such of the Milang Natives as you may consider most entitled to them.

[Hamilton]

570
9th March 1876
Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
In view of the annual classification of the officers in the Civil Service, and as the Sub-Estimates for 1876-7 are now under consideration, I have the honor respectfully to ask that, you will be good enough to consider the classification of the office of Sub-Protector of Aborigines at Adelaide.
In support of this request, I beg to submit that, the other Sub-Protectors in the Service are placed in the Fourth and Third Class, but the duties of these officers are not more onerous and do not combine as many as are performed by the Head of the Aborigines Department, who has the whole of the responsibility attached to the office, devolving upon him as regards the expenditure of the Aborigines’ vote, the conduct of the general correspondence and inspections of the depots.
I beg also also to add that, I have been on the Fixed list of the Civil Service of this Province for 10 years 11 months’ continuous service.
Under the circumstances, I would respectfully suggest that, I may be placed in an equal position with the other officers referred to.

[Hamilton]

571
21st March 1876
Mr H. Humphries P.T.
Border Town
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., stating that 400 lbs of the Flour now on hand at our Depot is quite unfit for eating and that the remaining portion of the Flour is beginning to turn bad, and suggesting it delivered to another depot for immediate issue.
As the flour referred to is doubtless good enough for animals, you are requested to endeavour to obtain for the five bags of unsound flour, three bags at least of good seconds flour, this would be estimating the damaged article at about the price of pollard, to which it must be equal in value.

[Hamilton]
572
20\textsuperscript{th} March 1876
Alfred Leonard Esq
Edithburgh
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of your application of the 4\textsuperscript{th} inst., for a boat for the use of the Aborigines at Edithburgh. The necessary steps will be taken to have this boat shortly forwarded to its destination.
I have to request that, you will be good enough to name some suitable person at Sultana Bay, who would be willing to take charge of the boat and exercise a general supervision over it. [Hamilton]

No 573

574
20\textsuperscript{th} March 1876
G.C. Debney Esq., J.P.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 7\textsuperscript{th} inst., intimating that, you desire to resign the office of Issuer at the Aborigines’ depot at Crystal Brook, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that, you will be good enough to name some suitable person at or near Crystal Brook, who would be willing to take charge of the Depot and act as Issuer of Stores.
The removal of this Depot to Pt Pirie is considered undesirable as it would induce the Aborigines to hang about a seaport township where they would probably be brought into contact with temptations to drunkenness &c. [Hamilton]

575
21\textsuperscript{st} March 1876
A.D. Tassie & Co., Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to forward me a statement, showing what Aborigines Stores are still retained by you at Port Augusta, if any, and what prospect there is of getting same despatched to their several destinations. [Hamilton]

576
31\textsuperscript{st} March 876
Mr A. Webb
Issuer of Stores
Aborigines Depot
Long Island
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to call your attention to the annexed statements made by the Revd Geo. Taplin and Abor. “George Pantuni” of Pt MacLeay, in reference to the alleged seduction of the wife of “Pantuni” by another Native named “Henry Lampard” under circumstances reflecting on your conduct.
I am further directed to ask if you have any explanation to offer in reference to the above statement. [Hamilton]
4th April 1876
The Revd Geo. Taplin
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 27th ulto., reporting the case of Abor. “George Pantuni”, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that, you will be good enough to furnish me with a further statement outlining the reasons why the Native “Henry Lampard” was not prosecuted for “seducing a young unmarried woman in a most beastly manner.” If “Lampard” was such a diabolical character, and if you knew of his crimes, the Honorable Commissioner desires to learn why you did not furnish particulars to this office, so that steps might have been taken to punish him. If “Lampard” violated the native women referred to, against their will and consent, he would be liable to be indicted for rape or assault with intent &c.

[Hamilton]

5th April 1876
Mr George Pantuni
Point McLeay
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27th ulto., stating the circumstances under which your wife “Amelia” has been persuaded by the native “Henry Lampard” to leave you and live with him, and enquiring whether you are still liable to be called upon to supply your wife with food and clothing.

In reply, I am directed to inform you that, a wife who deserts her husband and commits adultery with another man, has no legal claim on her husband for support in any way, so long as the husband does not condone the offence by again cohabiting with her.

You cannot be legally married again to another wife, while your present wife “Amelia” is alive, except a divorce is obtained by you from the Supreme Court.

[Hamilton]

7th April 1876
Mr Thos McCallum
McGrath’s Flat
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to call your attention to the incomplete nature of the monthly Store Returns for January and February last, received from the Depot at McGrath’s Flat, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to have correct separate returns for each of those months prepared and forwarded to this office.

I am directed also to point out that, all indiscriminate issues of rations should be avoided, and the relief confined to the old, sick, and infirm natives, the able-bodied should receive no rations except in extreme cases of absolute necessity.

[Hamilton]
20 April 1876
Mr T. Hunter P.T.
Penola
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 1st inst., stating that, you had no Medical comforts on hand at the depot for the relief of sick Abor. “James Crowe” who died on the 20th May last, and that what nourishment you provided for him by order of the doctor had been out of your own private purse, I have the honor to inform you that, the Medical comforts can be supplied in such cases when certified by a qualified Medical Practitioner to be absolutely necessary, and the a/cs for such when certified by the officer in charge of the depot, are to be forwarded to this office for payment.
I presume it is hardly necessary to forward supplies of medical comforts from Adelaide to the depot, as the occasions for requiring such appear to be very few – and can be dealt with in the manner I have indicated.

[Hamilton]

25th April 1876
The Revd George Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 29th ulto., suggesting that the neighbourhood of the Murray Bridge appears to have become a very undesirable place for an Aborigines’ depot, and in reply, I am instructed by the Honorable the Commissioner to inform you that, enquiries have been made on this subject and the Honorable Commissioner has approved of the closing the Depot at Murray Bridge as soon as the supply of Stores now on hand has been issued.

[Hamilton]

25th April 1876
The Revd W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., applying for an additional supply of Blankets & Clothing for the natives at the Point Pierce Aboriginal Mission Station, and in reply I am directed by the Honorable the commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, he has approved of your application, and the articles as per list hereunder will be forwarded to you in due course.
40 Blankets
24 pr Moleskin trowsers
24 Cotton Shirts

[Hamilton]

26th April 1876
Mr A.H. Florance
Millicent
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 13th inst., asking that in the event of any Medicines being required for sick aborigines at Millicent, P.T. Shiels may be allowed to obtain them from you, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your request cannot be complied with.

[Hamilton]
27th April 1876
Mr Thomas Wright
Sir,
I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to inform me if you are willing to take charge of the Aborigines Stores Depot at Edithburgh, and issue rations to the Natives of the district who are entitled to relief.
In the mean time I shall be glad if you will take temporary charge of the Depot, until a successor to the late issuer (Mr A. Leonard) has been appointed.
I enclose in separate parcel by this Post, the key of the Aboriginal Store room.

28th April 1876
Corpl J. Leahey
Port Augusta
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 24th inst., applying for firewood for the use of the sick and infirm natives at Port Augusta, and enclosing letter from Dr Cotter to you, in support of the request, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to convey to you authority to incur an expenditure not exceeding £ 1. 10. 0 per load to the extent of three loads of firewood, per annum, for the relief of the old and infirm natives at Port Augusta.
Mr Macky’s a/c for the firewood supplied to the depot last year, was passed in the September Schedule 1875 and has been payable at the Treasury since to him or his order.

5th May 1876
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 28th Ulto., applying for stores for the Aborigines depot at Blinman, and requesting that the Rations may be of a quality suited for Invalids, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the Rations now supplied to Aborigines depots are similar in kind & quality to those furnished to other Government Departments viz., the Gaols, Destitute Asylum & Reformatory and Industrial Schools.
I may add that I will make a point of examining the Stores now sent myself at Govt Store, and shall see that they are quite equal in every respect to the sample.

9th May 1876
Mr Thos Wright
Edithburgh
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., intimating your willingness to take charge of the Aboriginal depot at Edithburgh for the distribution of Stores to the natives in that locality entitled to relief.
I forward herewith printed forms and instructions for your guidance in issuing stores, which you will be good enough to fill out and hand over to your successor on any change of office – The monthly returns are to be filled up on the last day of each month and furnished regularly to this office.

[Hamilton]
9th May 1876
Mr Thos Wright
Edithburgh
Sir,
In reference to the Boat now supplied for the use of the Aborigines at Edithburgh &c, I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to name some suitable person at Sultana Bay, who would be willing to take charge of the Boat and exercise a general supervision over it, pending this arrangement you are requested to take charge of it.

[Hamilton]

11th May 1876
Corpl Shaw
Overland Corner
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., asking for instructions in reference to issuing blankets to certain natives who do not belong to your district, I have the honor to request you that you will use your own discretion in this matter and issue blankets to those natives you may consider most in need of such (You are, I presume, aware that blankets are also issued from the depots at Chowilla & Blanchetown), and care should be taken, that natives who have received blankets from these Stations, do not by imposition, obtain them again at your depot.

[Hamilton]

15th May 1876
Mr Arthur Webb
Long Island
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, it has been determined to discontinue the Aboriginal depot at Long Island, Murray Bridge, and ?? when the Stores now on hand have been issued the depot will be closed.
I have also to request that you will be good enough to give the natives of your locality to understand that their blankets &c &c will in future be issued from the depot at Wellington.

[Hamilton]

25th May 1876
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 23rd inst., I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner to convey to you his authority to incur an expenditure not exceeding sixteen shillings (16/-) for the purchase of one load of firewood for the use of the sick Aboriginals at Goolwa depot.

[Hamilton]
29th May 1876
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Aborigines depot at Long Island, Murray Bridge, has been closed, and in future the Natives in that locality entitled to relief will obtain their supplies from the depot under your charge at Wellington.

593
5th June 1876
Rev F.W. Cox, Chairman
J. Pickering Esq., Hon. Sec.
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Gentlemen,
In reply to your letters dated the 16th November and 4th December 1875, applying on behalf of the AFA for a block of Land ?? on to the Reserve now occupied for the purposes of the Association at Point Macleay Native institution, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the piece of land marked and colored red in enclosed diagram, has been proclaimed an Aboriginal reserve (vide Govt Gazette of 13th April 1876, Page 669) in accordance [594] with the provisions of Clause 9 of Act No. 18 of 1872.
In conveying to you the Honorable Commissioner’s authority to occupy the reserve, I would state that, the Government would be willing to lease such reserve at a ?? cost but the existing law under which Aboriginal reserves can be leased, ?provide that all such leases must be offered at auction, which prevent these reserves being leased at an annual rent to anhy one, so long however as the proclamation referred to continue unrevoked it is very improbable that the Association will [595] be disturbed in their occupancy of he reserve in question, and the Crown Lands Ranger has been instructed not to impound or interfere with any cattle or sheep depasturing thereon.

12th June 1876
Mr Jas Hiern
Hiltrubey
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 24th October last, asking that Police protection might be extended to Hiltrubey I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, having taken all the circumstances into consideration he does not feel justified in putting the government to the expense of stationing a Trooper in the locality referred to.

15th June 1876
Messrs Newman & Son, Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to forward separate parcel by this post forms of ?certificate, which you will be good enough to have used when Flour is shipped by you for this Department.
I have also to request that you will cause the Certificates which have been issued, to be forwarded to this office, not later than the 26th of each month.
17th June 1876
Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
With reference to your letter of the 12th ulto., requesting that the interference of this Department might be exercised with a view to the recovery of the ½ caste girl “Annie Walker” alleged to be living with an Aboriginal named “Paddy Smith” I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the Police have been instructed to take action in this matter, and I now enclose for your information, Copy of Report received from P.T. Thornton of Kingston, upon the subject.

[Hamilton]

19th June 1876
Mr T. P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers’ Bay

Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 21st ulto., stating that, you have not yet received a Package of Stores containing 36 yds Serge, 12 Fishing Lines and 1 lb thread which were ordered for your depot on the 4th February last, I have the honor to inform you that I find on enquiry the stores in question were omitted to be forwarded to you by the storeman at Govt Store.
I have now given instructions to have these articles despatched by first opportunity to their destination.

[Hamilton]

21st June 1876
Mr P. Shiels P.T.
Millicent

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., stating that, the Aborigines Stores, ordered for your depot on the 16th May last, have not reached their destination, I have the honor to inform you that, Messrs J. Newman & Son report that, these goods were shipped per “New Arrival” on the 16th inst., being the first opportunity that offered for Rivoli Bay.

[Hamilton]
21st June 1876
The Revd G.J. Rechner
Lights Pass
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., requesting on behalf of the committee for the Lutheran Mission at Kopperamanna, that the supplies for that depot for the whole year may be forwarded to Port Augusta during the present month, with a view to avoid the difficulty experienced in getting stores carted from Port Augusta to Kopperamanna in the summertime.
In reply, I am directed to state that, a supply of stores, as per margin hereof, will be forwarded in the course of a few days to Port Augusta, for the depot at Kopperamanna.

- 3 tons Flour
- 750 lbs Sugar
- 123 lbs Tea
- 112 lbs Rice
- 30 lbs Tobacco
- 112 lbs Soap
- 112 lbs Sago
- * 25 Single Blankets
- 50 yds Serge
- 36 Blue shirts
- 300 Needles
- 2 lbs Thread
- 24 Spoons
- 48 Quart Pots
- 48 Annicans

- 25 Blankets have already been sent to Kopperamanna for ensuing year.

Copy of last Aborigines Report enclosed as requested.

[Hamilton]

23rd June 1876
Mr C.A. Myers
Kopperamanna
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to remind you that, you have not yet acknowledged receipt of the ½ ton red Ochre, which was forwarded to Kopperamanna in October 1874, for distribution among the Lake Hope Natives, with a view to prevent their annual trips to the southward in each of ochre during which they are alleged to commit depredations, robbing shepherds' huts &c on their line of march.
The Honorable Commissioner desires to learn whether the issue of this ochre is likely to attain the desired results by keeping these natives in their own district, as in that case arrangements will be made to forward further supplies of the ochre to Kopperamanna.

[Hamilton]
27th June 1876
Corpl W. Smith
Wallaroo
Sir,
In reference to your letter of the 22nd inst., suggesting the desirability of supplying Stores for the Wallaroo depot to the natives monthly, I have the honor inform you that the rations &c can be issued as you propose to the Aborigines entitled to relief, due care being taken to provide for any cases of immediate and pressing necessity when they arise.

[Hamilton]

28th June 1876
Mr C.A. Meyer
Kopperamanna
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., respecting the natives at Kopperamanna and Cooper’s Creek, I have the honor to inform you that, your letter has been forwarded to Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman, and when his report thereon has been received, I will communicate with you again upon the questions referred to in your letter.

With regard to your statement ‘that a settler at Cooper’s Creek had ordered the natives to leave his run, as he had taken a lease of the land, and would not allow them to remain thereon any longer” – I have to state that, a pastoral lessee is not justified in interfering with the Aborigines on his run in the manner complained of, as his lease contains a clause specially reserving to the Aborigines [605] their full and free right to live upon such land, to erect wurleys &c, to use springs and surface water thereon and to take and use for food all such native wild birds and animals as they are accustomed to.

I have also to request that you will be good enough to report the circumstances under which the settler in question objected to the natives remaining on his run, and forward a statement to this office giving full particulars as to name and dates &c – to enable the necessary action to be taken to protect the interests of these Natives.

[Hamilton]

28th June 1876
Revd W.J. Kuhn, Point Pierce
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22nd inst., in reference to the Aborigines at Edithburgh and expressing an opinion that the boat recently supplied by the Department for the use of the Natives of that locality will prove a questionable benefit to them.

In reply, I have to inform you that, the boat referred to was provided on the recommendation of the Officer in Charge of the Aborigines’ depot at Edithburgh, who represented that there were several natives in that district, who were unfitted for any arduous labors & to whom a boat for fishing purposes would be a great boon. I may also add that this boat has not been handed over to the sole charge of the natives, but has been placed under the supervision of an European, who has undertaken to see that the natives make a proper use of it.

[Hamilton]
3rd July 1876
Revd George Taplin
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 22nd and 24th inst., in reference to the Aboriginal King “Peter” represented to be suffering from insanity and ?? of the chest, in recommending his removal to the Lunatic Asylum. In reply, I am to state that your letters have been submitted to the Resident Medical Officer of the Asylum, who reports that, the native referred to can be admitted into the Asylum on production of the necessary Certificates. The better plan would be to commit him on a charge of lunacy, by arranging with the Police at Milang to have him brought before two Justices &c &c.

[Hamilton]

7th July 1876
W.R. Thompson Esq.,
Wallanippie
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst., complaining that the last supply of Aboriginal stores forwarded to Wallanippie were landed at Streaky Bay instead of at Point Brown. And in reply I have to state that, Messrs J. Newman & Son, Govt Shipping Agents, report that they were obliged in this instant to ship these stores for Streaky Bay, there being no vessel bound for Pt. Brown, and no probability of one calling there till the wool season, and that they thought it better to send them to Streaky Bay at the risk of Cartage, than keeping them here for at least three months. Under these circumstances this Department will be prepared to pay all fair and reasonable charges for cartage of stores in question from Streaky Bay to the Depot.

[Hamilton]

10th July 1876
Mr T.P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 25th ulto., applying for a Boat for the use of the Natives at Fowlers’ Bay, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that steps will be taken to have a Boat forwarded to the Aboriginal depot at Fowlers’ Bay, with as little delay as possible.

[Hamilton]

12th July 1876
Mr John Reid
Forest Reserve
Crystal Brook
Sir,
I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to inform me, if you are willing to undertake the duty of issuing the blankets and such other stores as may be necessary for the relief of the sick & the old and infirm Natives who are located in the Crystal Brook district.

[Hamilton]
14th July 1876
Corpl Leahy
Port Augusta
Sir
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., addressed to Mr Buttfield Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman, reporting that, you have been instructed by Dr Cotton the Govt Medical officer at Port Augusta, to give to all the Aborigines a little rice and sago, extra, with the usual rations allowed them by the Govt &c – and in reply I beg to refer you to Clause 3 of the Instructions to Issuers &c – from which you will perceive that you are fully authorized to carry out the instructions of the Doctor in accordance therewith.
A supply of rice and sago when required, will be forwarded to the Depot on your application. [Hamilton]

14th July 1876
Mr T. W. Allen
Edithburgh
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 11th inst., stating that, you are unable to forward the returns of Stores Issued at the Aborigines depot at Edithburgh during April, May and June last, as you had omitted to obtain from your predecessor (Mr Wright) the balance on hand when he left the office, I have the honor to inform you that, the balance of stores on hand at the Depot in question on the 31st March last, as per return for that month – stands as follows – viz.:
- Flour 400 lbs
- Sugar 52 lbs
- Tea 10 lbs
- Rice 7 lbs
- Tobacco ½ lb
- Blankets 13
- Blue Shirts 2
- Tomahawks 3
A supply of monthly Return forms are forwarded to you in separate parcel by this post. [Hamilton]

14th July 1876
Sergt B.C. Besley
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., reporting the damaged condition of the Aborigines Stores at the Narracoorte Depot, and stating, that they are unfit for use and are valueless, and requesting instructions as to their disposal, I have to inform you that, you are hereby authorized to have the damaged Stores destroyed, and you will be good enough to make an entry to that effect in your next monthly Return.
As you state, the natives of your district do not seem to require rations, it will not be desirous to forward supplies at present. When such are required you can advise me by Telegram, and any pressing cases of necessity – could be dealt with under Clause 3, pf the Instructions to Issuers of stores &c. [Hamilton]
27th July 1876
Mr M. Corcoran P.T.
Port Wakefield
Sir,
Referring to the statement in your letter of the 24th inst., “that the last tea that was forwarded to this Station, the box was half-full of waste paper”, I have the honor to inform you that, all Aborigines Stores should be inspected on their receipt at a Station, and any deficiency therein should be immediately reported to this Office.

[Hamilton]

28th July 1876
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reference to your letter of the 22nd inst., stating that, certain stores viz. Tomahawks and Tinware, have not reached your depot, I have the honor to inform you that, on making inquiry at Govt Store, I find that, the goods in question, owing to some delay on the part of the Contractor, were not despatched to Goolwa until the 25th inst.
With regard to the deficiency in the article “Sago”, a further supply will be forwarded to you at any time on your application.

[Hamilton]

31st July 1876
W.B. Thompson Esq
Wallianippie
Sir,
Referring to your remarks in the Aboriginal return from Wallianippie Depot for “June” last, “It is a shame the way the Captains occasionally treat the Stores for the Depot, they throw them down any where on the Coast within 60 miles of the Station.” – I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to put this Complaint in a more specific form, giving me the names of the vessel and Captain and the time of the occurrence. I will then have the attention of Messrs J. Newman & Son, Government Shipping Agents, called to the matter with a view to the prevention of these evils complained of.

[Hamilton]
617
1st August 1876
Messrs Ormerod & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th inst., enclosing your a/c against this Department, amount £ 1. 0. 1 – for freight & dray charges on Aboriginal stores at Kingston, and in reply beg to draw your attention to an error appearing in one of the items in your a/c viz. – the charge of 3/7 for freight, Sightage &c on package “Tubs & Contents” for Miss Armstrong, Native School, 3/- of this amount for freight was included in the July schedule in 1875, and paid by J. Newman & Son to your Adelaide Agent (Mr G. Young) whose receipt is attached to the Schedule.
This will leave a balance of 17/1 due to you which will be passed in Schedule for current month and payable at resarvy about the 5th Proximo.
I have to request that, in future, you will be good enough to have your a/c against this department rendered within three months of the date of the expense being incurred. [Hamilton]

618
1st August 1876
Mrs Lawson
Madam,
In reply to your letter of the 22nd ulto., stating that you had received the cart note of the bale of blankets for Aborigines at Padthaway, but that the blankets had not arrived there, I have the honor to inform you that on making further inquiry herein I have ascertained from Messrs Ormerod and Co., the agents at Kingston who received these Blankets, that they forwarded them on the 25th February last to Padthaway by Patrick Maher a carter, and whose receipt they hold. [Hamilton]

619
2nd August 1886
Dr Shand
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 26th ulto., addressed to the Chairman of the Destitute Board, Adelaide, enclosing an a/c for 15/- amount paid by you for the board and lodging of a sick Aboriginal (“Tommy Newland”) at the Goolwa Hospital, I have the honor to inform you that this a/c will be included in the Schedule for current month, and the money will be payable to you or order, at the Treasury on or after the 6th prox.
Any future communication you may have to make respecting the natives, should be forwarded to this Office. [Hamilton]

620
2nd August 1876
Messrs W. King Jnr & Co
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that the the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has accepted your offer of the 12th ulto. to ?prepare and fit together a small galvanized iron Store 6 x 8 x 7 ft high &c – for the sum of Fourteen pounds ten shillings (£ 14. 10. 0) and I have to request that you will be good enough to inform me, when the Store is complete, as I wish to see it prior to being packed and forwarded to its destination. [Hamilton]
622
3rd August 1876
Mr John Reid
Beetaloo
Gladstone
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 30th ulto., intimating your willingness to undertake the issuing of the blankets &c to the Natives of the Crystal Brook district, I have the honor to inform you that, prior to the receipt of your reply to my letter of the 12th ulto., it had been decided to place the Aboriginal Depot in charge of the Police at Crystal Brook.

[Hamilton]

623
4th August 1876
Dr R.A. Creelman
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 29th ulto., I have the honor to inform you that, your a/c for medical attendance on the native woman at Salt Creek on the 22nd ulto., will be included in the Schedule for the current month, and payable at the Treasury about the 5th prox.

Your quarterly A/c for medical attendance &c at Kingston &c has been passed, also the a/cs of Messrs Martin and McDonald all of which are now payable at the Treasury on presentation of the usual procuration orders.

[Hamilton]

624
11th August 1876
Messrs W. King Jnr & Co.
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to forward the Galvanized Iron Store, prepared by you for this Department, addressed as under – viz.:

The Officer in Charge
Police Station
Crystal Brook

Via Port Pirie

c/- J. Newman & Son
Port Adelaide

Will you furnish me with an invoice of the different parts of the Store which should be numbered or marked to facilitate its erection.

[Hamilton]

625
15th August 1876
Sergt B.C. Besley, Narracoorte
Sir,
Referring to your Memo, of the 7th inst., enquiring, if it is necessary that returns should be sent in monthly from your Depot, there being only blankets on hand, I have the honor to inform you that, quarterly returns will be sufficient under the circumstances referred to.

[Hamilton]
626
15th August 1876
G.L. Debney Esq., J.P.
Sir,

In reply to your letters of 6th March and 8th ulto., stating your desire to resign office as Issuer of the Aboriginal depot at Crystal Brook, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the Depot has been transferred to the Police at Crystal Brook and you will be good enough to hand over to the Trooper stationed there, on his application, all Aborigines Stores remaining in your custody.

[Hamilton]

627
16th August 1876
The Officer in Charge
Police Station
Crystal Brook

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the Aborigines Depot at Crystal Brook being placed under your charge, and Mr G.L. Debney J.P. has been instructed to transfer to you on your application, all Aborigines Stores now in his Custody.

I forward herewith supply of forms for the monthly returns which require to be regularly transmitted to this Office, and also copy of Instructions for your guidance in issuing rations to the Sick and infirm natives entitled to relief.

[Hamilton]

628
16th August 1876
The Officer in Charge
Police Station
Crystal Brook

Sir,

I have the honor by direction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, with a view to make provision for the storage of the Aborigines rations, blankets &c, at Crystal Brook, a small galvanized iron building, prepared and fitted together in Adelaide, will be forwarded to you by Messrs J. Newman & Son, via Port Pirie, and I have to request that on its receipt, you will be good enough to obtain and forward to me an offer in writing from a local tradesman to put the building together. The Store should stand on and be fixed to Six ?blocks or posts driven into the ground, to ensure it stability and raise the floor at least one foot from the surface of the ground.

[Hamilton]
21st August 1876
W.J. O’Shanahan P.T.
Three Lakes

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 13th inst., enclosing two Cartage a/cs from Messrs Harte and Bramfield, I have the honor to inform you that, these a/cs will be passed in the Schedule for current month, and be payable at the Treasury about 5th prox.
In future, before sending in a/cs to this office, will you be good enough to certify their correctness, on the face of each a/c.

With regard to your remark that, the rate of Cartage from Venus Bay to the Depot at Three Lakes is so high that £4 per ½ ton or under is asked, I have to request that you will endeavor to get the cartage of the Aborigines Stores performed at the lowest possible charge – this department should not be called upon to pay more than the usual current rates of cartage in the locality.

[Hamilton]

26th August 1876
Mr T.P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers Bay

Sir,
Referring to the remarks in your “July” Return – “That the greater part of the natives are working at brushfencing on the Fowlers Bay Station, for which work they ought to be better paid than they are” – I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to supply me with some additional particulars as to the nature and extent of the remuneration received by the natives alluded to.

[Hamilton]

29th August 1876
The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c

Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to draw your attention to the difficulty experienced in dealing with Aboriginal Reserves under the existing Land Laws, there being no legal power to convey these Reserves for the benefit of the Aborigines for a term of years at a nominal rent, Vide annexed correspondence (157/75 and 408/75).

With a view to the settlement of the question on a more definite basis, I would respectfully suggest the desirability of some provision being introduced into the new Land Bill, and under your consideration to enable Aboriginal reserves, proclaimed under the 6th Clause of the Bill, to be conveyed for any term of years, to any approved Aboriginal native, or aboriginal half-caste [632] for agricultural purposes, or to any Trustees representing any School or Institution established for the education and industrial employment and training of the Aborigines.

In lieu of the 10th Clause of the Bill, which appears somewhat obscure in its phraseology, I beg to suggest the insertion of a clause making it lawful for the Governor, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to convey either by lease or occupation licence, Aboriginal reserves for the above-mentioned purposes for a term of years.

[Hamilton]
633
1st September 1876
Geo. Addison Esq., M.D.
Mt Gambier
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has had under his consideration your Returns of Sick Aborigines under treatment in the Mount Gambier district, from which it appears that, since your appointment as Government Medical Officer to the Natives, the number of cases treated by you have been “Nil” – under these circumstances the Commissioner does not feel justified in authorizing the continual payment of a yearly stipend for services which appear to have become unnecessary.
I am therefore directed by the Commissioner to intimate that, the engagement now existing between the Government and you, as Medical Officer to the Aborigines of the Mount Gambier district, will terminate on the 31st December next ensuing.

[Hamilton]

634
4th September 1876
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your remark in the August Return from the Milang Depot, that a further supply of firewood is required, I have the honor to inform you that, you are authorized to procure five loads of firewood for the use of the sick, old and infirm natives at Milang.

[Hamilton]

635
5th September 1876
The Secretary to the
Adelaide Carrying Co.
Sir,
I have the honor to draw your attention to a report I have received from the Officer in Charge of the Aborigines Depot at Goolwa, stating that the Stores ordered on the 9th ulto., reached him in four lots on the dates respectively, the 21st, 26th, 29th ulto., and 2nd inst. He complains that, this irregular and dilatory transport of these Stores causes much inconvenience, compelling him to borrow to meet demands on the Depot, and incur additional expenses for cartage at Goolwa from Station to Depot.
I shall be glad if you will have inquiry made herein and steps taken to secure the more prompt and regular delivery of the Stores in future.

[Hamilton]
636
7th September 1876
Mr W.A. Christie P.T.
Crystal Brook
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., (forwarded through Mr Inspector Saunders of Clare) in reference to the erection of the Aborigines Store at Crystal Brook, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to inform me where you recommend this building to be erected, whether on Government or private land, if on the latter, you had better state whether the owner thereof will be prepared to enter into a written undertaking to permit the erection of the store and also its removal at any future time.
I have further to request that all your communications respecting the Aborigines Depot under your charge – may be forwarded to me direct to this office.

[Hamilton]

637
11th September 1876
A.D. Tassie & Co.,
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to furnish me with a Return of the names of the Aborigines Depots for which you have the Stores still on hand at Port Augusta, and a statement as to when you will probably be able to have such stores forwarded onto their destinations.

[Hamilton]

638
11th September 1876
P.J. Turner Esq., S.M.
Mount Gambier
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 6th inst., calling my attention to the case of the two sick Natives at Mt Gambier, who stated that they had been unable to obtain any blankets from the depot, I have the honor to inform you that Mrs Smith is supplied annually with 20 blankets for distributing to the Aborigines, but for several years past she has not applied for rations &c.,- under Clause three of her instructions (Copy of which is enclosed) she is fully authorised to procure every thing necessary in cases of emergency like the present.
With regard to the statement of the native that, “the Govt built a house for blackfellow, but that Mrs Smith let whitefellow have it.” I can find no record of any such building having been put up at Mt Gambier by the Govt. Mrs Smith applied to this Department in 1866, for increased accommodation for sick blacks at Mt Gambier, but her application was not entertained on the ground that the land on which the building was proposed to be erected, did not belong to Government.

[Hamilton]
639
12th September 1876
Mr T. Moriarty P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst., drawing my attention to the irregular and dilatory transport of the Aborigines Stores from Adelaide to Goolwa, I have the honor to inform you that, I have brought the matter under the notice of the South Australian Carrying Company, the Secretary of which expresses regret that such should have been the case, and states that strict injunctions have been given to the officers of the Co. to be particularly careful to avoid anything of the kind happening again.

[Hamilton]

640A
19th September 1876
Mr Wm Campbell Jnr P.T.
Govt Gums
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th inst., drawing attention to the condition of certain Aborigines at the Govt Gums, and requesting that Rations, Blankets and Medicines may be forwarded to you for their use.
In reply, I am directed to inform you that, your letter has been referred to Mr Buttfield Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman, and on receipt of his report thereon, you will be communicated with again on the subject.
Any further communication you may have to make respecting the Aborigines of your district, should be forwarded through Mr Buttfield, who is SubProtector for the Far North.

[Hamilton]

640
19th September 1876
Mr M.A. Christie P.T.
Crystal Brook
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 16th inst., acknowledging receipt of the Aborigines Iron Store, except ridge-capping not yet delivered to you, and enclosing offer from Mr W. James to erect Store for £4, I have the honor to state that this amount appears to me excessive, as the Store was fitted together in Adelaide and when taken to pieces for packing each part was marked or numbered, so that its erection now should be a very simple matter.
Was Mr James fully aware when he made this offer, what work would be required?
If there is another tradesman in your locality, it will be desirable that you obtain a second offer from him for the erection of the Store, and forward it to me without delay.
I will communicate with Messrs J. Newman & Son, the Govt Shipping Agents, in reference to the missing ridge capping.

[Hamilton]
641
21st September 1876
Mr M.A. Christie P.T.
Crystal Brook
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 6th inst., respecting the missing portion of the Aborigines Store (ridge-capping) I have received from Messrs J. Newman & Son, who shipped the Store, copy of the receipt they hold from Schooner “Experiment” which shows that the package Ridge-capping was among the goods and there is no doubt was taken to Pt Pirie, and the agents of the “Experiment” there will have to find it – You had better present the receipt you hold and claim the missing article.

[Hamilton]

642
21st September 1876
Mr Geo. Noble
Parallana
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, I perceived from a return supplied to me by Tassie and Co. of Pt Augusta, that the Stores forwarded in 1875 for the Aborigines Depot at Parallana are still on hand at Pt Augusta, no opportunity to forward them to their destination having presented itself. Messrs Tassie & Co. suggest that, as there are no teams going out direct to Parallana, it would be desirable to forward these Stores to the nearest available Station from which you may be able to arrange for their further transport. Be good enough to say if this plan is practicable, and I will then instruct Messrs Tassie accordingly.
I beg to remind you that I have not received the monthly returns from your depot since October 1874, when a balance of Stores appeared on hand of Flour 891 lbs, Sugar 90 lbs, Tea 12 lbs, Tobacco 2 lbs. Return forms were posted to you in August 1875.

[Hamilton]

643
22nd September 1876
Geo. Warland Esq.,
Mundowadna
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., recommending the Police Station at Government Gums, as a suitable locality for the formation of an Abar. Depot, and in reply, to inform you, that your letter has been forwarded to Mr Buttfield, Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Blinman, for his report thereon, and on receipt of which I will communicate with you again on the subject.

[Hamilton]
22nd September 1876

J. W. Lewis Esq.

Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, Mr C.A. Meyer of the Lutheran Mission Station at Kopperamanna, has made a formal complaint to this Department, accusing you of having infringed the conditions of your lease as a pastoral lessee of the Crown, by intimating to Mr Vogelsang of the Mission Station referred to, “that you would not allow the Blacks to remain any longer on your run.”
I am further directed to ask if you have any explanation herein to offer.

[Hamilton]

25th September 1876

Mr F.W. Allen

Edithburgh

Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 19th inst., enclosing a/c from Mr Hart for freight and cartage of Aborigines Stores at Edithburgh, and stating that “the Agents are constantly complaining of the length of time they are kept out of their money.” I have the honor to inform you that, if a/cs against this department are forwarded to this office before the 25th of each month and are found correct, they are passed and payable at Treasury on or after the 5th of the following month.

[Hamilton]

25th September 1876

Mr F.W. Allen

Edithburgh

Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 19th inst., regarding authority to incur an expenditure of about thirty shillings (30/-) for fitting up the Aborigines Store room at Edithburgh with shelves, that before I can submit your application for the consideration of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c – it will be necessary that you inform me whether the building in which you propose to fit the shelving, belongs to the Government, or is private property.

[Hamilton]
647
25th September 1876
Corpl W. Smith
Wallaroo
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that P.T. Bray of Kadina has represented to this department, that there is a party of Natives in a destitute condition now at Kadina, and who are unable to travel to the depot at Wallaroo owing to their weak state of health, and I have to suggest that you will be good enough to forward to Kadina on the application of P.T. Bray a temporary supply of Rations and a few blankets and blue shirts, for the relief of these Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

648
25th September 1876
Mr Jas Bray P.T.
Kadina
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 20th inst., stating that, the ?? Aborigines camped near Kadina who are in great want and destitute as regards food and clothing, I have the honor to inform you that, instructions have been forwarded to Corpl Smith, the Issuer at the Wallaroo Depot, to forward to Kadina on your application, a temporary supply of Rations and clothing for the relief of the Natives referred to.

[Hamilton]

649
26th September 1876
The Revd A.C. Seckie
Bathurst, NSW
Sir.
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., asking for some information respecting the number and condition &c of the Aborigines of this Province.
In reply, I am directed to forward to you in separate parcel by this post, three copies of the last published Reports of this Department, and also three small pamphlets by the late Dr Moorhouse and Messrs Meyer and Gason in reference to habits, customs and languages of some of our native tribes.

[Hamilton]

650
27th September 1876
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P.,
Sub-Protector of Aborigines,
Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd ulto., addressed to the Surveyor General, asking that the two-roomed hut and cells now occupied by the Police at South Blinman may be placed at your disposal for the use of the Aborigines, as the Police are likely to leave for the Northern Township.
In reply, I am to state that the buildings referred to cannot at present be given up by the Police as they are indispensably necessary until other accommodation is provided for Police purposes.

[Hamilton]
2nd October 1876
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 8th ulto., reporting the existence of Venereal
diseases among some of the Aborigines of your district, that the subject has been referred to the
Colonial Surgeon who has instructed the Government medical contractor to forward to you a supply of
the necessary medicines for the treatment of the cases in question.

[Hamilton]

4th October 1876
Mr F.W. Allen
Edithburgh
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 19th ulto., I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the
Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to convey to you his authority to incur an expenditure not exceeding
the sum of thirty shillings (30/-) for fitting up shelving in the Aboriginal store room at Edithburgh. Such
fittings to be considered Government property and be removable at pleasure.

[Hamilton]

5th October 1876
Dr R.A. Creelman
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd inst., stating that you have not yet received £ 13. 15./- amount of a
medical a/c passed to your credit in August and payable at Treasury since 5th September last, I have the
honor to inform you that I find today that this money is still in the Treasury, and its non-receipt by you is
probably owing to some omission on the part of the Bank official who you state was authorised to
collect the money on your behalf.

[Hamilton]

10th October 1876
Messrs Ormerod and Co
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 29th July last, addressed to Messrs J. Newman and Son, Govt Shipping
agents, Port Adelaide, stating that you would make enquiries respecting a missing Bale of Blankets,
forwarded to you on the 25th February last to Mrs Lawson, Padthaway by Patrick Maher, Carter, whose
receipt you hold, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me what the result
of these inquiries has been.

[Hamilton]
655
11th October 1876
Mr Jas Bray P.T.
Kadina
Sir,
In reply to your letters of the 29th ulto., and the 9th inst., applying for rations &c for Aborigines located at Kadina, I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the transfer of the Aborigines depot from Wallaroo to Kadina, to be placed under you charge.
A supply of rations, clothing &c will be forwarded to you in due course, as per list enclosed.
I forward herewith printed forms of returns to be transmitted regularly to this office in accordance with the enclosed copy of instructions.
In response to your request for a few pairs of moleskin trowsers, I have to state that, these articles are not supplied by this Department to the Aborigines Depots.

[Hamilton]

656
12th October 1876
Corpl W. Smith
Sir,
In reply to your letters of the 9th inst., stating that you had forwarded the Rations &c &c to P.C. Bray at Kadina, according to instruction crom this office, and requesting a fresh supply of Stores for the depot at Wallaroo, I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has authorised the transfer of the Aborigines Depot from Wallaroo to Kadina, the latter place being more central to meet the requirements of the Natives who frequent the northern part of the Peninsula.
The few stores remaining in your hands can be retained by you and issued as necessity arises.

[Hamilton]

657
12th October 1876
Geo. Addison Esq., M.D.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst., intimating your desire to retain the appointment of Medical Officer to the Aborigines in the Mount Gambier district, and be paid by the case, should any cases occur, I have the honor by direction from the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that he does not consider it necessary that your appointment should be formally retained by you in the manner referred to, as in the event of any cases arising to require medical treatment and your services should be called for, you would receive remuneration in the same manner as other Medical Officers in similar cases.

[Hamilton]
658
13th October 1876
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
Referring to your Reports of the 18th ulto., and 2nd inst., on Abor. letters 329/76 and 335/76 on the subject of the establishment of an Aboriginal depot at the Government Gums, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to convey to you his instructions to visit the Government Gums and Mundowadna at your earliest convenience, and inquire into the number, condition, and requirements of the Aborigines frequenting those localities and report for the information of the Honorable Commissioner, on the desirability of the transfer of the depot from Mundowadna to the Govt Gums.

[Hamilton]

659
19th October 1876
A.D. Tassie & Co., Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 15th ulto., stating that the Aborigines stores for Parallana are still on hand, and suggesting that they be forwarded to the nearest Station as you do not see any other chance of getting them to their destination, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to have these stores forwarded to Blinman, Mr Noble having informed me that if they are sent there, he will try and get them on to Parallana.

[Hamilton]

660
Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to ask for twelve months leave of absence on half pay, from the 1st January 1877 under the provisions of the Civil Service Act 1874.
I entered the Government Service of this Province in April 1865, and have therefore nearly completed twelve years’ service on the Fixed Establishment, and during this period I have had leave on two occasions viz.- a month in 1871 and a fortnight in 1875.
In reference to the performance of the duties of this Department during my absence, I would respectfully submit that Mr Spiller, the Secretary to the Forest Board, is willing to undertake them for the other moiety of the Salary attached to my office.

[Hamilton]

661
24th October 1876
Messrs Ormerod & Co
Gentlemen,
Referring to my letter to you dated the 10th inst., (96/76) respecting the missing Bale of Blankets for Lawson, Padthaway, I have the honor to inform you that, I have just received a letter from Mrs Lawson stating that these Blankets have arrived at Padthaway, it appears that they were lying at Narracoorte for some months.

[Hamilton]
27th October 1876
Revd W.J. Kuhn
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 23rd inst., respecting the admission to Adelaide Hospital of the native boy “Monappe”, I have the honor to inform you that if you will arrange for the transmission of the boy and his mother to Adelaide by Coach via Kadina and advise me when they will leave Kadina, I will see that they are removed to the hospital on arrival in Adelaide. The Hospital authorities will probably object to the mother remaining in that Institution for any time, in which case I will have her sent back to Point Pierce. The expenses of this conveyance to Adelaide can be charged to this Department. [Hamilton]

30th October 1876
Mr G. McCord P.T.
Streaky Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 21st inst., applying for a small dingy for the use of the Aborigines at Streaky Bay, I am desired by Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your request cannot be complied with, as a second boat for Aborigines’ purposes at Streaky Bay is deemed unnecessary. [Hamilton]

1st November [1876]
A.D. Tassie & Co.,
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
Referring to H. Brown’s a/c for cartage of Aborigines stores from Port Augusta to Stuart’s Creek in June and July last, I have the honor to call your attention to the following error therein, viz – the omission to deduct 10/- per ton per week from the gross amount, the time occupied in the transport of these goods being one week in excess of that specified in the condition endorses on the Cart note. I presume this was an oversight on the part of your officer who made out the a/c in question. [Hamilton]

1st November 1876
Mr J. Higgins
District Clerk
Encounter Bay D.C.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 31st ulto., in reference to the burial of Abor. “Hugh Pollard”, I have the honor to inform you that, I have received, through Constable Turner of Victor Harbor, an a/c from Herbert Grosvenor for the interment of the Native in question, and which will be passed for payment in due course. [Hamilton]
2nd November 1876
Mr P.C. Jervis
Nuriootpa
Sir,
Referring to the a/c you forwarded to this office last month, from Mr M. Moore for cartage of Aborigines’ Stores to Blanchetown, I have the honor to inform you that this a/c includes two items, viz. 18/6 and 6/-, as per Voucher returned herewith, which should not be charged to this department, the article “oats” was for the Police at Blanchetown and the “box” belonged to P.T. Ewens himself. The balance of Mr Moore’s a/c amounting to £2. 19. 8 will be passed and payable to her at the Treasury in due course. (about the 5th next month.)

6th November 1876
Mrs C. Smith
Mount Gambier
Madam,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me what number of blankets will be required to meet the probable requirements of the Aborigines at Mount Gambier during the ensuing year.
On referring to the records of the depot under your charge, I find that you were supplied with twenty (20) single blankets in January 1875 and that eight (8) of these were issued by you to the natives in May and June of that year, but not having received any subsequent returns from you, I am ignorant whether the remainder of these blankets (12) are still on hand or have been issued.

13th November 1876
Geo. Marchant Esq., J.P.
Mannanarie
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., enclosing an a/c for £1. 2. 6 amt paid by you for a pair of blankets for two old destitute natives, and in reply to inform you that, this a/c will be included in the Schedule for current month, and the money will be payable to you at the GTreasury about the 5th Proximo.

14th November 1876
Forwarded through Mr Buttfield, Sub-protector, Blinman
Mr C.A. Meyer
Lutheran Mission Station
Kopperamanna
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 4th September last, reporting that Mr J. W. Lewis, a pastoral lessee of the Crown, had informed Mr Vogelsang of your station, that the Aborigines would not be allowed to remain any longer on his (Mr Lewis’) run, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to forward herewith for your information, copy of letter received from Mr Lewis in explanation of the charge brought against him by you [Letters In No. 405/76].
670
17th November 1876
Mr Gilbert Wood
Rundle Street
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the Sugar ordered from you on the 10th and 13th insts., for the depots at Point Pierce and Fowlers’ Bay, and which you have delivered at Govt Store, has on examination been condemned as not equal to contract sample, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to have it exchanged, without delay, for other sugar equal to contract sample, in accordance with article 10 of the conditions of your contract.

[Hamilton]

671
21st November 1876
Mr John Higgins
Curator of the Encounter Bay Cemetery
Sir,
Referring to the a/c forwarded to this office by you, dated the 23rd October ulto., for 13/- Interment dues for the burial of Abor. “Hugh Pollard” in the Encounter Bay cemetery, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with a detailed statement showing how the above amount is made up.

[Hamilton]

672
24th November 1876
J.P. Buttfield Esq., J.P.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
I presume the Rations &c you refer to in your letter of the 20th inst., as having arrived at Blinman in that day, are for Mr Noble of Parallana depot. These Stores have been lying at Pt Augusta since August 1875, and Tassie and Co. have informed me that the only chance they saw of getting them to their destination was by sending them to Blinman from whence Mr Noble states he will fetch them.
I trust therefore you will suffer a temporary inconvenience only from having so limited storage room for the stores in question.

[Hamilton]
1st December 1876

J.H. Angas Esq., ?J.P.
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to draw your attention to the annexed paragraphs from the S.A. “Register” of this day, and to request that you will be good enough to inform me if the statements made therein are correct.

A depot for the relief of the Aborigines was recently established at Stuart’s Creek and placed in charge of Mr J. Canham.
On the 13th September last he received from this department a supply of Rations, blankets &c for the natives, and since this date I have received no application from him for fresh supplies, and clause 8 of his instructions (copy of which I enclose) points out to him the proper course to adopt to obtain the necessary stores.

5th December 1876

Mr P.J. O’Mahony P.T.
Pt Elliott
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 4th inst., in reference to the case of sick Abor. “Tim” at Port Elliott, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to state, that this native should be examined by the Medical Officer who attends the Destitute Poor &c of your district, with a view to ascertaining whether it would be desirable to have the native removed to the Adelaide Hospital. Should there be, however, any objection to this course, a certified form from the doctor will be sufficient authority for you to procure any medical comforts, food &c that may be absolutely necessary for the Aboriginal, the a/cs for which will require to be certified by you and forwarded to this office accompanied with the Medical Officer’s certificate authorising the same.

5th December 1876

Mr P.J. O’Mahoney P.T.
Port Elliott
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3th inst., asking permission to break up, or otherwise use, portions of the old Aborigines Boat &c, now lying smashed on the beach at Port Elliott, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, this Boat &c was condemned some three years since, and you are now authorised to make any use of it, as you propose.

7th December 1876

A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that, Mr J. Hogarth of Strangway’s Springs Depot, writing to me on the 28th ulto., states – “If this dry weather continues the rations at Port Augusta cannot be got up here.”
In the event of these stores being still in your hands, I shall be glad if you will make every effort to have them sent on to Strangway’s Springs during the current wool carting.
13th December 1876
Mr G. McCord  P.T.
Streaky Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 30th ulto., applying for authority to procure Mast and Sails &c at the cost of £3. 10. 0 for the Aborigines Boat at Streaky Bay, I have the honor to inform you that Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has sanctioned an expenditure not exceeding £3. 10. 0 for the purchase of the articles referred to, the a/c for which is to be forwarded to this office, certified by you that they are of good quality and properly fitted.

[Hamilton]

13th December 1876
J.H. Angas Esq, J.P.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 15th inst., in reference to the conditions of the Aborigines at Stuart’s Creek, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, a report will be obtained from the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Far North, respecting the statements contained in your letter referred to.

[Hamilton]

23rd December 1876
Mr John Hooper
Barunga
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to state in reply to your letter of the 16th inst., representing the destitute conditions of certain Aborigines in the Barunga District, that there are now in existence aboriginal Stations, (which are supplied with Blankets and Rations) at the following places, viz.-

- Crystal Brook
- Bungaree via Clare
- Kadina, Y.P.
- Port Wakefield

As the natives are generally moving about from place to place, it is not considered desirable to establish another Station at Barunga.

[Hamilton]

23rd December 1876
J.H. Angas Esq
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th inst., I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that a supply of Blankets and Rations have been forwarded to Port Augusta for transmission to the Stuart’s Creek Aboriginal Depot.

[Hamilton]
681
6th January 1877
J. P. Buttfield, S.P.A., Pt Augusta
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th ulto., applying for leave of absence for three months, and to inform you that on the return of Mr Hawkes S.M., who is at present on leave, your application will be favourably considered.

[Spiller]

682
10th January 1877
J.H. Angas Esq., J.P.
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 6th instant and to inform you that Messrs A.D. Tassie and Co. of Pt Augusta, have been authorised to forward the stores, referred to by you, to Stuart's Creek, at once, at the price named by them.

[Spiller]

683
11th January 1877
J.S. Browne Esq., S.M.
Pt Lincoln
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th ultimo, recommending that a section of land be Granted to Thomas Adams' two half-cast sons, and to inform you that the case will be considered when the Land Bill becomes law, until then it must stand over.

[Spiller]

684
11th Janury 1877
Mr Thomas Adams
Happy Valley
Pt Lincoln
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, referring to your application for a Grant of land, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the case will be considered when the Land bill becomes law, until then it must stand over.

[Spiller]

685
15th January 1877
The House Surgeon
Adelaide Hospital
Sir,
Be kind enough to admit bearer (an aboriginal named Pompey Jackson) to the Adelaide Hospital.

[Spiller]
13th January 1877
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your remark on the November return from the Milang Depot, that a further supply of firewood is required, I have the honor to inform you that you are authorised to procure 5 loads of firewood for the use of the sick, old and infirm natives at Milang.

[Spiller]

16th January 1877
The Revd G. Taplin
PM
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that Mr. C.F. Tunn, on behalf of Mr Grant Gosse, has applied to this office with reference to a half-caste Girl named “Fanny Forrest” and request that she be admitted into the Mission Station at Point Macleay.
All particulars that can be obtained as to her parentage &c are forwarded herewith and I shall be glad if you will kindly inform me whether you are prepared to receive her into the Station under your charge.

[Spiller]

?16th January 1877
Memo re half-caste Girl
Name: Fanny Forrest
Age: Nine years
Father: A man named Forrest formerly of Kercoonda Station in South east but he left there about nine years ago and is now supposed to be somewhere in New South wales.
Mother: Aboriginal woman named Kelly Carter died at Kercoonda Station about two and a half years ago.
Uncle: Aboriginal named “Billy Carter” living at Kingston S.E.
The child was formerly at the Native School at Kingston but was taken away from there by her mother some little time before she died.
The way the child came into Mr & Mrs Gosse’s hands was as follows –
The Mother (she was in decline) was travelling over Mr Gosse’s station with this child and was taken ill and died and the child has remained with Mr and Mrs Gosse ever since and has been clothed and fed by them.

[Spiller]

16th January 1877
Tassie
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th instant and to inform you that, in accordance with the suggestion therein contained, a further supply of Stores have been ordered and will be forwarded to you for transmission to Stuart’s Creek with the stores already in your hands.

[Spiller]

[Some of ‘Spiller’s’ letters seem to be in Hamilton’s handwriting.]
5th February 1877
The Revd G. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, expressing a willingness to receive the half caste Girl “Fanny Forrest” into the Point Macleay Mission Station and to inform you that the girl referred to will leave Adelaide for Meningie, per mail on Thursday the 8th instant and I shall be glad if you would kindly arrange for her conveyance thence to Point Macleay. [Spiller]

5th February 1877
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that a half caste girl named “Fanny Forrest” will leave Adelaide, per mail, on Thursday the 8th instant, for Milang (en route to the Point Macleay Mission Station) and I shall be glad if you will kindly arrange for her conveyance thence to Meningie. [Spiller]

6th February 1877
Thos Randell Esq.,
Mannum
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the Aborigines’ Depot, about to be established at Mannum, being placed under your charge. The following stores will be forwarded to you and I have to request that you will be good enough to acknowledge receipt thereof. I forward herewith supply of forms for the monthly returns which require to be regularly transmitted to this office, and also copy of instructions for your guidance in issuing rations to natives requiring relief. [Spiller]

6th February 1877
Mr G. Blackmore
Poonindie
Port Lincoln
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, stating your inability to take charge of and issue stores to the Aborigines at Poonindie, and go request that you will be good enough to hand over all Aborigines’ stores in your custody to Mrs? E.G. Randall, who has kindly consented to issue the same to the natives requiring relief. [Spiller]
694
[List of Stores for Mannum Depot]
?? of Stores forwarded
?? flour (seconds) [ ½ ton?]
250 lbs Sugar
41 lbs Tea
56 lbs Rice
10 lbs Tobacco
12 fishing lines
100 fish hooks

695
8th Feby 1877
Major E. Warburton
Beaumont
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, with reference to the Aboriginal
“Charlie” whom the Hospital authorities wish to be removed from that Institution, and to request that
you will be good enough to inform me, as early as possible, what arrangement was made between the
Sub-Protector (Mr Hamilton) and yourself with reference to the Aboriginal in question.

696
13th February 1877
Revd Geo. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that there is in the Adelaide Hospital an Aboriginal named “Charlie
Warburton” who has lately had his left foot amputated, from which operation he is just recovering and I
have to request that you will be good enough to inform me whether you would kindly receive him into
the Point Macleay Mission Station, as the Doctors do not consider it advisable for him, in his condition,
to return to his people at the “Peake”, in consequence of the distance he would have to travel.
The Aboriginal referred to accompanied [697] Major Warburton across the Continent to Western
Australia and is very quiet, intelligent native.
It may be well to inform you that he (“Charlie”) is perfectly willing to enter the Point Macleay Institution.

698
15th February 1877
Mr H.R. Ewens P.T.
Blanche Town
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th instant and to inform you that the
stores forwarded to you on the 17th ultimo were sent via Freeling and I trust have reached you before
this.
I have also to inform you that in future, all Goods forwarded for the use of the Aborigines at Blanche Town
will be sent via Kapunda, as recommended by you.
22nd February 1877
The Revd G. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the ?? instant, and to forward you herewith copy of a letter received from Mr Holder, Hon. Secretary to the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association, with reference to the admission of Aboriginal “Charlie Warburton” into the Point Macleay Mission Station, and have to inform you that the native in question will leave Town, per Mail, on Saturday next the 24th instant for Meningie en route to the Point Macleay Mission Station. Major Warburton informs me that “Charlie” has a small sum of money which the Major is willing to hand over, and I shall be glad if you will kindly say whether you are willing to take charge of the money belonging to “Charlie” and hold such in trust for him.

[Spiller]

22nd February 1877
Corporal Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that an Aboriginal named “Charlie Warburton” will leave Town, per Mail, either today or Saturday next for Milang en route for Point Macleay and I shall be glad if you will kindly arrange for his passage across the Lake to Meningie. The Aboriginal referred to has had his left foot amputated and has just been discharged from the Adelaide Hospital.

[Spiller]

March 26 1877
P.T. Richards
Fowlers’ Bay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 27th ulto., reporting that a man named Carey Gill has compelled Aborigines by threat to do certain work for him – I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to forward herewith a copy of the Crown Solicitor’s Minute thereon, for your information and guidance.

[Henry? D. Melville]

Mch 27 1877
The Revd G. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 24th ulto, requesting inf re the Half cast girl “Jessie Forrest”, I have the honor now to inform you that upon referring the native to P.T. Deane, he has supplied the information sought. I forward a copy of his letter herewith.

[Melville]
March 17 1877
The Revd. G. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
Referring to your letter dated the 3rd Inst., suggesting that certain money belonging to the Aboriginal “Charlie Warburton” be paid into Savings Bank under Trust &c, I have the honor to assure you that I would very willingly accept the trust, if holding the position of Sub-Protector permanently, but as it is only a temporary arrangement with myself, I do not think it would be worth while to interfere with the present arrangement.

[Melville]

March 28 ’77
Rev. G. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
Referring to that long-pending matter contained in your letter dated the 15th Dec. last, I have now the honor to inform you that I have made every enquiry at the CS’s Office and from the late Acting Sub-Protector Mr Spiller, but I regret to say that I can learn nothing of your missing manuscript [Census of the Narrinyeri?] which I fear must be either mislaid or lost. I will however keep this matter in view, and hope I may eventually recover the document.

[Melville]

March 1877
[very faint]
Mr Bray
Kadina
Sir,
I beg to inf you that the undermentioned Stores will be ? to you by Messrs Newman & son, and that ywbg get ack r thereof.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>1 ton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>250 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>42 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>100 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soap</td>
<td>56 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>10 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Melville]
March 1877

Revd G. Taplin
Point Macleay

Sir,
I beg to inform you that the undermentioned stores for the Aborigines will be forwarded you by Messrs G. Wood & Messrs R.H. Wigg & Son through the Govt. Storekeeper, and to request that you will be good enough to acknowledge receipt thereof.

Description of Stores forwarded, viz.-
- 2 tons seconds Flour
- 500 lbs Sugar
- 82 lbs Tea
- 100 lbs Rice
- 20 lbs Tobacco
- 28 lbs Soap

March 19th 1877

P.T. Richards
Fowlers' Bay

Sir,
I beg to inform you that the undermentioned Stores ..... ?
- 2 tons seconds Flour
- 500 lbs Sugar
- 82 lbs Tea
- 56 lbs Sago
- 20 lbs Tobacco
- 12 Blue shirts
- ?doz Needles ??
- 2 ?lbs Thread
- 4 large-sized bottles Castor Oil
- 6 boxes Anti-bilious Pills

April 5th 1877

Barr Smith Esq.,
Adelaide

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 21st ulto, calling attention to the destitute condition of the Aboriginal Natives on the Bundaleer Run and recommending that Rations should be issued for their relief – I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that he has approved your application and that acting under this approval I have issued orders for stores and Blankets to be forwarded to Bundaleer c/o Mr Maslin, & shall feel obliged if you will request that gentleman to take charge of same.
711
April 5th 1877
Mr C. Maslin
Warrakimbo
[no body of letter, but list of Stores]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>41 lbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>100 lbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>10 lbs</td>
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[Melville]

712
April 5th 1877
Mr G. McCord P.T.
Streaky Bay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue shirts</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serge</td>
<td>20 yds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay pipes</td>
<td>1 box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Melville]

713
April 5th 1877
Mr J.R. Ewens P.T.
Blanchetown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>56 lbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>14 lbs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Melville]

714
April 5th 1877
Mr Maslin
Bundaler Run

..... rail to Farrell Flat or other conveyance.

<table>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

[Melville]
April 6th 1877  
J.P. Buttfield, Esq., J.P., S.M.  
Sub-Protector of Aborigines  
Far North, Blinman  
Sir,  
In reply to your letter of the 19th February last suggesting the formation of a Depot for Aborigines at Waukaringa: -  
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that he has approved your suggestions, - I shall therefore feel obliged if you will advise me as to the most suitable Stores for the Aborigines of the locality above-named and the best means of transit, whether via Port Augusta or by rail to Burra.

[Melville]

April 10th 1877  
Revd. Geo. Taplin  
Point Macleay  
Sir,  
In reply to your letter of the 6th Inst., recommending that the Aboriginal Charlie Peake be furnished with a wooden leg, I beg to say that if the article in question can be supplied at anything like a reasonable cost, and you will undertake to obtain it for him, I will pass the a/c for payment upon your certificate being appended thereto.

[Melville]

April 12th 1877  
Revd W.J. Kuhn  
Mission Station  
Point Pierce  
Sir,  
In reply to your letter of the 24th ulto., suggesting the appointment of Dr O’Grady as Medical Officer for the Aborigines at Point Pierce,- I am directed by the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration to inform you that, you are empowered to call in Medical aid from Maitland in case of absolute necessity, - in such cases you will be good enough to certify to the Medical attendant’s a/c when rendered to this office, which should be sent through you.

[Melville]

April 13th 1877  
C.B. Young Esq.  
Adelaide  
Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 11th Inst., applying for a small boat or canoe for Her (Aboriginal) Majesty Queen Monarto residing on the River Murray; - In reply I beg to state that I will at an early date forward an order to Mr Newman of Swanport to construct a suitable Canoe for Her Sable Majesty, which may be obtained by application to P.T. Deane of Wellington.

[Melville]
April 16th 1877
Mr T. Sullivan
Blackwood Farm
Belair
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 10th ulto, reporting the seduction of an Aboriginal girl in your employment and requesting that some steps might be taken to punish the seducer – I am directed by the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the case having been submitted to the Law Officers of the Crown they advise that you have a remedy for the seduction of your servant, by Action at Law, against the Seducer.
I am also to say that the Commissioner regrets he could not himself take any immediate action in the matter.

[Melville]

April 18th 1877
Mr. S? Woodcock
Major Police
Melrose
Sir,
Referring to your letter dated 30th ulto., reporting the condition of two Half Caste children, offspring of an Aboriginal woman named Isabella Mutjuli, and recommending that their case should be aid before the Chairman of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association:- I have now the honor to inform you that the AFA have agreed to receive the children & mother above referred to at their Station, Point Macleay, this Department paying the cost of transit. The Honorable Commissioner’s sanction to this arrangement having been given, I shall feel obliged by our sending the Mother & her two children to Adelaide the earliest opportunity the cost of which will be defrayed by this Office when a/c certified by yourself are rendered.

[Melville]

20th April 1877
Mr W. Corcoran P.T.
Port Wakefield
Sir,
In reply to your letter to your letter dated the 19th Inst., requesting that you may be supplied with Stores for use of the Aborigines in your locality, I have now the honor to inform you that I do not think the Natives about Port Wakefield are numerous enough to warrant me in recommending the Honorable Commissioner of crown Lands and Immigration to open a depot there,- I will however forward a few blankets for use of the Aborigines if urgently needed upon your obtaining the certificate of some Magistrate in the neighbourhood that they are required.
I should recommend you to send any Aborigines applying to you for relief to the nearest Depot, there is one at Pt Pierce Y.P.

[Melville]
May 31st 1877
Messrs John Hart & Co.
Millers
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
Will you be good enough to furnish me with the following information at your earliest convenience.
“Your price per ton for Seconds Flour delivered on board any vessel lying in Port Adelaide.”
The supplies of flour to this Department have for some time past been under Contract, but the Contractor having relinquished his Contract,- I am authorized to obtain supplies by private purchase.

[Melville]

June 4th 1877
P.S. Douglas Esq., J.P.
Adelaide
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 29th ulto., on behalf of Mrs Sullivan, re Aboriginal girl Petalumbo and forwarding Statement of expenses attending to the confinement of this girl, who has given birth to an illegitimate child;- I have the honor to inform you that having recommended the application of Mrs Sullivan for the approval of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration, he has been pleased to allow the same.
The amount (£ 9. 0. 0) will be payable at the Treasury on or about the 10th proximo.
I enclose you a procuration form which only requires Mrs Sullivan’s signature to enable you to draw the money without troubling that Lady any further in the matter.

[Melville]

June 16th 1877
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th forwarding the estimated cost of several Canoes, and repairs to old ones, for use of the Aborigines at Goolwa:- I have the honor to inform you that the aggregate amount ?? being over Fifty Pounds (£ 50) the available balance for contingencies will not admit such outlay from this year’s Vote.
Should the Estimates for next year ?? me, I shall be glad to provide the Goolwa Aborigines with two or three new Canoes, and repair some of the old ones, meantime the Natives must be satisfied with repairs to such of the Canoes as absolutely require it, for which service I am only able to allow a small sum. Under these circumstances it will be better to obtain ?? for repairs of canoes what are at present unfit for use.

[Melville]
June 13th 1877
G.W. Hawker Esq., S.M.
Norwood
Sir,
Referring to your note of the 12th Inst., re destitute conditions of the Aborigines on Moonabbie Run;—I beg to inform you that I will communicate with Mr Newland and request his co-operation in the matter, with information as to the best manner of forwarding Stores & c, upon receipt of his requiesence I will request the Commissioner’s sanction to my sending a supply of Stores and Blankets for distribution by Mr Newland.
I may say that at present, the vote for contingencies is nearly expended, this being the last month of the Financial Year 76 & 77, so that I shall not be able to send a large supply.

[Melville]

June 14th 1877
Mr Newland
Moonabbie
Sir,
Being advised by G.W. Hawker Esq. that the Aborigines in your locality are in a very destitute condition, and that you are willing to undertake the distribution of Stores & c if sent, I have now the honor to request that you wbet furnishme with information as to the number and condition of the Aborigines from Franklin Harbor that frequent Moonabbie, and the best means of forwarding stores & c to you, whether via Port Lincoln or other port.

[Melville]

June 19th 1877
H. & F. Rymill
Adelaide
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 16th inst., calling attention to the destitute conditions of the Natives on the Eastern Plains, and requesting that an Issuing Depott may be established in that locality:—I have the honor to inform you that I cannot at present seek the authority of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration to open another Depot, this being the last month of the Financial Year, the Vote for such purposes is nearly expended; I shall be glad to meet your wishes after the passing of nekt year’s Estimates if practicable; meantime I will communicate with the issuer at Bimbowrie and obtain further information on the subject.

[Melville]
June 19th 1877

[Caption] Mr. T.G. Randell
Mannum

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., requesting to know if it is the intention of the Government to establish a Depot at Mannum, and stating your inability to furnish the usual monthly returns; I have now the honor to inform that in establishing a Depot for the issue of stores to the Aborigines, it is not usual to require the Government to erect buildings for keeping the said Stores in, nor will the funds at the disposal of the Sub-Protector permit of such an expenditure.
I will send a few blankets or Distribution amongst the Natives at Mannum, but cannot send any more Stores if the usual return of expenditure cannot be supplied.

[Melville]

June 27th 1877

Mr C.H. Oldham
Bimbowie

Sir,
Messrs H. & F. Rymill have reported that some 60 or 80 Natives are located near a station called Canadnoma on the Eastern Plains about 60 miles from Bimbowie, and state that these Natives are in a destitute condition, and ask that Rations may be sent for distribution amongst them by a Mr J. Regan: I have now the honor to request that you will be good enough to make enquiries, and furnish me with further information on the subject, at your earliest convenience.
I take this opportunity to inform you that I have not received any return of issue for the present year from Bimbowie.

[Melville]

June 28th 1877

Revd. F.W. Cox
Wakefield Street
Adelaide

Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 17th inst., forwarding another from a Mr Nall of Blanchetown who complains of the drunken habits of the Aborigines in that locality, and starts his fears for the safety of his wife in consequence; I have now the honor to inform you that the Commissioner of Police has been good enough to institute enquiries in the matter, and from the reports of his Officers, I am satisfied that Mr Nall’s statement as to drunkenness is much exaggerated and his fears regarding his wife groundless, her residence being with some others in sight of the Police Station.
I regret that you should have been troubled with a correspondence that has proved needless, - as the result of my own observation I am satisfied that the Police do all in their power to check drunkenness in the Aborigines, and that it will never be eradicated while men (superior only in colour) are ever ready to supply the Aborigines with alcoholic stimulants.

[Melville]
July 4th 1877
Mr J. Mackay
Coralbignie Station
Gawler Ranges
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th ulto., calling attention to the number of destitute Aborigines in your locality, and requesting a small supply of Stores for distribution amongst them, I have the honor to inform you that having submitted your letter to the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration he has been good enough to approve of a small supply of stores being sent to meet any urgent cases of want amongst the Aborigines in the Gawler Ranges – but as the habits of these Natives are of a migratory character he does not think it necessary to establish a permanent depot there.
I will at once give an order for a small supply of Stores to be forwarded you via Port Augusta – you will be good enough to furnish me with a return of the expenditure as per form forwarded for that purpose.

[Melville]

July 12th 1877
Mr W.R. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 10th Inst., requesting information as to the expenses of sick Natives sent to the Hospital or Lunatic Asylum by order of Medical men:- I have now the honor to inform you that I am of opinion that this Department should bear all such expenses, and I shall feel obliged if you will forward any Natives either to the Hospital or the Lunatic Asylum as you have done in the case of the Aborigines named in your letter, first obtaining an order from the Medical gentleman who gives the order for admittance to the Hospital, which order should be attached to the a/c. The Audit Office will require such voucher in the cases above referred which please forward me at your earliest convenience, in order that I may attach same to a/c rendered.

[Melville]

Aug 3rd 1877
Mr R.W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 31st ulto., complaining of not being reimbursed for outlay in sending sick Aborigines to Adelaide Hospital, - I have now the honor to state that I have forwarded your a/c for payment – and that I am not in any way responsible for restrictions that the Audit Office may think necessary to establish, I myself having to submit to same. I can only regret that you should have been kept out of your money so long and suggest that to obviate this for the future, you give any Aborigines that require to be sent to the Hospital an Order [on the] Tramway Coy, & Hill & Coy’s people or others conveying them, as ‘pro forma’ order sent herewith, which order they will send to this Office as directed. [see below, 734]

[Melville]
To: Messrs Hill & Coy
Strathalbyn

Or Please give bearer (name) an Aboriginal, passage

To: Tramway Co, Goolwa
To Adelaide and charge cost same to Aborigines Office, Adelaide.

As case may require [Signed] W. Rumball P.T.

N.B. This order must be forwarded with a/c when rendered to the Aborigines' Sub-Protector.

---

August 21st 1877
Dr Creelman
Kingston
Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 15th inst., proposing to send the Aborigine Deaf Joey to Adelaide;— I have the honor to inform you that I have seen the Hospital Surgeon on the matter who is of opinion that it would be unwise to send this case (a Chronic one) to Adelaide as after a few weeks some place would be required for his safety, and I do not know what I could do with him after his discharge from the Hospital; under these circumstances I think it will be more prudent to keep him at Kingston and get one of the Natives or some white man to look after him, the cost of which this Office would bear.

If you can suggest any better plan I will feel obliged, for I feel sure I should be obliged to send him back to Kingston when discharged from the Hospital.

Your pay for June if not collected is now payable at the Treasury.

[Melville]

Sept 4th 1877
Officer in Charge
Aboriginal Depot
Millicent
Sir,

I beg to enclose herewith an a/c forwarded to this office from the Attorney-General’s Department for attendance on a sick Aboriginal woman named “Polly Johnson” by Mr C.H. Florance; I shall feel obliged if you will report on this matter, and inform Mr Florance that a/cs of this kind cannot be passed without the Certificate of the Officer in Charge of Depots and that he should have reported the case to you, and obtained an authority from this Office to attend the woman.

You will be good enough to certify to the a/c if satisfied of its correctness and return to this office. As the Sub-Protctor is responsible for the expenditure of his department it is necessary his authority should be sought for all such services.

[Melville]

cancelled
September 17th 1877
Revd. G. Taplin
Aboriginal Mission Station
Point Macleay
Sir,
[Very indistinct] A resident ..... settlers ..... John Geo ? Thorney? writes to Commissioner’s office asking that Sections 29 & 430 may be declared open for Selection,- as I believe this land was granted on the recommendation of the Point Macleay Mission:-
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me if the Mission still wish to retain these sections, and the reason they have not been occupied up to the present time, as I am called upon to furnish information on the subject.

October 5th 1877
Mr Geo. Young
Agent for SS “Coorong”
Currie Street
Adelaide
Sir,
I beg to call your attention to the following fact, and request that you will take steps to recover the goods for which this Department will have a claim, viz.- Five bags of flour.
The above flour was shipped on board the “Coorong” Str for MacDonnell Bay on the 21st August last by the Govt. Shipping Agents, Messrs Smith & Paqualin, and the usual receipts given. The police officers at MacDonnell Bay report to me that they have made every enquiry there, and find that the Flour was not landed by the “Coorong”.
I shall feel obliged by your calling the attention of the Master of the Steamer to the above and cause the Flour to be landed at MacDonnell bay, as I’ve no doubt it has been landed at some other port by mistake.

October 22nd 1877
Revd G. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
Referring to your letters of the 5th & 10th Inst respectively on the subject Aboriginal Folklore, Grammar and other matters of interest in connection with the Aborigines which you wish to see published and forwarded to the Pari Exhibition:- I have the honor to inform you that having submitted your letters to the Governor, the Chief Secretary has been pleased to instruct the Govt Printer to have your MS ready for the transmission thereof to the Paris Exhibition if possible. With regard to this other paper mentioned in your letter, the Government no doubt agree with you that their publication should be arranged for by yourself with private publishers as a matter of business.

[Melville]
Nov. 28 1877
? B. Moulden & Son
?112 King William Street
Adelaide
Gentlemen,
Referring to the application of certain residents at Victor Harbor to a boat to be supplied the Aborigines at that port: - I have the honor to inform you for your information that having obtained the approval of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration, I have purchased a dingey and given orders for it to be painted. I shall feel obliged if you will inform the applicants that the boat will be ready for delivery next week, at the Govt Dockyard, Port Adelaide, to any Master of vessel authorized to receive the same.
I enclose an order which the S.M. at Victor Harbor can fill in with the name of any Master who will be good enough to take the boat round.

[Melville]

Dec 21st [1877]
Mr Robt Wilson
Surveyor Pt Stansbury
Sir,
Referring to your letter dated the 4th Inst., asking that a Selection of land may be given to an Aboriginal named Edward Rowe: - I have the honor to inform you the matter having been submitted for the consideration of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration, it has been decided that your application must stand over until the new Land Bill becomes law.
I would therefore suggest that upon the Bill above-referred becoming Law, you renew your application through the Sub-Protector of Aborigines.

[Melville]

Dec 21st 1877
E. West Erskine Esq
Langhorne’s Bridge
Sir,
Referring to your letter asking for four (4) Canoes for the use of the Aborigines in your locality: - I have the honor to inform you that having submitted your application to the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration, he has been pleased to approve the outlay for 4 canoes at £ 5. 5. 0 each. Acting upon His approval I have given an order to Mr Newman of Swan Port, River Murray, to construct the said canoes and deliver same at Wellington or Milang. I must now request that you will be good enough to arrange for receiving and distributing them.

[Melville]
Dec 21st 1877
C.L. Hughes Esq., S.M.
Wellington
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., calling attention to the destruction of game by the Aborigines:- I have the honor to inform you that having called the Revd. Mr G. Taplin’s attention to the subject, has has favour me with a long report from which I gather that the Aborigines in his locality do not destroy the Game in close season except for food; that as the settlers destroy the kangaroos wholesale to save their grass, the Natives have to destroy more wild fowl to obtain their food, or become totally dependent upon the Govt for subsistence; further, that the Aborigines have of late been induced to save all portions from the wild fowl they kill, which are [745] sold for them by the Officers of the Point Macleay Mission and that they do not as a rule destroy the birds for the sake of the feathers only.
I am assured by Mr Taplin that both himself and his assistant do everything in their power to discourage destruction of Game in Close Season, and plundering the nests of the Wild fowl as needless & wanton destruction that I deprecate as much as yourself & would do all in my power to stop.
Altho’ I fear we shall never be able to entirely stop wanton destruction of Game by Aborigines, still an occasional reminder may have the effect of mitigating the evil.

January 3rd 1878
Glen Esq. S.M.
Millicent
Sir,
Referring to your letter forwarded by Mr Turner S.M., Mount Gambier, re Half Caste Girl at Millicent:- I have now the honor to state that I quite agree with you as to the removal of the girl – but think that the authorities would demur to taking her into the Reformatory,- the only refuge I can seek for such cases, is the Point Macleay Mission Station. I have authorized P.T. Shiels to take charge of the girl, and if no one can be found at Millicent to take her, I will write to Mr Taplin & ask him to receive her at Point Mcleay.

January 3rd 878
P.T. Shiels
Millicent
Sir,
I am in receipt of a letter from Mr Glen S.M. of Millicent, re Half Caste Girl whom he thinks it would be a charity to remove; - I have now the honor to request that you will for a time take charge of the girl and endeavour to get some respected woman to take her into Service fror her food & clothing – if this can’t be done let me know, and I will ask Mr Taplin to take her into the Point Macleay Mission Station, but doubt his doing so, there being so many applications of a similar nature. Meantime I authorize you to place the girl somewhere out of reach of contamination and this Office will [748] defray cost of such arrangement upon receipt of your certificate.
I am quite willing to allow any respectable female that you may recommend 5/- per week for a few weeks until some other arrangement can be made.

[Melville]
25th January 1878
P.T. Hurley
Mannum
Sir,
In reference to the Aborigines Stores which will be forwarded to Mannum as per advice enclosed, I have the honor to inform you that rations are to be issued by you, to those natives only who are unable from old age, sickness or other infirmity to obtain their supplies from the Wellington Depot. [Hamilton]

25th January 1878
R.H. Jones Esq., J.P.
Mannum
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 22nd inst., representing the destitute condition of some Aborigines at Mannum, I have the honor to inform you that a supply of provisions has been forwarded to the Police Trooper stationed at Mannum for the relief of such indigent Natives who are unable to obtain their rations from the Aboriginal Depot at Wellington. [Hamilton]

26th January 1878
Revd Geo. Taplin
Point Mcleay Native Institution
Sir,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me whether you could receive into the Native Institution at Point Macleay a half caste named “Mary Limbery” with four children, the oldest 7 years old and the youngest 2 years.
It appears that these natives belonged recently to the Poonindie Station, but are obliged to leave it, the husband being of drunken habits. Since arriving at Adelaide the woman and her children have been deserted by him. She states that she does not wish to live with her husband, and is anxious to obtain admission to Point Macleay. [Hamilton]

31st January 1878
Mr Wm Hurley P.T.
Mannum
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 30th inst., stating that Mr Thomas Randell of Mannum has on hand some Aborigines Rations supplied to him last year, and suggesting their transfer to the Police Station for distribution to several old native who are destitute of food, I have the honor to inform you that, I have written to Mr Randell by this post, requesting him to hand over to you on application all Aborigines Stores remaining in his custody.
Forms of monthly returns and printed copy of Instructions for your future guidance in issuing Rations, are forwarded in separate parcel by this post. [Hamilton]
31st January 1878
Mr T.G. Randell
Mannum
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 12th June last, stating your inability to continue acting as Issuer of Aborigines Rations &c at Mannum and requesting that some other arrangement might be made for the issue of Stores, I have now the honor inform you that the Aborigines Depot has been transferred to the Police Station to Mannum, and I have to request that you will be good enough to hand over to P.T. Hurley, in charge of the Station, all aborigines Stores remaining in your custody, on his application for them.

[Hamilton]

4th February 1878
B.H. Laker Esq
Town Clerk
Pt Adelaide
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 1st inst., in reference to the case of “Mary Limbery”, who has applied for Rations and an order for herself and children to proceed to Point Pierce Station, I have the honor to inform you that I have been in correspondence with the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association respecting the admission of “Limbery” to the Point Macleay Institution, and am in receipt this day of a reply from the Revd F.W. Cox declining to receive “Limbery”, as she and her husband have recently been discharged from the Poonindie Institution for misconduct. Under these circumstances I feel some hesitation in giving her an order for passage to Point Pierce, until I have first communicated with the superintendent there.
In the meantime, pending other arrangements, will you be good enough to give her an order for the necessary Rations, the cost of which will be paid by this Department.

[Hamilton]

5th February 1878
Blankets for Aborigines
Sealed Tenders will be received at this office, up to noon of the 1st March next ensuing, for the supply of two thousand (2000) Blue Blankets for Aborigines.
Each Blanket must be seven feet long, by five feet six inches wide, must weigh not less than five pounds, and be equal in quality to the sample, which may be seen at this office.
The words “Aborigines Department S.A.” are to be legibly stamped with white point in centre of each blanket forming a circle fifteen inches in diameter with the “broad arrow” in the centre, and letters to be two inches long.
Delivery to be made at Government Store, North Terrace, as follows, viz – One thousand blankets during September 1878, and one thousand blankets during January 1879.
Each tender to be marked on the envelope “On Public Service”, with the words “Tender for Blankets” on the corner.
The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

[Hamilton]
756
4th February 1878
Messrs Smith & Paqualin
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ulto., stating that, you have had no end of difficulty with the agents down Robe way, in consequence of their refusing delivery of Aborigines stores, until the freight was paid, and suggesting that some other arrangement might be made to facilitate despatch.
In reply, I would point out, that the agents referred to, can have their a/cs paid without delay, by having them immediately forwarded through you to this office – if received before the 25th of the month they will be payable about the 5th of the following month.
I may mention that Messrs Newman & Son, when Govt Shipping Agents, were in the habit of paying these freight a/cs themselves, and including amounts in their monthly a/c against this department.
[Hamilton]

757
7th February 1878
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 4th inst., stating, that over one hundred Natives will be returning from up river next week, and asking if you can supply them with rations to carry them back to their respective homes, I have the honor to inform that you are authorized to use your own discretion in affording relief in all cases of absolute necessity.
[Hamilton]

758
8th February 1878
A.H. Landseer Esq.
Milang
Sir,
In reference to the a/cs received from you last month, for freight and Agency charges at Milang, n the Stores for Aborigines, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to procure and present to this office, as soon as possible, Sub-Voucher receipted for the following items, to enable your a/cs to be passed for payment –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 1877</td>
<td>Freight per “Annie” to PM</td>
<td>1.10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Cartage paid by Kruse at McGrath’s Flat</td>
<td>0.10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
[Hamilton]
10th February 1878
The Revd Geo Taplin
Point Mcleay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 4th inst., asking if you may begin to issue rations at the Coorong Needles Station to the Aborigines, that the Honorable Commissioner of crown Lands has authorised the establishment of a Depot at the Needles Station in place of McGrath’s Flat. A supply of stores will be forwarded for the Needles on your application. Will you be good enough to inform me to whose care these stores are to be consigned at Meningie, and by what means do you propose to have them sent on from Meningie to The Needles.

[Hamilton]

12th February 1878
A.H. Landseer Esq
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to state that, the Revd Geo. Taplin of Point Mcleay in acknowledging receipt of Aborigines Stores on the 6th inst., calls my attention to the fact that, the bags containing 500 lbs Sugar are torn to pieces, and a great deal of the sugar lost “they arrived in most shameful state”.
Will you be good enough to inform me, if the sugar in question was delivered to you by the S.A. Carrying Co. in the condition represented by Mr Taplin.

[Hamilton]

12th February 1878
Mr J.C. Flanagan P.C.
Victor Harbor
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., stating that, the small boat recently sent to Victor Harbor for the use of the Natives, is already being made use of by the whites, much to the inconvenience of the natives.
In reply, I have to request that, you will be good enough to take charge of the Aborigines boat at Victor Harbor, and exercise a general supervision over it, with a view to prevent any recurrence of the complaints referred to in your letter.

[Hamilton]

14th February 1878
Mr J. Lyon
Wellington
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 17th Ulto., renewing application on behalf of Abor. “George Muckray” for a Section of land – I have the honor to inform you that, the matter is now under the consideration of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands.

[Hamilton]
763
15th February 1878
Mr T. McCallum
McGrath’s Flat
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands has authorised the establishment of an Aborigines Depot at the “Needles” Reserve on the Coorong, under the charge of the Revd George Taplin, Superintendent of the Point Mcleay Native Institution.
Under these circumstances the Depot at McGrath’s Flat will be discontinued, you will however be getting continue issuing any stores you may have on hand.

[Hamilton]

764
4th March 1878
Messrs Smith & Paqualin
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
P.T. Clode of Venus Bay, in acknowledging receipt of last lot of Aborigines Stores per schooner “Lady Robinson”, states, that some of the goods were landed in a damaged condition, a bottle having been broken in the parcel of medicines and a bag containing a cwt of sugar was torn open in several places and a quantity of the sugar lost.
I mention this with a view to your taking such action as you may deem necessary as Govt. Shipping Agents to ensure the safe carriage of all Aborigines Stores by you.
The Contractors have have recently been reminded that packages must be furnished in terms of their Contracts.

[Hamilton]

766
13th March 1878
H.E. wells Esq.
East Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 8th inst, asking that Abor. “Emily Pritchard [Rankine, ?Wilkins]” may be supplied with a Canoe, I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of your application, and steps will be taken at once to have a canoe prepared for the native woman referred to.

[Hamilton]

767
13th March 1878
Mr Newman
Swanport
River Murray
Sir,
Referring to the four canoes which you were instructed on the 21st December last to build for this department, I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to inform me when they will be finished and delivered at Wellington.
I have also to state that, another similar canoe will be required for Aborigines, and to request whether you are willing to supply it, and if so, within what time will you undertake to deliver it at Wellington.

[Hamilton]
768
15th March 1878
The Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 4th inst., referring to the proposed publication of the papers on “Aboriginal Folklore” which was submitted for your inspection, and offering to undertake to arrange these papers, for the sum of Twenty pounds (£ 20), I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands has been pleased to accept your offer in germs of your letter above referred to. The “Folklore” Papers are forwarded to you in separate parcel by this post; and any further information respecting the aborigines of S. Australia, obtainable from any records in this office, will be supplied on your application.

[Hamilton]

769
15th March 1878
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
Referring to letter of the 13th inst., reporting that the Canoes built at Swanport by E. Newman are now finished, I have the honor to inform you that Newman has been instructed to deliver them at Wellington, but before taking delivery of the Canoes, be good enough to ascertain whether they have been completed in a satisfactory manner. Mr West Erskine, at whose instance these Canoes were ordered, wishes them sent to Milang, - you are requested therefore to have them forwarded there, in tow of any Steamer or vessel with which you can arrange for their transit, - they should be consigned to c/o Corporal Dann, who will receive instructions from Mr West Erskine as to their distribution.

[Hamilton]

770
19th March 1878
Mr George Muckray
c/o Mr William Lyon
East Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 14th January last, renewing your application for a Section of land situated in the Hundred of Seymour, I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands is now willing to favourably consider your application upon being informed of the number of the Section chosen by you.

[Hamilton]
Corporal Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the four Canoes applied for by Mr West Erskine in December last for the Milang Natives, have been delivered at Wellington, and P.T. Deane has been requested to forward them to you by the first opportunity.
You will be good enough to take charge of these Canoes and retain them, until you receive instructions from Mr West Erskine, in reference to their distribution among the Aborigines.
[Hamilton]

W. West Erskine Esq
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 11th December last, on the subject of Canoes for the Milang natives, I have the honor to inform you that, four canoes have been delivered and forwarded to Corporal Dann of Milang, who has been directed to retain them, until he receives instructions from you, in reference to their distribution among the Aborigines.
[Hamilton]

Mr George Muckray
c/o Mr W. Lyon
East Welllington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 25th inst, applying for 160 acres of land bordering on the Park Lands at East Wellington, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the necessary steps will be taken to have the land surveyed, and a lease issued in your favour under the provisions of the Crown Lands Consolidation Act of 1877.
[Hamilton]

Mr Thos Adams Junr
Poonindie
Port Lincoln
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 21st February last, applying for a Crown grant for the Native Reserve, situated about fourteen miles from Port Lincoln, North by East &c – I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, this Reserve is leased for fourteen years from the 1st April 1874, and it will be necessary that you make some other selection, unless you are willing to wait until the expiration of the above lease in 1888.
[Hamilton]
5th April 1878
Mr Robert Warwick
Owienandena
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 17th ulto., stating that there are a large number of natives located at
Owienandena, some of whom are unable to earn or catch their own living, and offering to take charge of
and issue any rations & Blankets forwarded for their use, I have the honor to inform you that, your
application having been favorably reported on by Mr Buttfield, S.M., the Sub-Protector of Aborigines,
Far North, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands has been pleased to sanction the opening of an
Aborigines Depot at Owienandena, to be placed under your charge.
A supply of Stores will be forwarded to you in due course, as per advice enclosed, Copy of Instrictuons
for your guidance in issuing Rations – herewith, also forms of Monthly Returns in separate parcel by this
post.

[Hamilton]

9th April 1878
Mr W.R.Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd inst. reporting that nearly all the native canoes belonging to Goolwa
require repairing and painting, and also suggesting that two new Canoes be built, I have the honor to
inform you that the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands has approved of Genders being called for
the work in question.
I forward herewith Copy of particulars of the repairs &c required, which you supplied to this department
in June 1877. And I have to request that you will be good enough to note therein any alterations or
additions that may now be necessary and return it to this office without delay.

[Hamilton]

10th April 1878
Mr J.R. Ewens P.T.
Blanchetown
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 4th inst., asking that Two (2) Canoes may be supplied for the use of the old
natives at Blanchetown, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown
Lands &c to inform you that, steps will be taken at once to have two (2) Canoes prepared for your depot.

[Hamilton]
11th April 1878
P.T. Dear
Crystal Brook
Sir,
Referring to your statement of 6th inst., endorsed on Abor. Letter of the 2nd inst., “That the Police at Crystal Brook have not been supplied with any rations for the aborigines, and that you believe Mr G.L. Debney J.P. has charge of the Aborigines Stores at Crystal Brook, I have the honor to inform you that, in August 1876, the Aborigines Depot was transferred from Mr Debney to the Police Station and placed in charge of P.T. Christie, who was supplied by this department with a small iron building for the safe custody of the Aborigines Stores.
You will probably find some correspondence on this subject among your office records.

[Hamilton]

13th April 1878
Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., respecting a supply of Blankets for the “Needles” depot, I have the honor to inform you that this summer’s Stock of blankets for the Coorong Natives was received at McGrath’s Flat on the 16th November last, - The Acting Sub-Protector appears to have forwarded these blankets to the Depot sooner than usual, as the 1st of May is recommended as the best time for this general issue.
Should you find a further supply of blankets necessary for this locality as the winter advances, you can apply again at some future time.

[Hamilton]

16th April 1878
J.P. Buttfield, J.P., s.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Far North
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th inst., pointing out the “utter inadequacy of the amount allotted to you for travelling allowance”, and suggesting that it be increased from 6/- to 10/- per diem.
In reply, I have to convey to you the HC’s authority for drawing from this date, the sum of 8/- per diem, for your travelling allowance.

[Hamilton]

17th April 1878
J.P. Buttfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Far North
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to state that your Report for the year 1877 has not yet reached this office, and to request that it may be forwarded at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]
Canoes for Aborigines

23rd April 1878

Sealed tenders will be received at this office up to noon of the 6th May next ensuing, for the supply of five (5) Canoes for Aborigines, to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa, also for executing repairs and painting to ten (10) Canoes lying at Goolwa.

Specifications may be seen at this office, and at the Police Stations at Goolwa and Milang.

Each Tender to be marked on the envelope, “On Public Service”, with the words “Tender for Canoes” in the corner, and to be addressed to the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

Specification for the supply of five (5) Canoes for Aborigines

Each canoe to be fourteen (14) ft long, over all, four and a half (4 1/2) ft wide and eighteen (18) inches deep, with round bottom, without keel, slightly curved from centre to ends, -

The middle range to be one (1) inch think of good seasoned yellow pine, the planking outside to be of the same material, three-quarters (3/4) inch thick, properly worked into each end, the floor also to be of yellow pine,-

Two (2) thwarts to be in each canoe, one and a half (1 ½) inches thick, of yellow pine, the two ends to be of the same,-

Gunwales fore and aft to be of one and one-eighth (1 1/8) in. thick, by two and a half (2 ½) in wide, of good seasoned hard wood,-

Floor timbers and side timbers to be not less than thirty six (36) in number, of striny bark 1 ½ x 1 in. and fifteen (15) in. apart, with a half timber between,-

Ten (10) hard Gum knees to be in each Canoe, fastened with two (2) in bolts and nuts in each knee,-

Two (2) iron ring bolts to be in each Canoe, one at each end. The rising [784] to be worked fore and aft under the thwarts, to give strength to the timbers and thwarts,-

Three boards, good seasoned yellow pine, three quarters (3/4) in thick, to be worked inside fore and aft, one for the kilson, and one on each side along the bilge, - Step to be made for Mast and hole in thwart,-

The fastenings to be of copper throughout, - Two (2) coats of best Tar, Pitch, &c, to be applied after the work has been inspected and approved.

Each canoe to be finished off in a workmanlike manner to the satisfaction of the Officer in Charge of the Aborigines Department and to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa by the 15th June 1878.

Specification of work required to be done in repairing, painting &c.–Ten (10) Canoes lying at Goolwa

No, 1 – Martha Newland’s Canoe

Three (3) planks to be lined over, piece of plank 7 ft cut out and new one put in, two (2) new lining boards, two (2) knees, two (2) rowlocks, and mast step.

Two (2) Coats of Tar calking and refastening.

No, 2 – Felix’s Canoe

One (10 new plank fore and aft, two (2) knees [785] mast step, three (30) lining boards,

Two (2) coats tar, calking and refastening.

No, 3 – Nelson’s Canoe
Two (20 new thwart timbers, four (4) knees on bottom, 1 rowlock, 1 Thwart with 2 knees, Two Coats Tar, Calking and refastening.

No, 4 – Jack Crummey’s canoe
One new plank, four (40 knees, 2 rowlocks, two lining boards, Mast step.
Tee coats Tar etc

No, 5 – Elizabeth’s Canoe
One new plank lined over, 5 knees, 2 rowlocks, 6 floor timbers, 3 lining boards, 1 mast step.
Tar

No, 6 – Rankine’s Canoe
Two new lining boards, mast step, 1 thwart, two rowlocks, 3 knees, piece in top of stern.
Tar

No, 7 – Bill Hungter’s Canoe
New pieces in stern, mast Step, 3 knees, 2 rowlocks.
Tar

No, 8 – Tommy Holmes’ Canoe
Nine (9) knees, 1 mast step & thwart, 1 lining board
Tar

No, 9 – Crozier’s Canoe
New piece in top of stern, 2 rowlocks [786] three knees, two lining boards, mast step, one stern knee,
Ring bolt.
Tar

No, 10 – Joe Morris’ Canoe
New piece in stern, five knees, ringbolt, 1 Stern knee, two rowlocks, three lining boards, mast step, two
planks lined over, six new floor timbers,
Tar

The materials to be used for above repairs &c, to be of similar description and quality to those specified
for building the five canoes referred to herein, and Each canoe to be finished off in a workmanlike
manner to the satisfaction of the officer in Charge of the AD and to be completed by the 15th June 1876
[1878].

[Hamilton]

787 & 788
26th April 1878
Same letters to:
Corporal J. Dann, Milang and
Mr W.R. Rumball, P.T., Goolwa
Sir,
I have the honor to forward you herewith copy of the specifications for the supply of Canoes for
Aborigines, also for repairs painting &c to canoes at Goolwa, Tenders for which have been called for by
notice in the G. Gazette of the 25th inst., and to request that you will be good enough to afford
opportunities to persons desirous of tendering, of making themselves acquainted with the conditions
contained therein.

[Hamilton]
30th April 1878
Corpl J. Leahy
Port Augusta
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th inst., reporting that the ton of flour received at the beginning of this month for the Aborigines at Port Augusta, is of very inferior third class quality, and enclosing letter from Dr Cotter, Medical Officer for Aborigines, condemning the flour as unsound and unfit for the Natives to use.
In reply, I could point out the desirability of some attempt being made to improve this flour, by placing it in a cool dry place, to let the air get at it, which would probably drive the weevils &c out of it, and render it fit for use.
Should these efforts fail, you are requested to endeavor to obtain for every two bags of the unsound flour, one bag of good seconds flour, which will be estimating the damaged whole at about the price of pollard, to which it must be equal in value.
It is very desirable that on arrival of Aborigines Stores at the Depot, all defects therein, should be immediately [790] reported to this office.

[Hamilton]

1st May 1878
Messrs Smith and Paqualin
Govt. Shipping Agents
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to forward herewith forms of Certificate, which you will be good enough to act on in future, prior to shipping flour on a/c of this department,
Any certificate that may be issued by you during the month, are to be forwarded to this office, attached to your monthly a/c.

[Hamilton]

4th May 1878
Tassie
Gentlemen,
I hear asupply of AS for Mr Noble, Parallana, Far North, will reach you in a few days, on their arrival at PA, wybget make arrangements for their early transit to Parallana – via “Williapa”.
Mr Noble informs me he will have his own trams at Williapa in two or three weeks from this, and if the Aborigines rations are ready there, this will be a good opportunity to get them on to the Depot.

[Hamilton]
6th May 1878
Mr Wm Gregory P.T.
Port Pirie
Sir,
Referring to your letter dated 29th ulto., addressed to Inspector Saunders of Clare, and stating that the parcel of Aborigines Blankets received at Port Pirie last year, are nearly all distributed, and requesting a supply of Fifty (50) Blankets for the current year, I have the honor to inform you, that no Blankets were sent to Port Pirie last year for the natives, - a bale of twenty (20) Blankets were forwarded early in 1877 to the Depot at Crystal Brook, and I shall be glad to learn under what circumstances these Blankets were delivered and issued at Port Pirie.

[Hamilton]

4 May 1878
Mr W.N. Thomson
Wallanippie
Sir,
I regret that the last supply of Aborigines Stores for your depot has been so long in reaching its destination. These Stores were sent to Smith & Paqualin, Govt Shipping Agents, with instructions to forward via Point Brown, per “Margaret” or “Grace Darling”, - they sent them by “Lady Robinson” - the latter of which would not land them at Pt Brown and hence they were taken to Streaky Bay, - on learning this I telegraphed to Trooper there to try & get the Stores taken to Pt Brown by some passing vessel, failing this, to arrange for their despatch overland to the depot.

[Hamilton]

7th May 1878
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
The Aboriginal woman “Emily Rankine or Pritchard [or Wilkins?]” has been about Adelaide for some day past, - she and her husband received orders for their conveyance to Wellington on the 4th inst. Mr Deane will oblige by endeavouring to induce this woman to abstain from coming to Adelaide, when she begs about the Town &c. It would be very desirable if her wants and necessities could receive attention at Wellington as far as possible, anything specially required for her can be reported to this office, when it will be forwarded from Adelaide.

[Hamilton]

9th May 1878
Messrs W. Gordon & Co.
Goolwa
Gentlemen,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your tender of the 4th inst. for building five (5) Canoes and repairing ten (10) canoes at Goolwa, for the sum of Forty nine pounds, seventeen shillings and ninepence (£49. 17. 9) has been accepted, and I have to request that you will sign the Contract for the work, which has been forwarded to Mr Rumball P.T.

[Hamilton]
9th May 1878
Messrs M. Moore & Son
Goolwa
Gentlemen,
Referring to your Tender dated the 2nd inst., for building etc. .... For Aborigines Department, for the sum of £ 66. 10. 0 I have the honor to inform you that the Tender of Messrs W. Gordon & Co for the Canoes in question, at £ 49. 17. 9, has been accepted.

[Hamilton]

9th May 1878
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Tender of Messrs W. Gordon & Co for building and repairing the Aborigines Canoes at Goolwa has been accepted, and I have to request that you will be good enough to obtain their signature to the form of contract which is forwarded herewith, and which you are requested to retain until the work has been completed.

[Hamilton]

17th May 1878
Dr J.A. Creelman
Kingston
Sir,
The annexed a/c stated to have been rendered in September 1877 has never reached this office – The a/c in its present form cannot be passed – it will have to be made out showing the items and dates in detail –
Particular attention is drawn to the fact that all a/cs against Government Departments should be rendered every month, and in no case should they exceed three months from date of expense incurred – otherwise considerable delay will be experienced before payment is obtained.

[Hamilton]

17th May 1878
Mr Deane P.T.
Wellington
In reference to Abor. “Emily Rankine” this woman has been frequently in the Hospital and the authorities there appear to have done all in their power for her, and it is very undesirable to send her there again without substantial reasons for such a course.
The depot at Wellington being well supplied with Medicines, Medical comforts &c – it is only under extreme circumstances that Mr Deane would be justified in giving her an order to proceed to Strathalbyn for medical advice.

[Hamilton]
799
20th May 1878
J.P. Buttfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Far North
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 13th inst., recommending that an Aborigines Depot be opened at Lake Hope, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, as a depot now exists at Kopperamanna, the Honorable Commissioner desired that, you will be good enough to forward a further Report, stating the grounds on which you recommend the establishment of another Depot in this District.

[Hamilton]

800a
22nd May 1878
Mr Corcoran P.T.
Port Wakefield
Referring to the case of the half-caste woman & Children “Rowe”, Mr Corcoran is authorised to have her supplied with fresh meat for a fortnight, supply not to exceed 2 lbs daily.
Be good enough to report the a/cs of the children and whether their mother would consent to their going into one of the Native Institutions such as Point Pierce on the Yorke’s Peninsula. The children would not be admitted into the Destitute Asylum at Adelaide – their rules of admission do not apply to Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

800b
25th May 1878 [very blurred]
Mr Chas Taylor
??Reedbeds?
Sir,
An Aboriginal named “?Fowler Paddy??” called upon me this morning and reported that he has been in your employment and that you have refused to pay him for £ 2. 10. 0 which he claims as wages, being five weeks at 10/- per week – May I request that you will be good enough hto inform me, on what grounds do you decline paying same.

[Hamilton]

801
27th May 1878
The Revd George Taplin
PM
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., stating that Mr McCallum of McGrath’s Flat interferes with “The Needles” Mission reserve, preventing your sheep depasturing thereon, and requesting that steps may be taken to have the boundaries of the Reserve defined.
In reply, I am requested by the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands to inform you that, he does not consider it necessary that the boundaries of the reserve in question need be specially defined, as such can be done (for all practical purposes) with sufficient accuracy by the officer of the Mission. Mr McCallum has been written to and warned not to be troublesome again.

[Hamilton]
802
29th May 1878
Mr R.T. Wilson
Clerk D.C.
Balaklava
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th inst., withdrawing your application on behalf of aboriginal “Edward Rowe” for a Section of land in the Hd. Of ??, and applying for Section 676 in the Hd. Of Hall for an Aboriginal named “James Goldsmith”.
In reply, I have to request that you will be good enough to furnish some further particulars in reference to “Goldsmith”’s character and general fitness to cultivate the land, and whether he has been trained at any of the Mission Stations &c &c.

[Hamilton]

803a
30th May 1878
Mr M. Corcoran P.T.
Port Wakefield
Mr Corcoran is requested to forward report to this office respecting an Aboriginal named “James Goldsmith” living near Balaklava, giving all the information procurable touching his conduct, character, length of residence in the District and employments (if any) during such residence &c

[Hamilton]

803b
The Revd W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,
I have the honor to bring under your notice the case of a ½ caste woman, wife of Abor. “Edward Rowe”, - she has been deserted by her husband who is represented as a worthless character and now found near Port Wakefield by the Police in a state of destitution,- she has three children aged 4 years, 3 years,and 2 months,- it is very desirable that the children should be rescued from this present sad condition, - Will you kindly inform me whether you would receive the mother and children into the Institution under your charge.

[Hamilton]

804a
Mr M. Corcoran P.T.
Port Wakefield
Sir,
Ref l 13th inst., stating that the ½ caste native “Rowe’ is willing to send her children to one of the Nis provided she can accompany them, I hh inf that, I have written to the Sup of the PPMS with a view to ascertain whether the family in question can be received there, and on receipt of his reply, you will be again communicated with on the subject.

[Hamilton]
25th June 1878
Mr M. Corcoran P.T.
Port Wakefield
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that I have been notified by Mr Kuhn of Point Pierce Mission Station, that he is willing to receive the ½ caste native woman “Rowe” and her three children into the Institution under his charge. You will be good enough to make some arrangement for forwarding these Natives to Point Pierce, - probably by Mail conveyance via Maitland will be found the best route. The expenses incurred for their transport to be certified by you and forwarded to this office.

[Hamilton]

17th June 1878
The Revd F.W. Cox
Chairman: Aborigines’ Friends’ Association
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 31st ulto., representing on behalf of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association the large amount of Medical attendance given to the Aborigines by the Revd. George Taplin of Point Macleay, and submitting a request that the Government would pay an annual allowance to Mr Taplin for such services, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your request cannot be complied with.

[Hamilton]

3rd July 1878
Mr John Pearson
Aboriginal
Kingston
(The Postmaster)
Sir,
Referring to your Telegram 3rd inst., applying for a square mile of land, about three miles south of Cromer Station, in the two-mile Hut Paddock, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that Clause 11 of the Crown Lands Consolidation Act (No. 86/77) limits grants of land to 160 acres to any Aboriginal Native of this Province. If you will select a section and let me know its number and locality – I will submit your application for the consideration of the Honorable Commissioner.

[Hamilton]
Goolwa – Shed for Aborigines

Specification
The sills to be 6” x 3” red gum, halved at angles and spiked together. [beautiful hand-writing]
The four angle posts and the two at front to be 5” x 5” red gum set 2” 6” into the ground and cut at top
for head rails.- Intermediate standards to be 4” x 2” V.O.L. stringy bark, tenoned into sills and cut at top
for heads and rafters – 4” x 2” stringy bark head rails, fixed on outside of posts and standards and
fastened with ¼” screw bolts, nuts, and washers, two to each – 4” x 2” stringy bark rafters housed into
standards – 4” x 2” deal ?purlin and 3” x 1 ½” deal rails housed into standards to ends and back – round
red gum iles 9” diameter to be driven 2’ 6” into the ground between the outside osts for sills to rest on.
Cover the roof back and ends with galvanized corrugated iron. [ 808 ] Draft of plan.

5th July 1878
Shed for Aborigines at Goolwa

Sealed Tenders will be received at this office, up to noon of the 22nd inst., for building Shed for
Aborigines at Goolwa.
Specifications may be seen at this office, and at the Police Station at Goolwa.
Each tender to be marked on the envelope “On Public Service” with the words “Tender for Shed” in the
corner, and to be addressed to the SPA, Adelaide.
The lowest or ny tender will not necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

10th July 1876
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I have the honor to forward you herewith copy of the Specification for Shed for Aborigines at Goolwa,
the call for Tenders for which will appear in the Government Gazette of the 11th inst, and to request that
you will be good enough to give persons desirous of tendering an opportunity of seeing the same.
I have also to request that you will point out the site on which it is proposed to erect this shed, which
will be at or ner the place where the native camps were situated on the occasion of my last visit to
Goolwa.
It is desirable that the Shed should be placed in a position where the Aborigines will avail themselves of
it, and also prevent their presence being objectionable to the white population.

[Hamilton]
22 July 1878
Corpl R.T. Morris
Kingston
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to see an Aboriginal named “John Pearson” residing at or near Cairn Bank Station, Kingston, and question him with a view to ascertain his object in applying to the Government for a Section of land in the 2-mile Hut Paddock, whether his application is Bona fide or himself and and not for the benefit of someone else – and be good enough to supply me with information as to Pearson’s conduct, character &c.

[Hamilton]

26th June 1878
Mr J. Sedunary
Macclesfield
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your Tender of the 20th inst. for building Aborigines Shed at Goolwa, for the sum of Twenty five pounds, eighteen shilling (£25.18.0) has been accepted, and I have to request that you will be good enough to sign the contract for the work, which has been forwarded to P.T. Rumball at Goolwa.

[Hamilton]

27th July 1878
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Tender of Mr J. Sedunary of Macclesfield, for building Aborigines shed at Goolwa, has been accepted, and I have to request that you will be good enough to obtain his signature for the contract form herewith enclosed, and retain this document in your possession until the completion of the work.

[Hamilton]

29th July 1878
Mr F.W. Allen
Edithburgh
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the complaints preferred against you as Issuer of Aborigines Stores by P.T. Orr, have been inquired into and all the circumstances fully investigated and the Honorable Commissioner considers that the charges referee to have not been substantiated and that your explanations in reply are satisfactory.

[Hamilton]
815
29th July 1878
R. Saunders Esq.
Inspector of Police
Clare
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that,
inquiry has been made into certain complaints preferred by P.T. Orr in his report of the 15th ulto.,
against Mr F.W. Allen, issuer of Aborigines Stores at Edithburgh, and that all the circumstances have
been fully investigated, and the Honorable Commissioner considers the charges referred to have not
been substantiated, and that Mr Allen’s explanation in reply are satisfactory.

[Hamilton]

816
5th August 1878
Mr T. Boord P.T.
Three Lakes
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 29th ulto., asking if Aborigines employed by settlers at Three Lakes are
entitled to rations, I have the honor to state, that when natives enter into such employment they should
agree with their master whether their remuneration is to be in rations or money or both, in all cases the
native should receive fair payment for his services and in the event of any case arising and coming under
your notice, in which an attempt is made to deprive the native of what he may be fairly entitled to, it
would be your duty to interfere on his behalf, and also report the circumstances to this office.

[Hamilton]

817
5th August 1878
Mr H. McDargie?
Franklin Harbor
Sir,
I am in receipt of your letter of the 25th ulto., applying for rations on behalf of the Franklin Harbor
natives, and in reply, I have the honor to inform you that, a supply of Blankets and rations were
forwarded last month to Mr ??Newland for the relief of the Aborigines of your District. Mr Newland’s
depot is situated some miles north of Franklin harbor and near the ??Mininnie Mine.
It will not be desirable to establish a second depot in the Franklin Harbor District, - the natives move
about so frequently from place to place that depots can hardly be expected to be opened at every spot
they visit.

[Hamilton]
7th August 1878
Mr Jas Hiern
Hiltruby
Sir,
Referring to your letters of the 15th and 30th ulto., respecting the non-payment of the a/c enclosed by you from J.R. Montgomery for £ 4. 7. 0 Cartage of Aborigines Stores from Streaky Bay to Depot at Hiltruby, I have the honor to inform you that the a/c will be passed in Schedule for current month, and will be payable at the Treasury about the 5th prox.
In response to the paragraph in your letter of the 15th ulto., stating that the natives about Hiltruby are destitute of clothing and suffering from sickness,- I would point out that 45 Blankets have been supplied to your Depot during the past year, 20 of them were forwarded to you in Oct 1877 and do not appear in your returns since, and yet their Carriage to the Depot is charged for in the a/c you enclosed to me, I presume therefore that the blankets duly reached you, - be good enough to explain this ?? in your next monthly return.

[Hamilton]

10th August 1878
Mr F.W. Allen
Edithburgh
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 7th inst., asking for certified copies of certain documents in reference to the recent inquiry into the charges preferred against you by P.T. Orr on the 15th June last, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to inform me what your object is in desiring a copy of these papers.

[Hamilton]

13th August 1878
Mr John Pearson
Cairn Bank Kingston
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that the block of land applied for by you in your letter of the 10th ulto., is situated within the limits of the Country reserved for future drainage purposes; you will therefore have to make a fresh selection.

[Hamilton]
821
14th August 1878
Mr Andrew Simmonds
Mt Gambier
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 29th ulto., enquiring whether a person who marries a ½ caste Aboriginal Native of this Colony, is entitled to some land from Government, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, in case of such marriage, the person, as husband of an Aboriginal Native woman, is not entitled to a lease of land from Government, but the land could be leased to the Aboriginal wife, during her life, - in case of her death it would revert to the Crown again, - her descendants might obtain a renewal of the lease, but they could not claim it as a right.
In your case, I am to state that, the Honorable Commissioner is prepared to consider an application from your wife for a section of land not exceeding 160 acres, the situation of which should be fully described, and the application should be accompanied with a certified copy of your Marriage Certificate, and also a certificate from Mrs C. Smith as to the character of your wife.

[Hamilton]

822
17th August 1878
Mr F.W. Allen
Edithburgh
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., stating that, your only object for obtaining certified copies of the documents applied for in your letter of the 7th inst., is to bring P.T. aor’s discreetable action in reference to the charge be preferred against you on the 15th June last, before the Commissioner of Police.
In reply, I am directed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that your request cannot be complied with.

[Hamilton]

823
22nd August 1878
R. Saunders Esq
Inspector of Police
Clare
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 19th inst., reporting a large number of natives at Bundaleer, some of whom are old and infirm, and wanting Blankets, and stating that steps were taken by you for the relief of two of the most urgent cases.
In reply, I have to inform you that a parcel containing 12 single blankets have been ordered for Bundaleer, and instructions given to forward them via Clare, addressed to your care, and I shall feel obliged if you will kindly see that they reach their destination.
A good supply of blankets were forwarded this year to the depots at Pt Augusta, Pt Pirie, Pt Wakefield and Bungaree, so that the wants of the Natives visiting those localities might be fully met.

[Hamilton]
824a
22nd August 1878
R. E. Phillipson
Beltana
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd inst., stating that Blankets are much wanted at your Depot, I beg to say – that the supply (40) for the current year were forwarded to you last October – and I presume reached your hands in February last and the April return shows 8 on hand. The best time for the general issue of Blankets to the Natives is about the 1st May – they have them then when the cold weather commences and derive full benefit from them during winter months. The new supply from England for ensuing year will be to hand next month, and I shall have 60 blankets forwarded to Beltana as soon as possible and would suggest their issue about 1st May 1879, but of course any pressing cases could be dealt with sooner.

[Hamilton]

824b
27th August 1878
R. Saunders Esq
Inspector of Police
Clare
Sir,
Referring to your note of 25th inst., respecting the case of the ½ caste girl, it would be desirable if you can arrange it so, that the girl come to Adelaide by Morning train, she could then leave here by coach at 3 pm same day for Milang & Point Macleay. We have no quarters at all in Adelaide for the natives to stop at, he Destitute Asylum authorities decline to receive them there. You might get some people at Clare to take charge of the child for the night. All expenses incurred for such – and clothing – Rail passes &c – this department will pay. You can send send me a/cs certified accordingly. On her arrival in Adelaide, she had better be brought to this office.

[Hamilton]

825
24th August 1878
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your telegram of this date, stating that the shed for Aborigines at Goolwa was finished yesterday by the Contractors, I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to examine the work and report the result to me at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]
17th September 1878
The Revd F.W. Cox
Chariman: Aborigines’ Friends’ association

Sir

Reffring to your letter of the 5th inst., enquiring whether any Aboriginal reserve has ever been made at Innamincka, and if so, why has it been resumed by the Government, I have the honor to inform you that no such reserve has ever been set apart in that locality, but should it be shewn that its existence would tend to promote the welfare and interests of the Aborigines, the Government would doubtless be disposed to consider favourably any proposition having so desirable an object in view.

Respecting the alleged “merciless slaughter” of Blacks in the Far North, no rumours of the occurrence of such enormities have reached this office during the past ten years, and Mr Buttfield S.M. assures me that he is not aware of any foundations for such reports.

It is very probable that as the Queensland natives receive very bad treatment in that Province, tales of such a nature are carried over the border and have been gradually circulated about the more remote districts in the Far North-East of South Australia.

[Hamilton]

24th September 1878

Sealed tenders will be received at this office up to noon on the 7th October, for the supply of eight canoes for Aborigines, to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa.

Specifications may be seen at this office, and at the Police Stations at Goolwa and Milang.

Each Tender to be marked on the envelope, “On Public Service”, with the words “Tender for Canoes” in the corner, and to be addressed to the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

24th September 1878

The Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 5th inst., applying for Eight Canoes for the Aborigines at Pt Macleay and the Coorong, I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of tenders being called for the supply of the Canoes in question.

[Hamilton]
24th September 1878
Mr T. McCallum
McGrath’s Flat
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., pointing out the mischief caused by the Blacks’ dogs attacking and destroying your sheep, thirteen of which have been killed during the present year.

In reply, I have to state, that until some amendment is made in the existing Dog Act, I do not see that steps can legally be taken to restrict the number of the apparently useless animals kept by the Aborigines, - under the circumstances referred to in your letter it appears to me you would be justified, after giving the aborigines due notice, in killing any of their dogs found in the act of attacking your sheep.

[Hamilton]

Specification for Supply of Eight (8) Canoes for Aborigines

Each canoe to be fourteen (14) ft long, over all, four and a half (4 1/2) ft wide and eighteen (18) inches deep, with round bottom, without keel, slightly curved from centre to ends, -

The middle range to be one (1) inch think of good seasoned yellow pine, the planking outside to be of the same material, three-quarters (¾) inch thick, properly worked into each end, the floor also to be of yellow pine,-

Two (2) thwarts to be in each canoe, one and a half (1 ½) inches thick, of yellow pine, the two ends to be of the same, -

Gunwales fore and aft to be of one and one-eighth (1 1/8) in. think, by two and a half (2 ½) in wide, of good seasoned hard wood,-

Floor timbers and side timbers to be not less than thirty six (36) in number, of sringly bark 1 ½ x 1 in. and fifteen (15) in. apart, with a half timber between,-

Ten (10) hard Gum knees to be in each Canoe, fastened with gtwo (2) in bolts and nuts in each knee,-

Two (2) iron ring bolts to be in each Canoe, one at each end. The rising [832] to be worked fore and aft under the thwarts, to give strength to the timbers and thwarts,-

Three boards, good seasoned yellow pine, three quarters (¾) in thick, to be worked inside fore and aft, one for the kilson, and one on each side along the bilge, - Step to be made for Mast and hole in thwart,-

The fastenings to be of copper throughout, - Two (2) coats of best Tar, Pitch, &c, to be applied after the work has been inspected and approved.

Each canoe to be finished off in a workmanlike manner to the satisfaction of the Officer in Charge of the Aborigines Department and to be delivered at Milang or Goolwa by the 15th December 1878.

[Hamilton]
833
27th September 1878
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith copy of specification for supply of canoes for Aborigines, Tenders for which have been called for, Vide Govt Gazette of 26th inst. (page 898), and to request that you will be good enough to give opportunities to persons desirous of tendering, of acquainting themselves with the provisions contained herein.

[Hamilton]

834
Same letter to Corpl J. Dann, Milang.

[Hamilton]

835
27th September 1878
The Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 30th ulto., suggesting that the proposed book on “Aboriginal Folklore” should be published with illustrations, and enclosing offer from Captain Sweet to supply 1500 photos, at 15/- per dozen, I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has accepted the offer of the Melbourne Photo Co. of Adelaide to furnish the Photos required at 7/- per dozen, “Cabinet” size.
Mr Freeman, the Manager of the Co. referred to, will proceed to Point Macleay to take the necessary negatives, when I hear from you that you are prepared for him.

[Hamilton]

836
27th September 1878
Mr G. Freeman
Melbourne Photo Co.
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that your offer of the 19th inst., to supply fifteen hundred (1500) Photo illustrations, “Cabinet” size, from six (6) separate negatives of Aboriginal subjects, for Book on “Aboriginal Folklore”, at seven pence (7') each copy, has been accepted.
As it will probably be necessary for you to proceed to Point Macleay to take the negatives there, I will communicate with you again when further arrangements are made with Mr Taplin and I learn from him that he is prepared for your visit.

[Hamilton]
837
1st October 1878
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 1st ulto., applying for a boat for the use of the Aborigines at Venus Bay Depot, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your request has been approved.
I have procured a suitable boat at Port Adelaide and it will be forwarded to Venus Bay by 1st opportunity.
[Hamilton]

838a
2nd October 1878
T.J.S. O'Halloran Esq., S.M.
Mount Gambier
Dear Sir,
A ½ caste native named “Lora Young” was apprenticed by this department to Mr Mckenzie, tailor of Mount Gambier, in September 1875 for three years.
During the time that Mr W.J. Turner held your office he occasionally favoured me with a report as to the progress this lad was making – his condition, conduct, and treatment &c –
May I request that you will kindly make some enquiry about him and oblige me with your Report therein – No. 12 of 1844 as the Ordinance under which he was apprenticed.
[Hamilton]

838b
4th October
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
In reference to annexed a/c will Tassie be good enough to obtain and return attached to the a/c – sub-vouchers for the Charges therein on a/c of freight amounting to £ 2. 6. 5 - The Audit Office have declined to pay this a/c ?? in the absence of these supporting vouchers – which in all future cases should accompany the a/cs and thus avoid delay &c in payment.
[Hamilton]

839
10th October 1878
Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 27th ulto., suggesting that the dead body of the ½ caste recently found at Magill, may have been that of either “George Ngulwake” ½ caste of Wellington, or “Billy Hewitt” ½ caste of Guichen Bay.
In reply, I am directed by the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands to inform you that, your communication has been laid before the Commissioner of Police, who reports: “That every possible means have been taken to find out who deceased was, but without success, there was nothing found that would lead to identification, and the remains were to much altered by decomposition to allow recognition.”
[Hamilton]
840
10th October 1878
Mr Thos Smith
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your tender of the 5th inst., for the supply of Eight (8) Canoes for Aborigines at £ 6. 12. 6 each, has been accepted, and I have to request that you will be good enough to sign the contract for the work which has been forwarded to Corporal Dann at Milang.

[Hamilton]

841
10th October 1878
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the tender of Mr Thos Smith of Milang has been accepted for the supply of Eight (8) Canoes for Aborigines, and I have to request that you will be good enough to obtain his signature to the form of contract, which is forwarded herewith, and return same to this office at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]

842
16th October 1878
The Revd George Taplin
PM
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., enclosing a/c for £ 1. 14. 0, for cartage of Aborigines Stores from the Point Macleay Jetty to the “Needles” depot, I have the honor to inform you that this amount will be included in Schedule or Current month & payable at Treasury in due course. With reference to the allowance of rations (included in September Return from the Needles) to the Storeman in charge of Depot [Thornton] I have to point out that the issue of rations supplied by this Department to other than Aborigines, cannot be officially sanctioned.

[Hamilton]

843
18th October 1878
Mr E.H. Deane P.T.
Wellington
Referring to the a/c from A. Saunders for £ 2. 10. 0 for coffin for Aboriginal “Mary Cooke” at Wellington, attention is drawn to the excessive nature of this charge – Coffins are provided in Adelaide for £ 1. 2. 0 each in these cases, and in various country districts the charge made is from £ 1. 10. 0 to £ 2.
The coffins required for Aborigines need only be of the plainest description, and the charge in no instance should exceed £ 2 for an adult.

[Hamilton]
22nd October 1878
Mr Thomas Smith
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., stating that owing to press of business you will be unable to do the work involved in the supply of Eight Canoes for Aborigines, for which your tender has been accepted, and stating that you have arranged with Mr John Nelson to take the contract, subject to official approval. In reply, I am directed by the Honorable Commissioner to state, that you will be held responsible by the government for the due performance of your contract, and will be permitted to employ whom you choose to execute the work.

[Hamilton]

22nd October 1878
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 18th inst., stating that Mr Thos Smith has informed you that he could not undertake the contract to supply the canoes for Aborigines, for which his tender has been accepted, I have the honor to inform you that, I have written to Mr Smith intimating that he will be held responsible by the government for the due performance of his contract, and that he can employ whom he chooses to execute the work.
I return the form of contract herewith, and you will be good enough to have it executed as soon as possible & forwarded to me.

[Hamilton]

24th October 1878
James Clark Esq.
Noarlunga
Sir,
Ref l 22nd inst., applying on behalf of some Aborigines located at Norlunga, for a Boat for fishing purposes, I hh dir request that you wbget furnish some further particulars respecting these natives – ascto their number, names, district to which they belong, whether they are likely to remain permanently at Noarlunga, and could you name any suitable person who would, in the event of a bot being supplied, take charge of it, and exercise a general supervision over it.

[Hamilton]
848
26th October 1878
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 19th inst., stating that as Mr Thos Smith is unable to fulfil his agreement for building Eight Canoes, you are willing to do the work on the same terms as offered to him, viz. for £ 6.10. 6 each, and to complete the work in six weeks from date of contract signed, I have inf that the HCCL has accepted your offer, and I have to request that you sign the Contract which has been forwarded to Corpl Dann at Milang.

[Hamilton]

849a
30th October 1878
The Revd W.J. Kuhn
PP
Referring to Mr Morton’s a/c for £ 2. 2. 0 – it is pointed out that 11/- of this amount was passed in May 1877 and has been since lying in the treasury. If Morton would send his a/cs in at once to Mr Kuhn to certify and transmit to this office, there would be neither trouble nor delay in getting the money, - it is entirely Morton’s own fault in keeping his a/cs so long unrendered – hat he hs not been paid ere this – he says that he wrote twice to Govt about the a/cs – if so the letters have not reached this office.

[Hamilton]

849b
1st November 1878
Mr C. Chapple
Umberatana
Referring to Mr Chapple’s letter of the 9th ulto., stating that he has been out of Aboriginal stores since last February, - it is pointed out that no requisition for fresh supply of rations for Umberatana Depot has reached this office, - it is desirable that supplies should be applied for at such season of the year when cartage facilities present themselves. Stores for Depots in the Far North are often detained at Port Augusta for months. A.D. Tassie & Co., stating that they are unable to get them sent forward owing to there being no teams available – parcel of return forms by this post.

[Hamilton]

850
1st November 1878
J.P. Butfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Far Morth
Blinman
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to remind you that you have not yet forwarded report in reference to the desirability or otherwise of establishing an Aboriginal Depot in the vicinity of Lake Hope – Vide Abor. Letter 172/78.
I have also to request that you will be good enough to forward at your earliest convenience Report on the general Conditions &c of the Aborigines in your district for the year 1877.

[Hamilton]
5th November 1878
Mr J. Shaw
Poonindie
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., intimating that you have taken charge of the Aborigines Stores at the Poonindie Depot as successor to Mr Bruce, and also forwarding the Return of issues during “October” last, which I perceive is “Nil”, and has not been signed and dated by you, - in future when forwarding these returns will you be good enough to sign and date them on both sides.
I forward herewith copy of the instructions framed for the guidance of issuers of Aborigines Stores.

[Hamilton]

5th November 1878
Mr J. Shaw
Poonindie
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to forward to this office, as soon as practicable after the 31st December next, a report in reference to the Poonindie institution for 1878, giving any information in your power respecting the number of Natives employed & their classification, the number of children attending school, their progress & degree of proficiency &c – the health and conduct of the Natives, and a financial statement comprising a Balance Sheet and the Assets and Liabilities of the Institution.

[Hamilton]

12th November 1878
T.G.F. Seabrooke Esq., M.D.
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., informing me that it is absolutely necessary that three Aboriginal natives, Hamilton, King and Johnson, suffering from disease of the lungs, should be immediately removed from their present camp at Glenelg to an inland locality.
In reply, I have to state, that on several occasions I have seen these Natives, and urged them to go to the Adelaide Hospital where they would receive the requisite medical attendance & nursing and they declined to do so or to leave Glenelg. Under these circumstances I do not see that we can do more than have them supplied with such Medicines, Medical comforts &c., as you may deem necessary.

[Hamilton]

15th November 1878
James Clark Esq
Noarlunga
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 6th inst., respecting the Aborigines at Noarlunga, on behalf of whom you have applied for a boat for fishing purposes, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that your application has been approved, and as soon as a suitable boat has been procured, it will be forwarded to Noarlunga and placed in charge of Mr Furler, as suggested by you.

[Hamilton]
855
19th November 1878
Mr George Muckray
East Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, a lease has been prepared in your favour for the land now occupied by you at East Wellington, and I have to request that you will call at this office at your earliest convenience to execute the lease.

[Hamilton]

856
19th November 1878
Mr R.T. Wilson
Balaklava
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that a lease has been prepared in favour of Aboriginal “James Goldsmith” for the western portion of section 671 in the Hd of Hall, and it will therefore be necessary that he should call at this office at his earliest convenience to execute the lease.

[Hamilton]

857
20th November 1878
R. Saunders Esq
Inspector of Police
Clare
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 18th inst., calling my attention to the case of an aboriginal boy named “Fred McGrath” at Bundaleer, and suggesting that he be placed in some school, I have the honor to inform you that, the Secretary of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association has intimated to me that this boy will be received into the Point Macleay Native Institution, and I have to request that you will be good enough to have him sent down to Adelaide, advising me when he will arrive here.

P.S. I have recd your enclosed £ 1. for the girl “Joanna” at PM & forwarded it to Mr GTaplin. - GEH.

[Hamilton]

858
21st November 1878
Mr C. Furler
Noarlunga
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the Boat for the Aborigines at Norlunga is placed in your charge, and I have to request that you will be good enough to exercise a general supervision over it. The Boat should not be used on Sundays, neither should the Natives be in any way interfered with or deprived of the use of it.

[Hamilton]
26th November 1878
Mr C. Furler
Noarlunga
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22nd inst., asking that a few pounds per year may be given to you as payment for trouble and loss of time in protecting the Aborigines Boat at Noarlunga, and in reply to inform you that, in no instance, is any remuneration made for such service at any of the Aboriginal stations throughout the Province.

[Hamilton]

26th November 1878
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to call your attention to a recent resolution passed by the Board of Management of the Adelaide Hospital, that in future no Aboriginal patients will be admitted into that Institution except on an order from a legally qualified medical practitioner, or a contributor.
Chronic cases of an incurable nature are not admissible to the Hospital under any circumstances.

[Hamilton]

26th November 1878
Same letter to Mr W. Rumball P.T., Goolwa.

27th November 1878
Same letter to Mr E.H. Deane P.T., Wellington.

27th November 1878
Same letter to Revd George Taplin, Point Macleay.

Same letter to Revd W.J. Kuhn, Point Pierce.

Same letter to Mr J. Shaw, Poonindie.
866
28th November 1878
The Secretary of the Adelaide Hospital
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration has authorised me, as Sub-Protector of Aborigines, to become a contributor of £ 5. 5. 0, per annum, to the Adelaide Hospital – this amount will therefore be included in the “Aborigines” Schedule for December next, and will be payable to you at the Treasury in due course.

[Hamilton]

867
29th November 1878
The Revd George Taplin
Point Mcleay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 4th inst., on the subject of the proposed apprenticeship of the 1/2 caste girl “Fanny Forrest” to you as domestic servant, I have the honor to forward you herewith form of Indentures, which you will be good enough to return to me at your earliest convenience with any remarks or suggestions you may deem necessary to offer theron.
The consent of His Excellency the Governor will be then obtained and the Indentures will be returned to you for execution before the Local Court of Full Jurisdiction, sitting at Strathalbyn.

[Hamilton]

868
29th November 1878
Mr J.A. Creelman
Kingston
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to draw your attention to the concluding paragraph of Clause 3 of the instructions furnished to you on your appointment as Medical Officer to Aborigines at Lacepede Bay, and to request that you will be good enough to visit the native camps in your district before the 1st prox., and forward with your medical return for current quarter, a report on the general condition of the Aborigines with such suggestions as you may deem it necessary to make for the promotion of their health &c &c.

[Hamilton]

869
29th November 1878
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
In reply to your letter of the 127th inst., stating that J. Cahill’s a/c for Cartage, £ 8. 0. 1, of Aborigines Stores from Port Augusta to Parallana as for another lot of loading sent subsequent to that referred to by me on the 23rd inst., I have the honor to inform you that on making further search herein, I have ascertained beyond all doubt, that only one lot of Stores have been forwarded to Port Augusta for Parallana since 1878, viz.- on the 3rd May 1878, the cartage a/cs for which have been rendered & paid as previously pointed out by me.
Under the circumstances I must conclude that some error has been made on your part, perhaps Stores for some other Depot have been sent via Parallana.
Awaiting further explanation from you,

[Hamilton]
4th December 1878
J.P. Buttfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Far North
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Government Resident, Port Darwin, has reported the death of “Wirrialpa Tommy”, one of the Black Trackers, at Pine Creek on the 2nd inst., he had been ill for some days previously.

[Hamilton]

2nd December 1878
The Revd. C.G. Teichelmann
Stansbury
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 19th ulto., offering to supply the S.A. Government with information of an Ethnological nature respecting the formerly-called “Adelaide Tribe” of Aborigines, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your offer cannot be entertained as the work on the Aborigines of S.A. has been edited by Mr Taplin, and is now in the hands of the Printer for publication.

[Hamilton]

6th December 1878
Mr R. Warwick
Owiendena
Sir,
I have just learned from A.D. Tassie and Co. of Port Augusta, that the supply of Aborigines Stores forwarded to them on the 26th August last for your Depot, has been sent to Parallana depot, owing to some mistake on the part of their storeman.
I have written to Mr Noble of Parallana, requesting him to have these Stores transmitted to Owiendena by the first opportunity presenting itself, and I shall be glad to learn from you that they have arrived at their proper destination.

[Hamilton]

6th December 1878
Mr Geo. Noble
Parallana
Sir,
I have been informed by A.D. Tassie and Co. of Port Augusta, that the Aboriginal stores forwarded to them on the 26th August last, for Mr Warwick, Owiendena, have been sent in mistake to Parallana depot. I am surprised that you have not called any attention to this matter when these stores reached you, and I have now to request that you will be good enough to have them forwarded by first opportunity to Owiendena, should you not have already done so.

[Hamilton]
10th December 1878
Sergeant B.C. Hurley
Narracoorte
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., applying on behalf of an Aboriginal native named “Charles Ringa” for lease of about 300 acres of land at near Bull Island, Kingston, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that steps will be taken to have the land referred to surveyed and a lease will be prepared for issue to “Runga” for 160 acres, which is the maximum quantity allowed by law to an Aboriginal. I enclose for your information Copy of the form of lease.

[Hamilton]

12th December 1878
Mr W.J. Paull
Cowarie
Far North
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 25th ulto., addressed to Mr Buttfield S.M., SPA, FN, applying that a Depot for Stores for Aborigines may be formed at Cowarie, I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has authorised the establishment of a Depot for the issue of Rations &c to the old, sick & infirm Natives at Cowarie
A supply of stores will be forwarded as per annexed list, to Mundowadana, from which place Mr Buttfield informs me you have agreed to bring them at your own cost.
I forward herewith printed forms of monthly returns and copy of Instructions for your guidance.

[Hamilton]

16th December 1878
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
In reference to a supply of AS now en route to Port Augusta, for Mr W.J. Paull of the Cowarie Depot, near Cooper’s Creek, I ave the honor to request that you will be good enough to have these Stores forwarded to Mundowadana Station, Mr Paull having agreed to bring them from there to Cowarie at his own expense.

[Hamilton]

17th December 1878
The Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
I have the honor respectfully to request that you will be good enough to favour me with three weeks leave of absence from the 1st January 1879.
I propose to make satisfactory arrangements for the due performace of my duties while absent from the office.

[Hamilton]
23rd December 1878
Jas Clark Esq., J.P.
Noarlunga
Sir,
I have the honor to state that Mr Furler has informed me that he declines to continue acting in charge of the Aborigines boat at Noarlunga, unless remunerated for his services; I have intimated to him that in no case has any payment been made at any of the Aboriginal Stations for services of such a nature. Under the circumstances I shall feel obliged if you can name any other resident who would be willing to look after the boat when not in use by the Blacks.

24th December 1878
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 23rd inst., reporting that Mr John Nelson has delivered eight Canoes at Milang & that they have been finished in a workmanlike manner, I have the honor to inform you that these canoes are for Mr Taplin who has been duly advised that they are read for distribution, and I have to request that you will be good enough to retain them at Milang until you receive further instructions from Mr Taplin as to the transport of them to Point Macleay.

24th December 1878
The Revd George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that the eight canoes applied for by you on the 15th September last have been completed and are now at Milang in charge of Corporal Dann. I have instructed him to retain them until he receives instructions from you for their transport to Pt MacLeay. I would suggest that if practicable the natives should bring the canoes from Milang, to save cost to this office. Some few weeks ago, The Revd Mr Cox of Adelaide wrote to me on behalf of Abor “James Spender” recommending him for a Canoe. I shall be glad if you will give “Spender” one of these Canoes.

31st January 1879
The Revd. George Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that I have this day forwarded to Milang an Aboriginal named “Jane Newland” & her infant, her husband appears to have illtreated her, he is now in the Adelaide Hospital suffering from some injury to one of his legs. I shall be glad I you could receive the wife and child at Pt MacLeay and I have written to Corpl Dann at Milang to have them sent to you – on receipt of your instructions to that effect.
31st January 1879
Mr J. P. Morris P.T.
Guichen Bay
Sir,

Replying to your letter of the 30th ulto., reporting the non-arrival of a parcel of Tinware at your depot, I have the honor to inform you that on making enquiry at Government Store, I find the good referred to were forwarded to you seven days subsequently to the despatch of the other stores – and I presume they have ere this arrived at their destination.

[Hamilton]

5th February 1879
Blankets for Aborigines

Sealed Tenders will be received at this office, up to noon of the 1st March instant, for the supply of two thousand (2000) blue blankets for Aborigines.
Each blanket must be seven (7) feet long, by five (5) feet six (6) inches wide, must weigh not less than five (5) pounds, and must be equal in quality to the sample, which may be seen at this Office.
Delivery to be made at the Government Store, North Terrace, as follows, viz.:
One thousand (1000) blankets during September 1879, and
One thousand (1000) during January 1880.
Each tender to be marked on the envelope “On Public Service” with the words “Tender for Blankets” oin the corner.
The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

[Hamilton]

10th February 1879
The Revd W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce
Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that, I have received a letter from Mr A. McArthur of Port Victoria, applying on behalf of some Aborigines located there, for a Boat for fishing purposes.
One of these Natives named “Samuel Stubbs” called upon me here today, and urged that this request may be complied with, as the possession of a Boat would be a great boon to them, and enable them to catch fish and earn a living.
I shall be glad to learn whether you know these natives, and are prepared to recommend their application. It appears to me, that if they are deserving men they should be assisted, and the Boat would render them less dependent on the government for rations &c.

[Hamilton]
10th February 1879
G.A. Gardner Esq.,
Hon. Sec.
Y.P. Aboriginal Mission
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with a financial statement showing the amount of Assets and Liabilities of the Yorke’s Peninsula Aboriginal Mission at Point Pierce on the 31st December 1878. This information is required for the Annual Report of this department, and should be forwarded as soon as possible after the 31st December in each year.

[Hamilton]

12th February 1879
R.E. Minchin Esq.
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., stating that, you are prepared to undertake to make accurate copies of some drawings executed by Aboriginal natives of this Province I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, your offer has been accepted in terms of your letter referred to.

[Hamilton]

16th February 1879
The Chairman of the
Destitute Board
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., stating that, the Aboriginal “William” has so far recovered, since his admission to the Destitute Asylum, as to be able to walk about, and requesting his removal from the Asylum as soon as a convenient opportunity should offer.
In reply, I have to state that, seps will be taken, as soon as practicable to have this native restored to his own tribe in the north.
The accounts you have forwarded against this department for the maintenance of Aboriginal “William” & the ½ caste girl “Raymond” will be included in the “Aborigines” Schedule for current month.

[Hamilton]
Aborigines Office
Memo/

Attached to letter N.T. Office of Minister of Education – No. 8/79
Returned to the Comm CL &c

I respectfully ask that the Honble the Minister of Education may be moved to have the annexed documents viz. –

Copy of Instructions to Issuers of stores at Aboriginal Depots –
Forms of Monthly Returns of Issues made & forwarded to the Superintendent of the Lutheran Mission Station on the Finke River N.T. with a request that the same may be acted upon in future and transmitted to this office.

I also respectfully suggest that the Superintendent be required to furnish this Department with an Annual Report – supplying the following information viz. –

Improvements effected during the year
Inventory of all Live Stock and Materials on the Station.
No. of natives residing on the station during each month –
No. of children attending School & progress made.
No. of Europeans employed on the Station, in what capacity and monthly wages paid them.
No. of Natives employed on the Station, in what capacity & amount & rate of wages paid them.
Financial statement, showing, Receipts and Payments, Assets & Liabilities.

[Hamilton]

889a
17th February 1879
P.T. Solly
Wellington
Memo/

Will you be good enough to visit the farm occupied by the ½ caste “George Muckray” of East Wellington and obtain from him the following information, and forward same to this office at your earliest con:
1, - Improvement made since he took possession of the land – as regards Houses, buildings, fences – tanks – wells &c
2, - Inventory of all stock and farm implements & materials belonging to him.
3, - No. acres in cultivation and cwts of produce yielded.

[Hamilton]

889b
18th February 1879
Revd. Geo Taplin
Point Mcleay
Dear Sir,

As the Letter Book containing Copies of Moorhouse’s letters forms part of the official records of this office – we cannot have any of the letters you refer to cut out of the Book – But if you cannot manage to have them copied at Pt Maclay – return the Book to me with the letters and parts marked which you wish copied – and I shall get it done here.

[Hamilton]
890
18th February 1879
Mr J. Melrose
Franklin Harbor
Sir,
Mr. W. Newland of Moonabie Station, informs me that, a supply of rations &c, forwarded to him some months ago for distribution to the sick, old, & infirm aborigines, has been stored in your premises at Franklin Harbor, and that owing to difficulty of transport, there is no immediate probability of the stores reaching their destination. — under these circumstances, I shall be glad if you will take charge of these rations &c, and have them issued to the natives as necessity requires in accordance with enclosed copy of “Instructions to Issuers of Aborigines’ Stores.”
I shall forward in separate parcel by this Post, forms of “Monthly Returns”, which you will be good enough to have transmitted regularly to this office.

[Hamilton]

891
18th February 1879
Corpl Dann
Milang
Memo/
Referring to your memo, of the 14th inst., the Native woman “Jane Newland” need not fear that her husband will interfere with her if she goes to Point MacLeay, which is the most suitable place for her. I saw “Newland” in the [Adelaide] Hospital this morning – he is likely to remain there for some time as he cannot walk about yet.
He is anxious to know how his wife and child are, if they are still at Milang, be good enough to let me know for his information.

[Hamilton]

892
19th February 1879
R. Thompson Esq.
Cournamont
River Murray
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the application made in your letter of the 13th inst., for a canoe for an aged Aboriginal woman named “Ellen”, say a cost not exceeding £ 5. 5/-.
I would suggest that you have a suitable canoe built for the native by some person in the neighbourhood. Mr. E. Newman of Swanport supplied canoes last year, 14 ft long and 4 ½ ft wide at £5.5/- each.
The a/c for the canoe to be forwarded to this office, with your certificate attached, stating that the work has been properly performed to your satisfaction.

[Hamilton]
19th February 1879

Specification of work required to be done in repairing Eight (8) Canoes at Milang

No. 1, “Reaningery’s” Canoe,
One keel plank, two rowlocks, three flooring boards, mast thwart and step, and one coat of tar.

No. 2, Richards Canoe
One top plank, Eight knees, two thwarts, & mast step – two rowlocks, three flooring boards, one ring bolt, & one coat of tar.

3, - Haullice’s Canoe,
Two planks, two rowlocks, two thwarts & mast step, four knees, three flooring boards & one coat of tar.

4, - Prelipmalt’s Canoe,
Three planks, six timbers, two thwarts & mast step, two rowlocks, four knees, two risings, three flooring boards & one coat tar.

5, - Reailjap’s Canoe,
One keel plank, two bulge planks, Six knees, two thwarts & mast step, three flooring boards, two risings, two rowlocks, & one coat Tar.

6, - Thomson’s Canoe,
Two planks, Six timbers, three flooring boards, two rowlocks, One mast thwart and step, one ring bolt and one coat tar. [894]

7, - “Andrews’” Canoe,
Two planks, six timbers, three flooring boards, one mast thwart and step, Two rowlocks, one ringbolt and one coat tar,

8, - “George”’s Canoe,
Two planks, six timbers, three flooring boards, two rowlocks, one mast thwart and step, one ring bolt & one coat tar.

The materials to be used for above repairs to be as follows,
Planking, best seasoned yellow pine one inch thick (1 in.)
Thwarts, same material, one and a half inches (1 ½ ) thick,
Timbers – Stringy bark, one and a half in by one (1 ½ x 1 in.),
Knees – hard gum, fastened with two iron bolts and nuts in each knee,
Flooring boards, good seasoned yellow pine three quarters (3/4) inch thick,
Cauling and refastening (copper) where necessary –
Each canoe to be finished off in a workmanlike manner to the satisfaction of the Officer in charge of the Aborigines Department, and to be completed by the 12th March 1879.

[Hamilton]

19th February 1879
Corpl Dann
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 14th inst., reporting that Eight Aborigines Canoes at Milang are in need of repairs, and stating that, Mr John Nelson has offered to execute the necessary work therein for the sum of £ 15. 5/-, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that he has approved of this expenditure.
I now enclose form of contract which you will be good enough to obtain Nelson’s signature to, and return same to this office.

[Hamilton]
21st February 1879
Mr J.A. Rolland P.T.
The Peake
Sir,
In reply to your telegram of the 31st ulto., reporting that many destitute and infirm natives have applied
to you for rations & medicines, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of
Crown Lands &c to inform you that, it is not considered desirable to establish an Aboriginal depot at the
Peake, any pressing cases of actual necessity that may arise among the Natives can be dealt with by
obtaining some rations and medical comforts from the depot at Strangway’s Springs, the Issuer of which
will be instructed to forward the required supplies, on your application.

[Hamilton]

21st February 1879
Mr J. Hogarth
Strangway’s Springs
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that P.T. Rolland, stationed at The Peake, has represented that a number
of Aborigines (destitute & infirm) have applied to him for rations and Medicines, as it is not considered
desirable to open a depot at that place, I have to request that you will be good enough to have a supply
of rations &c forwarded to P.T. Rolland, on his application, for the relief of the sick and indigent Natives
in the neighbourhood of The Peake.
The a/c for transport of thee stores should be sent to P.T. Rolland, who will certify and transmit them to
this office.

[Hamilton]

25th February 1879
Mr A. McArthur
Port Victoria
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, in
reply to your letter of the 4th inst., applying for a fishing boat for some Aborigines at Port Victoria, that it
is not considered desirable to comply with this request.

[Hamilton]

26th February 1879
The Revd. W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce Mission Station
Sir,
Referring to your letters of the 3rd and 17th inst., on the subject of an application made to the
government by Mr A. McArthur for a fishing boat for some Aborigines located at Port Victoria, I have the
honor to inform you that the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has declined to comply with
the request of Mr McArthur.

[Hamilton]
900-907
27th February 1879
The Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
I have the honor to forward my report for the year ended 31st December 1878.

The number of Aborigines in the settled districts of the Province at the date of the last Census (876) is represented as -

- Males 2203, females 1750, total, 4953,

In 1871, this number was -

- Males 1833, females 1536, total, 3369.

Showing an increase of 584 during the five years, this cannot be taken as a natural increase, because the Census of 1876 included a larger area of country, and there has been a considerable influx of Natives from outside regions.

217 male Aborigines are returned as in the employ of settlers.

There are now in existence five Mission Stations on four of which 388 Aboriginals have been resident during the year, and the schools have been attended by 111 children, as shown in the following table, -

Inset annexed table here –

Poonindie, the oldest of the station, has been self-supporting since 1860, looking at the annual cost of each inmate which [901] appears considerable when compared with that of the other institutions, the question is worthy of attending whether a larger number of natives might not be maintained at Poonindie.

The other Stations are of more recent growth and, not possessing so many advantages and natural resources, have had financial difficulties to contend with preventing them attaining so satisfactory a position.

New laws under the Crown Lands Consolidation Act 1877, are now being issued for the reserves occupied by these Missions, containing provision for the protection of the rights and interests of the Aborigines and requiring the Lessees to furnish returns at stated periods supplying satisfactory evidences that the Stations are being properly managed for the sole use and benefit of the Aborigines.

The Mission Station system efficiently carried out, will evidently be the most effective mode of dealing with the Natives, and when every industry is introduced that affords a reasonable prospect of successful Culture, furnishing suitable pastoral, agricultural and other light occupations, a large number of natives may be usefully and profitably employed – and eventually become self-supporting communities.

The status of the Native Schools might be raised and the position of the Masters improved by making them State [902] Schools, this has been done in Victoria and it appears from the Inspector’s report that in one of the schools the percentage of results reached as high as 95 & 100 [Ramahyuck?].

The power given in the Crown Lands Act 1877 to lease land (not exceeding 160 acres) to individual Aborigines, has been exercised in a few cases, a ½ caste native has obtained a fourteen years lease of 160 acres, he is an industrious, intelligent man, has earned money, and now possesses shed and farm implements, and keeps a Bank a/c, and has made small improvements on his farm, Similar Cases are in course of issue to five other natives one of whom recently married a European woman.

The offences committed by the Aborigines have been, as usual almost entirely confined to drunkenness, of 88 cases resulting in 70 ?punished, 64 appear to be owing to this addiction to strong drink. This vice
with its ? of evils has made greater ravages among them and does more to ?? the efforts made for their improvement, than perhaps any other cause, when they have money they have no difficulty in finding unscrupulous persons to supply them with liquor, this is especially the case about Adelaide, Wellington, Goolwa and the Coorong.

It is satisfactory to find that the Police [903] secured 38 convictions in 39 cases in which proceedings were instituted for infringements of the law on this subject. The names of five publicans appear among these offenders, one of whom was convicted twice, it is very desirable that more stringent regulation should be applied to the people making them liable to forfeit their licence on conviction for an offence of this nature, and disqualifying them for holding another for a period of at least three years.

This might also with advantage be made applicable to licensed wine shops which are often situated in remote places where sufficient Police supervision is impracticable.

In view of the increasing disposition on the part of the Aborigines in Central Australia to commit outrages on the European community who now occupy isolated positions far away from Police protection, I venture to suggest in the interests of both blacks and whites, that some prompt and effectual mode of dealing with such cases is urgently required, it might be found desirable to issue a special Commission to the nearest two Justices of the Peace investing them with sufficient power to try natives for the murder of Europeans and when a conviction is secured on conclusive evidence, inflict the extreme penalty of the [904] law in the presence of as many of the neighbouring Tribes as can be collected together. Just retribution would doubtless have a more wholesome effect on even savage minds, than a larger amount of indiscriminate punishment.

The relative cost of the Aboriginal departments here and in Victoria, appears to be –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No. of Natives</th>
<th>Annual Vote</th>
<th>Cost per head</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S. Australia</td>
<td>3953</td>
<td>£ 5254</td>
<td>£ 1. 6. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>1067</td>
<td>7500</td>
<td>7. 0. 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These amounts cannot be regarded as very excessive compared with the large revenues now derived from these Provinces.

The occupation by a superior race, of the territories of an inferior one, throws upon the former a responsibility sufficiently great to justify all reasonable efforts being made for the protection and support of the original proprietors of the soil.

My attention has been drawn to a work on the “Native Tribes of South Australia”, recently published by Messrs Wigg & Son, containing an introductory chapter written by Mr J.D. Woods, in which the following remarks appear –

“ No attempt was ever made by or at the instance of the Colonial government to investigate and record the manners and customs of the Aborigines, nor to represent their [905] language, so that now only a comparatively imperfect idea can be formed of the South Australian natives as a whole.”

“At one time there were Native Schools in Adelaide, and other places and a training Institution near Port Lincoln for the blacks, which was subsidised by the Government.”

“The Native Schools like those who attended them, have passed away and are forgotten, except by some of the earlier Colonists.”

“The Poonindie Mission is now carried on without Government assistance.”

“The Mission of Point Macleay is also carried out without subsidy from the Public urse.”
“With the cessation of the Aborigines Protectorate, and the function of a separate staff, all official interest in the native seems to have expired, and nothing now is done for them, except periodically to give to them through the ? flour, tea, sugar &c. – and even this modicum of generosity is administered in a loose and perfunctory manner, owing to the presence of more urgent duties on [906] those in charge.”

In making the foregoing statements, Mr Woods shews that he has evidently omitted to possess himself of accurate information, and ? he makes several mistakes and his observations are calculated to convey a very erroneous impression as to the position occupied by the Government in relation to the Aborigines –

Whatever ?apathy may have been shown on the part of former Government as to the desirability of attempts being made to collect and preserve in a permanent form, some records of the habits, customs, languages, &c., of the Natives of South Australia, it cannot be fairly said that this matter has been entirely lost sight of –

In response to circulars issued from this office about three years ago a variety of papers have been received from different sources containing a valuable and interesting collection of Aboriginal “Folklore” and ethnological information, these have been placed in the hands of the Revd. George Taplin who has undertaken to edit them, and already the greater part of the MSS. has reached the printer’s hands.

Prior to the Poonindie Mission Station becoming self-supporting in 1860, it received Grants in Aid from Government amounting to £7225. [907]

Point Macleay Mission was established in May 1859, and received from Government a Grant in Aid of £500 per annum up to 1876, when this amount was increased to £2000 which is still paid. In 1875 Parliament voted a special sum of £700, to relieve the institution from its then liabilities chiefly Point Macleay has therefore been established to the extent of £10,600.

The Aborigines Protectorate still exists fully organised for the performance of all its functions, and at no period during previous years have a greater number of agencies exists than are now in operation, having for their object the protection of the Aborigines and the amelioration of their condition.

There are now fifty depots, in addition to the five Mission Stations, carefully distributed over the province and provided with rations, clothing, medical comforts &c – (?which are) to be issued in accordance with printed form of instructions (Copy appended) and unless the monthly returns supplied by these issuers are wilfully falsified, I am unwilling to believe that these officers neglect their duties to such an extent as Mr Woods appears ?? to suggest.

[Hamilton]
908
1st March 1879
J.R. Corpe Esq
Moonta
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 24th ulto., forwarding Statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Y.P. Aboriginal Mission on the 31/12/78, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with a statement of the Receipts and Expenditure on a/c of the Point Pierce station for 1878. I was under the impression we had received this information but find I have been mistaken, if you could forward this return in a few days direct to this office, I shall feel obliged, as I am just completing the yearly report in reference to the Aborigines Mission Stations, and it is desirable full particulars should be obtained from all of them.

[Hamilton]

909
28th February 1879
The Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith for your information my Report of the proceedings of the Aborigines Department for the year ended 31st December 1878.

[Hamilton]

910
3rd March 1879
Mr John Nelson
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 27th ulto., asking for an extension of time, to the 20th inst., for completing your contract for the repair of Aborigines Canoes at Milang, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your request has been acceded to.

[Hamilton]

911
5th March 1879
Messrs D. & W. Murray
King William Street
Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that your Tender of the 1st inst., has been accepted for the supply of Two thousand (2000) Blue Blankets at seven shillings and ten pence halfpenny (7/10 ½ ) each, in terms of Government Gazette notice of call for Tenders for Blankets for Aborigines, dated the 5th February 2879.

[Hamilton]
6th March 1879
Mr Jas Hiern
Hiltruby
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st ulto., requesting that a fresh supply of Aborigines Stores be forwarded to the depot at Hiltruby, and stating that you think the stores might have been sent along with the blankets.
In reply, I would point out that you omitted to apply for the rations and neither have any returns been received from your depot since September 1878.
I enclose copy of Instructions for the guidance of Issuers of Aborigines Stores, and beg to draw your special attention to clause 8 therein, which you will be good enough to act upon in future.
Mr Montgomerie’s a/c for cartage was passed in August 1878 and the money has been lying unclaimed in the Treasury for more than six months.
Be good enough to certify a/cs for Cartage of the Stores now forwarded to Hiltruby and forward them to this office without delay.

[Hamilton]

6th March 1879
Mr W.P. Dunk
Milang
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the a/cs rendered by you to this office in January last, for freight and agency charges on Aborigines stores at Milang, amounting to £26. 16. 2, have been passed for £22.4.0, which sum is now payable at the Treasury.
I have to point out that one item of £3. 4. 0 represented as having been paid to “Kruse” for freight &c., has already been rendered by “Kruse” and was passed for payment in August 1878.
I perceive the a/cs furnished by you in January 1879, include a period extending over twelve months, and I have to remind you that, all a/cs against the Government should be rendered monthly, when they are allowed to fall into arrear exceeding three months considerable delay & difficulty will be experienced in obtaining payment.

[Hamilton]

6th March 1879
Messrs Elder Smith & Co
Port Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that, the a/c rendered by you to this office in January last, for freight charges on Aborigines Stores, amounting to £18. 17. 3 have been passed for £17. 4. 9 which sum is now payable at the Treasury.
I perceive the a/c furnished by you in January 1879 include a period extending as far back as 1877, and I have to remind you that, all a/cs against the Government should be rendered every month, when they are allowed to fall into arrear exceeding three months, considerable delay and difficulty is experienced in obtaining payment thereof.

[Hamilton]
7th March 1879
The Secretary to the Adelaide Hospital

Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 7th inst., as to the disposal of some articles of clothing left at the Adelaide Hospital by the deceased Aboriginals “Maggie Williams” and “Peter”, I have the honor to inform you that this clothing should be retained at the Hospital for a short time, to afford opportunity to the next of kin to the deceased to make application for it.
In the event of its being unclaimed, probably the most desirable course to adopt will be to hand over these articles to any aborigines who may appear to require clothing on their discharge from Hospital.

10th March 1879
W.P. Dunk Esq.
Milang

Sir,
I have the honor to state in reply to your letter of the 7th inst., that I have examined the a/cs you forwarded and return them herewith: you will see that I have noted therein the errors which have occurred.
The item £ 3. 14. 0 was passed in August 1878 payable to Mr Kruse – but it appears he has not collected the money, as it is still lying unclaimed in the Treasury. You had better obtain a procuration order from Kruse to enable you to draw the amount when collecting your own a/cs at treasury.
Mr Kruse appears to have forgotten that he rendered his a/c (of) £ 3. 14. 0 direct to this office, as he has charged it a second time in your a/cs.

[Hamilton]
917
11th March 1879
Mr T.P. Richards P.T.
Fowlers’ Bay
Sir,
I have the honor to draw your attention to some errors which appear to have arisen in your Aborigines Stores returns for November and December 1878.
Your return for January last shews a balance of stores on hand from previous month viz.-
- Flour 219 lbs
- Sugar 21 lbs
- Tea 7 lbs
- Tobacco Nil
- Soap 32½ lbs
- Quart pots 1
- Pannicans 6
On checking over the returns for Octr, Novr and Decr 1878 from your Depot, I find the following quantities should remain on hand on 31st December 1878:
- Flour 590 lbs
- Sugar 81 lbs
- Tea 15 lbs
- Tobacco 1½ lbs
- Soap 35 lbs
- Quart pots 8
- Pannicans 10
Should any Rations &c have been issued to the natives during your recent absence from the depot, which were omitted to have been entered in the Returns, will you be good enough to enter a minute in your next Return to that effect, in explanation of the discrepancy.

[Hamilton]

918
11th March 1879
Mr Wm Gow
Blanchewater
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, on examination of the Monthly Return from your Depot for November 1878, I find that the quantities of stores entered therein as received by your a/c to 12th December last, do not correspond with those supplied to Blanchewater in 1877 & 1878.
You will perceive on reference to enclosed statement that in six articles a deficiency appears, which you do not explain in anyway, and in Sugar and Blankets you show an excess.
On arrival of stores at Depot they should be carefully examined and be compared with those stated in the letter of advice from this office – and all deficiencies &c should be noted in the Monthly Return and full particulars transmitted to this office, as to state of packages, condition of stores &c.
Be good enough to return annexed statement with explanation at your earliest convenience.

[Hamilton]
14th March 1879
Mr J. A. Rolland P.T.
The Peake
Sir,
In reply to your letters of the 16th ulto., and the 4th inst., reporting the steps taken for the relief of two sick Aborigines at The Peake, and the death of one of them “John ?Quinn” on the 21st ulto., and forwarding two a/cs from Mr H.D. Ryan for erection of shed and burial expenses incurred therein; I have the honor to inform you that both a/cs will be included in Schedule for current month and be payable at Treasury about the 5th proximo.
I enclose procuration order form to enable Mr Ryan to authorise some person here to collect the amounts due to him.

[Hamilton]

14th March 1879
Mr J. Hogarth
Strangway’s Springs
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 4th inst., stating that all the Aborigines Stores at the depot at Strangway’s Springs have been issued some months ago, except a few pounds of tea, that the monthly returns have not been furnished owing to your a/c of issues having been mislaid, I have the honor to remind you that these returns from your depot have not reached this office since June 1877, and it is requested that you will be good enough to have them transmitted with more regularity in future.

[Hamilton]

17th March 1879
Mr James Melrose
Franklin Harbor
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 8th inst., reporting that you have taken charge of the Aborigines Stores at Franklin Harbor, and are willing to distribute them weekly to such natives as may require relief, I have the honor to inform you that, there is no objection to the issue of the rations once a week, at the same rate as specified in the printed form of instructions furnished for your guidance.
When forwarding the first monthly return, be good enough to note therein, the quantity of rations destroyed by the Opossum and mice. In future care should be taken to preserve these stores as much as possible.

[Hamilton]

18th March 1879
The Revd Geo. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., requesting that Eight (8) Canoes belonging to natives at Point Macleay may be repaired, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the funds at the disposal of this department for remainder of current financial year, will not admit of any further expenditure of this nature.

[Hamilton]
21\textsuperscript{st} March 1879  
Corpl J. Dann  
Milang  
Sir,  
In reply to your memo, of the 19\textsuperscript{th} inst., in reference to Aboriginal “Joe Newland”, now in the Destitute Asylum and whose wife, having been informed that he is very ill, wishes to go and see him, I have the honor to inform you that, I have seen “Newland” this morning and ascertained that his health is very good, and with the exception of great weakness in his legs, which prevents him being able to move about, he does not appear to suffer from any illness, and is comfortable and well cared for. Under the circumstances it is unnecessary to send his wife up to Adelaide to see him at present.  
[Hamilton]

21\textsuperscript{st} March 1879  
Corpl J. Dann  
Milang  
Sir,  
Referring to your letter of the 19\textsuperscript{th} inst., stating that four (4) additional canoes requiring repairs have been brought to Milang, and that Mr J. Nelson is willing to perform the requisite work at £2. for each canoe, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the funds at the disposal of this department will not allow of any further expenditure in works of this nature, during the reminder of the current financial year.  
[Hamilton]

21\textsuperscript{st} March 1879  
Mr H. Reed  
Moolooloo  
Sir,  
I have the honor to inform you that, on receipt of your letter of the 10\textsuperscript{th} inst., reporting that the Aborigines flour had been delivered at Blinman instead of Moolooloo [20 km N of Blinman], I communicated with Messrs Tassie & Co, Port Augusta, who, in their reply state, “It is absolutely impossible to engage carters to take less than full loads any where, and the price to Moolooloo is enormous, more than the value of the Rations, so we dispatched the flour to the Blinman’s thinking that being the nearest point. Mr Read might easily arrange with the Station to get the stuff over in a dray.” I have to add that Messrs Tassie & Co were not instructed from this office to send the stores to Blinman. In future, when any special opportunity offers to get the Stores up from Port Augusta to the depot, it would be desirable to let Messrs Tassie & Co know accordingly.  
[Hamilton]
21st March 1879
Mr A.E. Witherby
Umberatana
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 15th inst., pointing out the urgent necessity there is for at once having the Aborigines supplies now lying at Port Augusta, conveyed to the depot at Umberatana, I have the honor to inform you that Messrs Tassie & Co. the Govt Forwarding Agents, have repeatedly had instructions given to them to make every effort to have these Stores forwarded without delay to their several destinations, but it appears great difficulty is experienced in finding the means of transport as carters will only start with full loads. When any special opportunity occurs to get the stores up from Port Augusta to your depot, it would be well to advise Messrs Tassie & Co accordingly.

[Hamilton]

22nd March 1879
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that, Mr Witherby of Umberatana calls my attention to the nonarrival of the Aborigines Stores at that Depot, and states that they are urgently required.
Will you be good enough to have every effort made for their despatch by the earliest possible opportunity.
I have also to point out the desirability of having the Aborigines Stores forwarded from Port Augusta direct to their destination, and not to intermediate stations except by previous arrangement with the person to whom they are consigned.

[Hamilton]

24th March 1879
Corpl J. Dann
Milang
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 22nd inst., reporting that Mr J. Nelson has completed the repairs of the eight canoes at Milang, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inspect them, and if you find the work has been properly performed, forward Nelson’s a/c, with your certificate attached, to that effect.

[Hamilton]

22nd March 1879
Mr A.S. Bleechmore P.T.
Blanchetown
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 17th inst., reporting that an Aborigines’ Canoe at Blanchetown requires repairing & that the cost of such will be ten shillings if certain materials are supplied, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to ascertain for what sum this work can be performed (including both labor and all materials).
When the canoes require painting and stopping only, a supply of tar &c will be forwarded to the depot, and the natives themselves should be instructed to make proper use of it, instead of looking to the Government to have everything done for them.

[Hamilton]
26th March 1879
Dr J.P. Creelman
Melrose
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 17th inst., applying for the appointment of Medical Officer to the Aborigines in the vicinity of Melrose, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that it is not considered necessary to make any special appointment of the nature referred to. The wants of the Natives in this respect are usually attended to by the Medical Officer who has charge of the destitute poor.

[Hamilton]

29th March 1879
H.E. Wells Esq.
Wellington
Sir,
In reference to your letter of the 22nd inst., applying for a canoe for an Aboriginal at Wellington, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, this application will be favourably considered when the next Estimates have been passed.

[Hamilton]

4th April 1879
J.P. Butfield Esq., J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Blinman
Sir,
Referring to your telegram of the 1st inst., reporting that the widow of the late black tracker “Wirrialpa Tommy”, is living at Blinman, and suggesting that the balance of wages due to her late husband should be paid to her in monthly instalments of £ 1 – I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to ask whether you are aware of the existence of any other widows of the Aboriginal in question, who might prefer claims for a share of this money.
Before paying over the first instalment, it is desirable that this information should be ascertained as far as practicable.

[Hamilton]

7th April 1879
A. Waterman Esq., J.P.
Ardrossan
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 23rd inst., representing the destitute condition of certain Aborigines at Port Ardrossan, and recommending that some provision should be made for their relief, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, steps will be taken to procure a boat, which, with a supply of Netting Twine, will be forwarded for the use of the Natives of Ardrossan.

[Hamilton]
7th April 1879
Mr T. Boord P.T.
Bramfield
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 31st ulto., I have the honor to inform you that, the a/c for Cartage of Aboriginal Stores enclosed by you, will be included in Schedule for current month.
In reference to that paragraph of your letter stating that, the depot has been removed from Three Lakes to Bramfield, & that you are unable to find space for more stores, until a Police Station is built there, I have to request that you will be good enough to report as to where the Aboriginal Stores can for the present be stored, and what will be the cost of such.

[Hamilton]

8th April 1879
Mr T. Solly P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 29th ulto., stating that several of the Natives of Wellington have applied to you for boats or dingeys as they say most of theirs are nearly worn out, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the funds at the disposal of this department for remainder of current financial year will not allow any further expenditure on Aborigines’ Canoes,— the matter will however be considered when the next Estimates have been passed.

[Hamilton]

9th April 1879
Commissioner of Crown Lands &c
Sir,
In view of the annual classification of the Officers of the Civil Service, and as the Sub Estimates for 1879-1880 are now under consideration, I have the honor respectfully to request that, you will be good enough to have the office of Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide, placed in the fourth (4th) Class.
In submitting this request I respectfully point out that, I have been nearly six years in charge of this office, with all the responsibility attached to the working of the department devolving upon me.
That the duties have actually increased, as evidenced by the larger number of Aborigines who are now thrown upon the Government for relief, owing to the extension of settlement in the province,
The annual vote for contingencies [937] is now more and the number of Depots in existence greater, than when the official staff consisted of a protector at £500 – and a clerk at £180.
Under these circumstances I would respectfully ask that the question may receive your favourable consideration.

[Hamilton]
10th April 1879
The Revd Geo. Taplin
Point Macleay
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., together with enclosed letter addressed to you by P.T. Solly stationed at Wellington, pointing out that there are several children (1/2 caste and quadroon) located at Wellington, who are desirous to go to School at Point Macleay, but whose parents or other relatives will not permit them to do so, and enquiring whether nothing can be done with a view to induce these people to send the children to school.
In reply, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that the Police at Wellington will be instructed to take action for the removal of the children in question to Point Macleay.

[Hamilton]

15th April 1879
P.T. Bleechmore
Blanchetown
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 10th inst., reporting that the cost of putting the Aborigines’ Canoe in thorough repair will be thirty shillings, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to convey to you his authority to incur an expenditure not exceeding the sum named for the work in question.

[Hamilton]

16th April 1879
Mr Jas Hierne
Hiltruby
Yardea
Referring to your letter of the 5th inst., stating that you have aid for cartage of last lot of Aborigines Stores to Hiltruby, and asking that the amount thereof may be forwarded to you, I have to point out that this cartage a/c was ordered by Mr Montgomerie and was passed and payable to him only or his order. You will therefore have to get enclosed Procuration Order duly signed by Montgomerie, authorising you or your Adelaide agent, to collect the money which has been lying unclaimed at the Treasury since August 1878.

[Hamilton]

18th April 1879
Corpl Ewens
Morgan
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 17th inst., asking for instructions as to what extent rations are to be supplied to the Natives now at Morgan – and reporting that you have given them 100 lbs flour, with some tea and sugar, I have the honor to inform that, during the temporary visit of the Aborigines to Morgan, it will be desirable to afford relief in all cases of pressing necessity that will probably arise owing to the sudden assembly of so many natives in that locality.

[Hamilton]
21st April 1879
George Young Esq
Adelaide

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst., enclosing letter, addressed to you by Messrs Harding & Bunn, Sheepfarmers in the south East, applying for a Section of land, about 2 ½ miles on the Adelaide side of Salt Creek, for an Aboriginal ½ caste named “Joseph Walker”.
In reply, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, steps will be taken for the issue of a lease in favour of “Walker” for the section referred to, and in the meantime there will be no objection to “Walker” ‘s taking immediate possession.

[Hamilton]

21st April 1879
The Revd Geo Taplin
Point Mcleay

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 24th ulto., applying for authority to prevent travelling stock making a thoroughfare of the Aboriginal Mission reserve at the Needles, Coorong, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, there will be no objection to your request having acted, ?? so long as the Coorong road is left open for ordinary traffic, travelling Stock has no need to be driven over the land granted to the Mission, the route having been clearly defined prior to such grant.

[Hamilton]

22nd April 1879
The Revd Geo Taplin
Point Mcleay

Sir,
I have the honor to forward you, in separate parcel by this post, a first instalment of the Printer’s proof of the “Aboriginal Folklore” MSS for correction.
The proof of that portion of the papers in the handwriting of the Revd. R.W. Holden has been sent to that gentleman for revision &c.

[Hamilton]

24th April 1879
The Revd Geo Taplin
Point Mcleay

Sir,
I have the honor to forward you in separate parcel by this post a second instalment of the Printers’ proofs of the Aboriginal Folklore” papers for revision.

[Hamilton]
945
25th April 1879
Mr Wm Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 23rd inst., reporting the condition of Aboriginal “Joe Newland”, and that he requires to be supplied with some medical comforts, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to give “Newland” an order to procure 2 lbs of bread per diem. You are also authorised to obtain a load of firewood for the sole use of “Newland”, as he should not be deprived of it by the other natives.

[Hamilton]

946
26th April 1879
The General Traffic Manager
S.A. Railways
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th inst., enclosing Circular presenting the mode of procedure to be adopted by Government departments, in reference to the issue of orders for Tickets for travelling on S.A. Lines of Railway, and in reply to inform you that, in future a similar form of order will be used by this department in all cases in which it is necessary to forward Aborigines by Railway.

[Hamilton]

947
29th April 1879
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 3rd inst., concerning the proposed transmission of aboriginal children to the Poonindie Native Institution, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to forward me a list containing the names and ages, so far as known, of such children.

[Hamilton]

948
29th April 1879
The Revd Geo Taplin
Point Mcleay
Sir,
I have the honor to forward you herewith, in separate parcel by this post, Third Instalment of Proofs of the “Aboriginal Folklore” papers for revision.

[Hamilton]
949
1st May 1879
The Revd George Taplin
Point Mcleay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., requesting permission to cut Tea tree from the Crown Lands in the swamps around the Lakes, for roofing and fencing purposes on the Point Mcleay Mission Station, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, there will be no objection to your making use of the timber for the purposes referred to in your letter.

[Hamilton]

950
1st May 1879
Mr T. Boord P.T.
Bramfield
Sir,
Referring to your requisition of the 21st April last?, for a fresh supply of Stores for the Aboriginal depot at Bramfield, I perceive that you include “Blankets”, and I could remind you that 30 single blankets were forwarded to your depot in February last, the receipt of which you have not yet acknowledged, neither do they appear entered in your monthly returns for “February” and “March” last. When you apply for Medicines you should specify what kinds are required and found most serviceable for the Natives.

[Hamilton]

951
1st May 1879
The Revd George Taplin
Point McLeay
Sir,
I have the honor to forward you herewith, in two separate parcels by this post, fourth instalment of the Proofs of the “Aboriginal Folklore” papers for revision.

[Hamilton]

952
1st May 1879
P.T. Hurley
Mannum
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 26th ulto., stating that, canoes are required for some of the old men among the aborigines at Mannum, I have the honor to request that, you will be good enough to furnish me with some further particulars – as to the number of canoes required – and the names of the natives entitled to them, who should be the old and infirm and those having families depending on them for support.
In reference to that paragraph of your letter, inquiring whether blank monthly returns are necessary, I have to point out that when no issues have been made during the month, a return “Nil” should be forwarded, and any circumstances worthy of note respecting the natives should be entered in column “Remarks” also Births & Deaths whenever known.

[Hamilton]
1st May 1879
Corpl J. Leahy
Port Augusta
Sir,
I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me, what storage accommodation is required for the Aboriginal Rations &c at Port Augusta. The Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the erection of a Shed on the Police premises there for the use of the old, sick & infirm natives during the winter season, and if a storeroom is absolutely needed, a portion of the proposed shed may be specially fitted for that purpose.
I should like to know where the Rations for the natives have been hitherto kept at your depot, and the reasons why additional storage quarters are required.

[Hamilton]

7th May 1879
H.E. Wells Esq.,
East Wellington
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 5th inst., recommending that Abor. “Stirling” should be supplied with a Canoe as he has been ill for some time and unable to work, and that you are willing to let him have a canoe, recently built for you by Newman, the cost of which will be £ 5. 10. 0, I have the honor to inform you that “Stirling” can have the canoe, and if you forward me the a/c before the 25th inst., I shall have it passed for payment in due course.

[Hamilton]

8th May 1879
Messrs J. Miller Anderson & co.
Hindley Street
Adelaide
Gentlemen,
I have the honor to inform you that, One hundred (100) Blue serge shirts which have recently been forwarded to the Government Store, in response to an order from this department dated the 2nd inst., have been examined and found inferior in quality and workmanship to the contract Sample shirt, and I have to request that you will be good enough to cause the shirts referred to, to be exchanged, in accordance with article 10 of the conditions of your contract with the Government.

[Hamilton]

8th May 1879
The General Traffic Manager
S.A. Railways
Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., pointing out that some greater restriction should be placed on the issue of orders for Tickets for Aborigines travelling on S.A. Lines of Railway, than that proposed by me in previous correspondence with your department, and in reply, to inform you, that the orders in question will be issued, signed by the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, or in his absence, by the Chief Inspector of Sheep, only.

[Hamilton]
957
12th May 1879
Messrs J. Miller Anderson & Co.
Hindley Street
Adelaide
Gentlemen,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., on the subject of the Blue serge shirts supplied by you to this department, and which have been rejected as not equal to sample, I have the honor to inform you that, the offer contained in your letter of above date – to supply 36 shirts exactly similar to sample, and to make up the 100 required, out of those rejected, making an allowance of five pence (5d) per shirt, has been accepted.

[Hamilton]

958
12th May 1879
The Government Storekeeper
Adelaide
Sir,
Referring to the 100 Blue Serge Shirts for Aborigines recently forwarded to Government Store, and which, on examination, have been found inferior to contract sample, I have the honor to inform you that, an offer made by the Contractors, (J. Miller Anderson & Co.) to supply 36 shirts exactly similar to sample at 5/2, and to make up the 100 required, out of those rejected, making an allowance of five pence (5d) per shirt, has been accepted.

[Hamilton]

959
12th May 1879
G.W. Hawkes Esq, S.M.
Acting Trustee
Poonindie Native Institution.
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, the Police at Venus Bay have reported that there are several neglected Aboriginal children living in that locality, and also a black woman, named “Plotto”, aged 30 years, totally blind, who is much neglected by the other natives, whom, it would be very desirable to place in the Poonindie Native Institution.
Instructions have been issued for the removal of these natives, and I have to request that you will be good enough to give the necessary directions for their reception at Poonindie.
The names and ages of the children referred to, are as follows:
   “Nellie”, ½ caste, 6 years
   “Albert”, orphan black, 7 years
   “Peter”, orphan black, aged 6 years.

[Hamilton]
12th May 1879
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you
will be good enough to forward per Mail conveyance to Poonindie the Aboriginal children and the blind
lubra referred to in our letters of the 3rd April last, and the 3rd inst.
I will instruct Mrs North of Tungatta, in reference to the native boy living with her, so that he may be
sent on at the same time.
The Police at Port Lincoln will be advised to receive these natives on arrival there, and arrange for their
further transport to Poonindie.
The necessary expenses incurred herein to be certified by you and transmitted to this office.

[Hamilton]

12th May 1879
James Melrose Esq.
Franklin Harbor
Sir,
I notice in the return from your depot for March last, that you have made the following remarks:-
“Several of the blacks have been employed by settlers for promised wages, but I am sorry to say most of
the natives were sent away without their money and that some of the natives are very often burning the
station fences.”
I shall be glad if you will furnish me with some fuller information as to the names of the natives who
made these complaints, and of the settlers who are accused of these acts, and the dates of such so far
as known, as it is very desirable that some steps should be taken to prevent the recurrence of such
reprehensible conduct.

[Hamilton]

12th May 1879
Mrs North
Tungatta
Madam,
I have ascertained from P.T. Clode of Venus Bay, that you have staying with you an Aboriginal boy (an
orphan) and that you wish to have him removed elsewhere.
I have therefore to inform you that arrangements have been made to forward the boy to Port Lincoln
for admission to the Native Institution at Poonindie. P.T. Clode will shortly be forwarding three natives
from Venus Bay to Port Lincoln, per Mail conveyance, which I understand passes your residence, and I
shall be glad if you will be good enough to have this boy sent on with the others.

[Hamilton]
13th May 1879
P.T. Hurley
Mannum
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 7th inst., stating that Three canoes are required for the old and infirm Aborigines at Mannum, I have the honor to inform that, it is intended shortly to call for tenders for building and repairing canoes at various places on the Murray and the Lakes, when your application will receive due consideration.

14th May 1879
P.T. Hurley
Mannum
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, that my attention has been drawn to the statement in your letter of the 7th inst., that some of the Natives at Mannum are in the habit of procuring intoxicating liquor, and that you have one of them locked up nearly every week.
I have to request that, you will use every endeavour to detect the people who supply the blacks with liquor, and to induce the natives to give evidence they should be locked up for some days & informed that they will be sent to Gaol unless they confess,- this plan has been tried with success in several instances.

16th May 1879
Mr W. Solly P.T.
Wellington
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that, you will be good enough to get on receipt of these instructions, to have the undermentioned Aboriginal children belonging to Wellington taken and conveyed to the Point Mcleay Native Institution, and delivered to the Revd Geo. Taplin:
“George”
“Pinkie”
“Charlotte”.

19th May 1879
Corpl Morris
Kingston
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., applying on behalf of ½ caste “George Walker” for permission to occupy a section of land at Company’s Point on the Coorong, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that “Walker’s” request will be complied with, and steps will be taken to have a lease issued in his favour.
22nd May 1879
H.M. Shand Esq., M.D.
Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 10th inst., stating that the Destitute Board declined to pay an a/c rendered by you for attendance and medicine for Aborigines at Victor Harbor and Encounter Bay and enquiring if the Aborigines department will make itself responsible for your claim, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you, that in cases, where you are called upon to visit and supply medicines for Aborigines beyond the limits of the district for which you have been appointed Medical Officer to the “Destitute Poor” and “Aborigines” – your a/c should be forwarded to this office, stating in detail the attendance and medicines supplied and certified by the Police Officer at whose request your services were given.

[Hamilton]

27th May 1879
Mr T. Clode P.T.
Venus Bay
Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 20th inst., stating that the Three native children and their blind lubra, have left Venus Bay en route for Streaky Bay, I have the honor to inform you that, the instructions of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c in my letter of the 12th inst. ((74/79) for the removal of these Natives to Poonindie, should be acted upon with as little delay as possible.

[Hamilton]

29th May 1879
The Revd George Taplin
Point Mcleay
Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 23rd inst., in reference to Aboriginal “Harry Wilkins” who died recently in the Far North [at Peake] I have the honor to inform you that P.T. Rolland of The Peake has reported to this office, that the native named by you died at The Peake on the 5th March last. Cheques amounting to £9.11.0 were found upon him – which were used to defray cost of necessaries supplied him and also his burial. P.T. Rolland stated that he intended to communicate with deceased’s brother in the South-East [John].

I will write to P.T. Rolland asking for further particulars as to whether there is any balance of money remaining in hand or in the Savings Bank, belonging to “Wilkins”.

[Hamilton]

30th May 1879
P.T. Rolland
The Peake
Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that, the Revd George Taplin of the Point Mcleay Native Institution, has written to me, stating that, the brother and sisters of the late Aboriginal “Harry Wilkins”, who died at The Peake on the 5th March last, are anxious to learn whether any money has been left by him, they think he had a few pounds in the Savings Bank, - if so, there will probably be some document to show how much money was deposited by him.

I shall be glad to receive any information herein, that it may be in your power to supply. [Hamilton]
972
5th June 1879
Mr Thomas Hogarth
Ardrossan
Sir,
I have the honor request that, you will be good enough to take charge of the boat supplied for the use of the Aborigines at Ardrossan.
The natives should have the boat for fishing purposes whenever they require it, and the weather safely permits of its being used, & that supervision should be exercised by you over it, and the Aborigines should be instructed to bring the boat back to its moorings.

[Hamilton]

973
6th June 1879
Mr Joseph Shaw
Poonindie
Sir,
Referring to your letter of 31st ulto., requesting fresh supply of Stores for the Aborigines at Poonindie, I have the honor to inform you that a smaller quantity of some articles than you applied for is forwarded, as it is found that where stores remain long on hand they frequently deteriorate and become unfit for human use, - I perceive from the returns from your depot, that it is nearly two years since the last rations were supplied to it.
I presume you are aware that these stores are provided by the Government for the relief of travelling Natives who occasionally call at, or temporarily visit, Poonindie, & not for the permanent residents of that Institution.
I have also to point out that the articles, leather belts and pocket knives, are not supplied by this Department for the Aborigines.

[Hamilton]

974
10th June 1879
The Revd George Taplin
Point Mcleay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 4th inst., pointing out the inadequacy of the Sum (£ 20.) first agreed upon to be paid to you as remuneration for Services performed by you for the Government in editing the work on the “Folklore of the Aborigines”, and requesting that £ 10 might be added thereto. I have the honor to inform you that the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has been pleased to accede to your request, and the sum of £ 30 will be made payable to you at the Treasury in due course.

[Hamilton]
975  
13th June 1879  
P.C. Burden  
Victor Harbor  
Sir,  
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., reporting that you have recovered the Aborigines boat, and that the necessary repairs that will cost £ 2. 2. 0, including a new pair of paddles, I have the honor to convey to you the authority of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to incur an expenditure not exceeding the sum named for the work in question.  
The a/c should be forwarded to this office, with your certificate attached, that the repairs &c have been executed in a satisfactory manner.  
I have also to request that you will furnish me with a list of the names of the natives usually located at Victor Harbor.  

[Hamilton]

976  
17th June 1879  
P.T. Solly  
Wellington  
Sir,  
Referring to your letter of the 14th inst., reporting the death of Aboriginal “Old Governor” on the 23rd ulto. and enquiring what price is allowed by the Government in these cases for coffin only, I have the honor to inform you that the contract price in Adelaide is, for adults, £ 1. 2. 0, and for children (not exceeding 14 years) – 14/-; In Country districts the sum charged is generally about £ 2. 0. 0., which is, I consider quite enough, as only coffins of the plainest description are necessary for the natives.  
I perceive that Mr Saunders of Wellington used formerly to charge only £ 2 0. 0. In these cases – but if it has been agreed upon in the present instance that £ 2. 10/- as to be charged, of course that amount will have to be paid.  
Some contingency a/c forms are forwarded herewith.  

[Hamilton]

977  
18th June 1879  
C. E. Collison Esq.,  
Hon. Sec.  
Aborigines’ Friends’ Association  
Sir,  
I have the honor to inform you that L400. Being the balance and last instalment of the Grant in Aid to the AFA, for the financial year ending 30th June inst., has been included in Schedule of a/cs for current month, but, before the Audit Office will pass this amount for payment, it will be necessary that you furnish the Balance Sheet of the Association, for the year referred to, as evidence of the performance of the conditions on which this Grant is paid.  

[Hamilton]
978a
19th June 1879
The Secretary
Honble Minister of Education
It appears from annexed memo from the Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Far North, that the deceased Black Tracker “Wirrialpa Tommy” has only one wife living – as the money left by him and remitted from Pt Darwin and now deposited with you – has been for some months detained, I respectfully recommend that it be handed over to me and I will have it paid to the deceased Tracker’s widow in monthly instalments of £1. As suggested by Mr Buttfield.

[Hamilton]

978b
19th June 1879
A.D. Tassie & Co.
Port Augusta
Gentlemen,
The annexed cartnote purports to be “receipted”, attention is drawn to the last of the omission of any receipt thereto, there is nothing to show that the Goods have been received at the depot at Cowarie. If there is a separate receipt please have it attached to a/c and cartnote.
Particular attention is requested to these a/cs & sub-vouchers as any error or omission therein renders them liable to be queried by Audit Office, leading to trouble and delay in getting them passed for payment.

[Hamilton]

979
24th June 1879
C.G. Doughty Esq
Mount Gambier
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 9th inst., enquiring on behalf of “James Davis” a ½ caste native of this province, whether the Government would grant him some land on which he could settle and make a home for himself and wife.
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that “Davis” should forward can application through this office, specifying the situation of the land he writes for, No. of Section, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, 160 acres is the maximum quantity that can be leased to Aborigines, the application should be accompanied with certificate as to his general character and fitness to cultivate the land.

[Hamilton]
980
25th June 1879
Mr J.A. Rolland P.T
The Peake
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you, that your letter of the 31st March last, addressed to Mr Buttfield S.M. Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Far North, reporting sickness among the Aborigines located at the Peake and requesting a supply of medicines, did not reach this office until the 19th inst. In reply, I have to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with a list of the names of the Medicines which are likely to prove most beneficial to the Blacks, and which can be forwarded to you by parcel post, as to send them otherwisewould probably lead to delay of months before they reach The Peake.
Perhaps you had better telegraph the list of Medicines to me which will save time.

[Hamilton]

981
25th June 1879
Mr J.A. Rolland P.T.
The Peake
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., enquiring whether the a/cs you forwarded about two months ago from “W. Owen” for services rendered on behalf of Natives have reached this office, I have the honor to inform you that all the a/cs you sent me, viz., from “Ryan” and “Owen” have been passed for payment and the money is obtainable at the Treasury.
I enclose procuration order forms, so that the persons referred to can authorise their Adelaide agents to draw the amounts.

[Hamilton]

982
30th June 1879
The Revd. W.J. Kuhn
Point Pierce Mission
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 20th inst., applying for trousers for Native boys attending the Mission School at Point Pierce, I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved in this case of a supply of the articles in question being forwarded – but this is not to be taken as a precedent, as the Honorable Commissioner considers that the Committee should supply needful clothing to the inmates of their Institution.

[Hamilton]
30th June 1879
J.P. Buttfield J.P., S.M.
Sub-Protector of Aborigines
Far North
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, I have this day paid into your credit at the National Bank of
Australasia, Adelaide, Port Augusta Branch, the sume of Thirteen pounds, one shilling and nine pence
(£13.1.9) money left by the late Black tracker “Wirrialpa Tommy” who died in the NT, on the 3rd
December 1878, and I have to request that, you will be good enough to acknowledge receipt thereof,
and pay the amount to the widow of the deceased Aboriginal in monthly instalments of One pound
(£1.).

[Hamilton]

1st July 1879
John Nicholson Esq.
King Wm Street
Adelaide
Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to request that you
will be good enough to undertake the defence of an Aboriginal named “John Ragless” now lying in Gaol,
charged with the murder of an Aboriginal in the Far North, and awaiting trial at the next Criminal Sittings
of the Supreme Court.

[Hamilton]

3rd July 1879
Mr W. Rumball P.T.
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 2nd inst., reporting that the load of firewood supplied to sick Aborl. “Joe
Newland” is exhausted, and recommending that a fresh supply be allowed him, as he still continues in a
helpless condition, I have the honor to inform you that another load of firewood can be procured for
“Newland”.

[Hamilton]

7th July 1879
Corporal Morris
Lacepede Bay
The annexed a/c is returned, as Clause 3 of instructions to Issuers of Stores &c has not been complied
with. In the event of a Medical man or Justice of the Peace being resident at Kingston which fact should
be stated on face of a/c – it is also necessary that the a/c should be made out with full particulars – the
Medicines should be specified in each case.

[Hamilton]
986b
7th July 1879
P.T. Rumball
Goolwa

Will Mr. Rumball be good enough to inquire into the subject of the enclosed "Admission return? For Abor. "Newland". I presume "Newland" is living in the Shed recently put up for the Aborigines at Goolwa, and that the object of these palings "asked for is to enclose a portion of the shed making it more weather-tight, if so please ascertain that the cost of purchasing say 12 feet of the shed will be ?an open doorway to be left next inside or back wall. [Hamilton]

987
8th July 1879
The Revd. G. J. Rechner
Nuriootpa

Sir,
I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., asking for permission to issue Rations to those Natives who attend the Mission School at Kopperamanna, and enclosed statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of he Mission from 1st April 1878 to the 1st April 1879.
In reply, I have to state, that the Honorable Commissioner has approved of the issue of Rations to those natives who are in actual attendance at school, and that the names of the recipients are to be entered in the usual monthly return of issues furnished by your Mission Station to this department. [Hamilton]

988
11th July 1879
John Bosworth Esq., M.P.
Adelaide

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 25th ulto., suggesting that an Aboriginal depot should be established at your Station at Mulloorina, and stating that Mr Campbell, your manager there, will willingly undertake the proper distribution of the Rations and clothing, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, a supply of Stores as per margin hereof will be forwarded to Mulloorina [80 km NNE of Winnininnie], via Port Augusta, c/o Tassie & Co., addressed to Mr Campbell, who will be duly advised of their despatch.

In margin: 2 tons flour 500 lbs Sugar 42 lbs Tea 10 lbs Tobacco 50 Blankets [Hamilton]
11th July 1879
Mr J. Campbell
Mulloorina
Far North
Sir,
I have the honor to inform you that, the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c has approved of the establishment of an Aborigines Depot at Mulloorina, to be placed under your charge.
A supply of Stores will be forwarded to you as per enclosed advice.
I have also to forward herewith forms of monthly returns which require to be regularly forwarded??acquitted to this office, together with Copy of Instructions for your future guidance in issuing rations &c to the Aborigines entitled to relief.

[Hamilton]

15th July 1879
P.T. Rumball
Goolwa
Sir,
Referring to your letter of 14th inst., stating that the Superintendent of the Tramways at Goolwa has had instructions that in future printed form of orders from responsible officers will be required for tickets for passage of Aborigines on the Tramways, and requesting a supply of such orders, I have the honor to forward you herewith six of the forms in question which you will be good enough to get issue as occasion arises.

[Hamilton]

15th July 1879
P.T. Rumball
Goolwa
Sir,
In reply to your letter of 14th inst., reporting that the tarpaulin recently supplied for sick Aborigiinal “Newland” will require to be tarred to make it waterproof and warm, at a cost of from 5/- to 6/-, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to have the necessary work performed accordingly.

[Hamilton]

18th July 1879
Corporal Morris
Kingston
Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 14th inst., forwarding Mr Limbert’s a/c for Medicines supplied to Aborigines at Kingston, I have to point out that you have omitted to certify the a/c,- be good enough to do so and return it before the 26th inst., for including in Schedule for current month.
I wish to observe in reference to a paragraph in your letter that there is no desire on my part to give either you or Mr Limbert any unnecessary trouble in the matter, but there are certain rules and regulations of the public service which require to be observed. The Audit Office query and refuse to pass any a/c in which errors or omissions appear, and all Medical a/cs have to be submitted to the Colonial Surgeon who will not certify unless they have full particulars supplied.

[Hamilton]
993
19th July 1879
Mr F.W. Taplin
Point McLeay
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., forwarding the “June” returns of issues of Govt Stores at the Point Macleay & Needles depots, I have the honor to inform you that your appointment as Axting Superintendent at Pt Macleay has been officially certified to me by the Secretary of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association; so that it will be part of your duty to attend to the issuing of the Govt Stores to the Aborigines.
You will perceive from enclosed letter of advice of despatch of Stores, that the usual annual supply of Clothing, Fishing Tackle &c, has been forwarded to you. You omitted to include these articles in your requisition for supplies.
P.S. The annual supplies for the Needles will be forwarded with next lot of stores for that Depot – when applied for.

[Hamilton]

994
21st July 1879
Mr Emile Jacquelin
Mount Gambier
Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 7th inst., desiring to learn whether your wife, a half caste native of South Australia, is entitled to a lease of land from Government, I have the honor by direction of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands &c to inform you that, any approved Aboriginal of this province may obtain a lease of land to the extent of 160 acres. The application should state where the land selected is situated, No. of Section, whether surveyed or unsurveyed and be accompanied with a certified copy of your marriage certificate, and testimonials in favor of the character of the applicant.

[Hamilton]
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
---------------------
REPORT OF THE SUB-PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES.
---------------------
1878

The following report of the sub-Protector of Aborigines for the year ended 31st December, 1878 is published for general information.


Sir, - I have the honor to forward my report for the year ended 31st December, 1878.

The number of aborigines in the settled districts of the province at the date of the last census (1876) is represented as – Males, 2,203; females, 1,750; total, 3,953. In 1871 their number was – Males, 1,833; females, 1,536; total, 3,369 – showing an increase of 581 during the five years. This cannot be taken as a natural increase, because the census of 1876 included a larger area of country, and there has been a considerable influx of natives from outside regions.

Two hundred and seventeen male aborigines are returned as in the employ of settlers.

There are now in existence five mission stations, on four of which 388 aboriginals have been resident during the year; and the schools have been attended by 111 children, as shown in the following table:-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Station, &amp; Situation</th>
<th>Area of Reserve, Acres</th>
<th>No. of natives at Station</th>
<th>No. of children at School</th>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Grants-in-Aid</th>
<th>Rations, Clothing and Transp’t</th>
<th>Cost per head</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hermannsburgh, Finke River, NT</td>
<td>576,000</td>
<td>No returns</td>
<td>No returns</td>
<td>£ 828.4.3</td>
<td>£ 1,169.0.0</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>£ 145.12.6</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kopperamanna, Far North</td>
<td>64,000</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>No return</td>
<td>488.13.8</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>166.7.2</td>
<td>7.5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Macleay, Lake Alexandrina</td>
<td>4,498</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2,162.7.11</td>
<td>1,986.10.9</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>415.6.3</td>
<td>14.11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Pierce, Yorke’s Peninsula</td>
<td>12,800</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1,736.11.9</td>
<td>2,438.2.9</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>216.15.8</td>
<td>51.1.1*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poonindie, Port Lincoln</td>
<td>15,455</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2,783.17.6</td>
<td>2,908.19.11</td>
<td>S. Self-supporting</td>
<td>Self-supporting</td>
<td>33.8.10</td>
</tr>
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Nature of tenure in all cases – 21 years’ lease, at nominal rent.

- This is exceptional, owing to expenses incurred for stock and improvements necessitating an overdraft of £ 2,441.18.8.
- Fifteen of these were children under four years of age.

Information in detail respecting each station will be found in the Sub-Reports in the Appendix.

Poonindie, the oldest of these stations, has been self-supporting since 1860. Looking at the annual cost of each inmate, which appears considerable when compared with the amount at some of the other institutions, the question is worthy of attention whether a larger number of natives might not be maintained at Poonindie.

The other stations are of more recent growth, and not possessing so many advantages and natural resources have had financial difficulties to contend with, preventing them attaining so satisfactory a position.

New leases under the Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1877, are now being issued for the reserves occupied by these missions, containing provision for the protection of the rights and interests of the aborigines, and requiring the lessees to furnish returns at stated periods supplying satisfactory evidences that the stations are being properly managed for the sole use and benefit of the aborigines.

The mission station system, efficiently carried out, will evidently be the most effective mode of dealing with the natives; and when every industry is introduced that affords a reasonable prospect of successful culture, providing suitable pastoral, agricultural and other light occupations, a large number of natives may be usefully and profitably employed, and eventually become self-supporting communities.

The status of the native schools might be raised, and the position of the teachers improved, by making them State schools. This has been done in Victoria, and it appears from the inspectors’ reports that in one of these schools the percentage of results reached as high as 95 and 100 [Ramahyuck].
The power given in the Crown Lands Act, 1877, to lease land (not exceeding 160 acres) to individual aborigines, has been exercised in a few cases. A half-caste native has obtained fourteen years lease of 160 acres. He is an industrious, intelligent man, has saved money, and now possesses stock and farm implements, and keeps a bank account, and has made several improvements on his farm.

Similar leases are in course of issue to four other natives, one of whom is married to a European woman.

The offences committed by the aborigines have been, as usual, almost entirely confined to drunkenness; of eighty-eight cases, resulting in seventy convictions, sixty-four appear to be owing to their addiction to strong drink. This vice with its train of evils has made greater ravages among them, and does more to counteract the efforts made for their improvement, than perhaps any other cause. Whenever they have money they have no difficulty in finding unscrupulous persons to supply them with liquor. This is especially the case about Adelaide, Wellington, Goolwa and the Coorong.

It is satisfactory that the police secured thirty-three convictions in thirty-nine case in which the proceedings were instituted for infringements against the law on this subject. The names of five publicans appear among these offenders, one of whom was convicted twice. It is very desirable that more stringent legislation should be applied to these people, making them liable to forfeit their licence on conviction for an offence of this nature, and disqualifying them from holding another for at least three years. This might also with advantage be applied to licensed wine-shops, which are often situated in remote places, where sufficient police surveillance is impracticable.

In view of the increasing disposition on the part of the aborigines in central Australia to commit outrages on the European community who occupy positions far away from police protection, I venture to suggest, in the interests of both blacks and whites, that some prompt and effectual mode of dealing with such cases is urgently required. It might be found desirable to issue a special commission to the nearest two Justices of the Peace, investing them with sufficient power to try natives for the murder of Europeans, and when a conviction is secured on conclusive evidence inflict the extreme penalty of the law in the presence of as many of the neighbouring tribes as can be collected together. Just retribution would doubtless have a more wholesome effect on even savage minds than a larger amount of indiscriminate punishment.

The relative cost of the aborigines Department, here and in Victoria, appears to be—

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<th>Annual Vote</th>
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<td>3,953</td>
<td>5,254</td>
<td>1. 6. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>1,067</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>7. 0. 6</td>
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The amounts cannot be regarded as very excessive compared with the large revenues now derived from these provinces. The occupation, for a superior race, of the territories of an inferior one, throws upon the former a responsibility sufficiently great to justify all reasonable efforts being made for the protection and support of the original proprietors of the soil. My attention has been drawn to a work on the “Native Tribes of South Australia,” recently published by Messrs. Wigg & Son, containing an introductory chapter, written by Mr J. D. Woods, in which the following remarks appear:-
No attempt was ever made by or at the instance of the Colonial Government to investigate and record the manners and customs of the aborigines, not to preserve their language, so that now only a comparatively imperfect idea can be formed of the south Australian natives as a whole.

At one time, there were native schools in Adelaide and other places, and a training institution near Port Lincoln, for the blacks, which as subsidised by the Government.

The native schools, like those who attended them, have passed away and are forgotten, except by some of the earlier colonists.

The Poonindie Mission is now carried on without Government assistance.

The mission at Point Macleay is also carried on without subsidy from the public purse.

With the cessation of the aborigines’ protectorate as the function of a separate staff, all official interest in the native seems to have expired, and nothing now is done for them except periodically to give them through the mounted police, flour, tea, sugar &c, an even this modicum of generosity is administered in a loose and perfunctory manner, owing to the pressure of more urgent duties on those in charge.

In making the foregoing statements, Mr Woods shows that he has evidently omitted to possess himself of accurate information, and hence he makes several mistakes, and his observations are calculated to convey a very erroneous impression as to the position occupied by the Government in relation to the aborigines.

Whatever apathy may have been shown on the part of former Governments as to the desirability of attempts being made to collect and preserve, in a permanent form, some record of the habits, customs, languages &c., of the natives of South Australia, it cannot be fairly said that this matter has been entirely lost sight of.

In response to circulars issued from this office about three years ago, a variety of papers have been received from different sources containing a valuable and interesting collection of aboriginal “folklore” and ethnological information. These have been placed in the hands of the Rev. George Taplin, who has undertaken to edit them, and already the greater portion of the MSS has reached the printer’s hands.

Prior to the Poonindie Mission Station becoming self-supporting, in 1860, it received grants-in-aid from Government amounting to £ 7,225.

Point Macleay Mission was established in May, 1859, and received a grant-in-aid from Government of £ 500 per annum up to 1876, when this amount was increased to £ 1,000, which is still paid.

In 1875, Parliament voted a special sum of £ 700 to relieve that institution from its then liabilities, chiefly arising from loss of crops through red rust.

The aborigines’ protectorate still exists, fully organized for the performance of all its function, and at no period during previous years have a greater number of agencies existed than are now in operation for the protection of the aborigines, and the amelioration of their condition.

There are now fifty depots (in addition to the five mission stations) carefully distributed throughout the province, provided with rations, clothing, medical comforts, &c., to be issued in accordance with printed form of instructions (copy appended); and, unless the monthly return furnished by the issuers are wilfully falsified, I am unwilling to believe that these officers neglect their duties to such an extent as has been suggested.

I have, &c.,

E. L. HAMILTON, Sub-Protector.

APPENDIX – SUB-REPORTS.

The report of Mr Buttfield, S.M., Sub-Protector, Far North, has not yet reached this office.

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HERMANSBURGH MISSION STATION, FINKE RIVER, NORTHERN TERRITORY.

The Revd. G. A. Heidenreich, Superintendent of the Lutheran Mission society, states:-

The manager of the station lost, while on his way there during the great drought of 1875 and 1876, about 1,200 sheep, also some horses and 3 cattle, and was compelled to stop for about twelve months at Dalhousie Springs, first for want of rain, then for want of men. In the month of June, 1877, however, the station as reached, and the following improvements have been made since:-

There are now four buildings, all erected of stone, and the roofs covered with reeds from the Finke River. The principal building is 66 ft. by 24 ft. There is also a blacksmith's shop and a wagon shed, a stockyard erected of posts and rails, and sheepyards of uprights seven feet high. There are now two missionaries, Messrs Kempe and Schwarz, with their wives, and five single men, the whole of them Europeans, on the station.

The stock on the station on the 22nd November, 1878, consisted of 40 horses, 36 head of cattle and 2,000 sheep. The increase of the sheep is used as rations for the station, and for the natives who come and go. Last year fully 800 sheep were thus used to save £ 60 a ton for the transport of rations from Port Augusta.

The sum of £ 1,169 was expended last year, partly previously collected, but of which the sum of £ 103 4s. 3d. was collected from September, 1877, by Lutheran congregations in Australia, principally South Australia, and £ 400 has been advanced by four gentlemen without interest. Only £ 25 has been received as yet for wool sold.

Hitherto the several attempts to grow maize and vegetables have failed on account of the little rain which fell in the summer of 1877 and 1878, and the more so as all the men on the station do not yet understand the climate and season. Better success is expected this year; but as the missionaries do now hope, after the completion of the buildings and most of the hard work, to direct their special attention to the school for the natives, they are also anxious to receive a supply of rations from the Government, without which rations it will be almost impossible to keep any number of the natives in school.

There is no doubt in the minds of the missionaries that the aborigines of central Australia may be trained to become, not hurtful, but useful to the settlers, as well as to believe in Christ; and the work of the mission is therefore not only beneficial to the natives themselves, but also to the pioneers of civilization in these remote regions.

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KOPPERAMANNA, FAR NORTH.

Mr C. A. Meyer, the superintendent, reports:-

In giving a review of the mission work among the aborigines at this station, it must be observed that the mission work began first about twelve years ago, and that this institution had to labor with several hard times.

In 1875 this institution was given into my charge, and in the latter end of 1876 I started this work new again.

In consequence of the severe drought we had to experience all the work seemed to fail again, as I was compelled to let all the children go to their camps, because I could not find the means to keep
them. About six months after this time God gave us grace to recommence the work, and since that
time we have been able to continue without any hindrance.
The result of this our labor I will resume in his brief report.
The number of the aborigines on this station has been very changing all the time, but still a fair
number always stayed here; especially the young people seem to like to be with us and receive
instruction, therefore it is our particular aim to educate and instruct as many of them as we can. It
is not a very easy task to work among these aborigines, as they do not understand English, so we
had to learn their own language first to enable ourselves to be understood; and as we can do so
now, I am confident that the aborigines on this station and in the neighbourhood will soon change
for the better.
The average number of children at school has been about twenty three all the time. At present
there are thirty at school, all of whom, with only a few exceptions, learn most willingly and
diligently.
The Lord has also given grace. I am able to report that within a short time a good number (about
twelve) of these aborigines will be apt and qualified to receive baptism.
The teaching of the children in secular and religious instructions has been carried on regularly for
several hours every day. A good many can read and write English pretty well. The girls learn to sew
and to do some useful work, and make their own clothes.
We employ the adults in fencing, shepherding, building, &c., and also hunting wild dogs, for which
we pay them full price.
There are still a good many blacks in this neighbourhood. By my calculation there must be from 500
to 600 within about sixty miles around. But for all this I must state that the aborigines are
diminishing in number. Infants are often not to be seen.
Regarding the outward work on this station, I am happy to say that considerable progress has been
made, and that God has blessed the work of our hands.
The behaviour of the blacks is good if we look upon them as what they are: poor heathens, but I
must say they all attend the services at church, especially on Sundays.
I hope I shall be able to forward a fuller statement in a few months, and that you will excuse me this
time for giving so brief a report, my time being rather too short.
The number of native present on the station on the last day of each month was as follows:- January,
91; February, 91; March, 103; April, 90; May, 90; June, 112; July, 109; August, 82; September,
90; October, 89; November, 72; December, 65.
Average attendance for the year, 90.

Statement of improvements and number of stock at Kopperamanna.

Improvements.

Bucaltanina.- Dwelling-house, four rooms, roofed with iron; store and cellar, roofed with iron;
School-house, two rooms; two wells of good water.
Killalpaninna.- Dwelling-house, three rooms, roofed with iron; dwelling-house, three rooms,
thatch roof; store, roofed with iron.
Kopperamanna.- Two shepherd’s huts; well of good water.
Edotana.- Well of good water.

Stock.
1,400 sheep, 300 goats, 12 draught horses, 18 other horses, 6 bullocks, 17 other cattle.
Statement of money paid out for the Lutheran Mission at Kopperamanna from the beginning of 1865 to 1st April, 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Amount (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From commencement to 1st Oct, 1866</td>
<td>603 6 11½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 1st Oct, 1866 to 1st Oct, 1867</td>
<td>270 15 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>935 18 8½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>780 12 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1869</td>
<td>469 12 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>376 16 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>725 6 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>621 6 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>614 12 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>901 10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1875</td>
<td>1079 18 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>945 17 10½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 1st Oct, 1877 to 1st April, 1878</td>
<td>488 13 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount</td>
<td>8,813 8 8½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance in hand, 1st April, 1878</td>
<td>193 15 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Lutheran Immanuel Synod resolved to borrow £ 500 to increase the flock of sheep.

PORT AUGUSTA.

Dr. Cotter, medical officer to aborigines, states:-
I have the honor to report that there are generally about 150 aborigines in the camp, which is situated about a mile from the west shore of the gulf, directly opposite the township of these, about thirty aged and sick persons obtained rations, and such medicines and medical comforts as they may require.
In addition to these to these natives there are several families located in the different stations in the neighbourhood, who pay occasional visits to the port for medical advice and other purposes, but do not remain for any time.
The women are, for the most part, industrious and dressy; few of the men like steady work, but prefer to live on the earnings of the females.
They obtain drink from the whites, and are frequently quarrelsome.
I beg to suggest that a police constable should patrol the road between sundown and midnight, which forms the approach to the public-house. If this was done, I think the neighbors and the force would be saved a considerable amount of discomfort.
I think it would be advisable to fence off a portion of the police horse-yard, and to erect a storeroom and shed for the old and sick during the winter months, as at present shelter is not obtainable on this side of the gulf, nor at a less distance than five miles from the town, and no water is to be obtained except in the town.
I hear no complaints now regarding the flour and other comforts, and the natives are generally very contented.
BUNDALEER.
Mr J. Maslin states:-
Necessity induces me to draw your urgent attention to the sad condition of a little half-caste girl named Joanna, aged ten years, who has [4] neither father nor mother, and it is really painful to see this girl in her present condition; she has no one to look after or care for her, and she gets her living as best she can by associating with the blacks, and has to content herself with any old rags she can find about the wurlies, and my object now is to appeal to you, and ask if some steps cannot be taken to send this child to school, where she will be properly cared for. She is an intelligent little girl, and if now taken in hand and properly cared for, will no doubt to able to go to service and earn her own living in a few years.

CLARE.
Inspector R. Saunders writes:-
I have the honor to report that a native lad here [Fred?], aged nine years, is anxious to be sent to school; his mother, Eliza McGrath, is here knocking about from place to place, her husband being dead; she wishes to have the boy sent to school, and should it meet with your approval, I will send him in, or attend to any instructions you may wish to give.

[Both these children have been received into the native institution at Point Macleay.]

POINT MACLEAY NATIVE INSTITUTION.
The Rev. George Taplin, superintendent, writes:-

In making my report for the past year concerning the two stations under my charge – Point Macleay and the Needles – there are several things that call for notice.

1, The conduct of the working and industrious natives during the past year has been all that I could wish. There are a large number of steady and labouring men who get work whenever they can, and who spend their wages in the support of their families. Our difficulty on their account is the scarcity of employment. Native prejudice will not allow them to leave their own country, and they are not able to cope with Europeans in keen competition. I am continually devising plans to employ these poor fellows.

2, During the close season these natives only shoot such game as may be necessary for their sustenance; they sell none, and I know that they waste but little, if any. I have been surprised to hear of unpleasant remarks being made because the natives sell feathers. It is very evident that if the native eat feathered game they may just as well preserve the feathers and sell them as destroy them. When the natives – out of the close season – shoot game and sell it to the dealers, of course they sell the feathers with it. But I cannot imagine what objection there can be to their selling of the feathers of the game which they eat, or of birds that are not eatable (very few).

Any restriction put upon the natives in getting game would be a great hardship and injustice, and would compel the government to provide means for the subsistence of all of them.
The white man may kill the kangaroo by the hundreds and destroy their flesh which would have fed hundreds of natives, but no sooner do the natives sell some feathers than certain parties raise a cry that the feathered game is being extirpated by them. I consider that such persons are unjust to the aborigines. The game is not being extirpated by the natives.

3. There are still a number of natives who hang about the townships and Adelaide and become demoralized and a nuisance through drink and debauchery. I have heard of several who have been ruined in health through such a life. I do beg that every effort may be made to keep the blacks out of Adelaide.

4. I am sorry to say that I find the natives at our recently outstation at the Needles are getting a good deal of intoxicating liquor. Of this I am certain, they do not pick it all up on the sea-shore. Our men have discovered heaps of spirit bottles hidden away empty, but which have evidently only been recently emptied. Our man, Whitehead, at the Needles, has found a great many empty brandy bottles, many with a drain of spirits still in them, in the camps of the natives. I have myself seen brandy bottles in deserted camps. Natives only just recovering from the effects of drink have come to the depot at the Needles shaking and trembling with the collapse of the system. The natives themselves at the Needles openly boast of how easily they can purchase liquor. I do trust that we may yet discover who supplies the natives with spirits. I am making every effort to do so.

5. Our school here has been well attended during the past year. Forty-two (42) children have received instruction. At the closing examination for the year I was pleased to find that great progress had been made in reading, that the writing was very good, and that a fair amount of geography, scripture history, and arithmetic had been learned.

6. In another department we have made great progress during the year, that is, the industrial training of the bigger boys. We have boys leaving school every year, because they have grown beyond the school-going age. We make a rule now to take such boys on and place them at various occupations on the station, and teach them any work for which they may show aptitude. We have thus taught many youths in past years, and they now earn a good living. I think I may say our overseer rather excels in thus training lads for work. We now do almost everything on the station – masonwork, carpentering, plastering, thatching, blacksmithing, &c. All are done by the overseer and natives, besides the ordinary stationwork.

7. During the past year, my medical duties have largely increased. The natives at the Needles gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to get medicines, so now I have them in addition to the Point Macleay natives. The Needles is thirty-two miles from here. I always carry a well-stocked medicine chest when I go there, and usually come back with the stock considerably lessened.

8. The following statement shows the number of natives present at Point Macleay and the Needles at the end of each month during the past year:-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Point Macleay</th>
<th>The Needles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average for the year</strong></td>
<td><strong>105</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. During November there has been great gathering of the Coorong and Lower Lakes clans at the Needles. We were as economical as we could, but it was impossible for the natural resources of the place to feed so many people, so we had to give them some food.

I am rather surprised to find to how great an extent the Upper Coorong clans consist of old people. There are very few young men or women or children. They have been very orderly during their assembly. The stores are issued at the Needles every Saturday, each recipient then getting one week’s supply of rations.

It will be noticed from the returns that there a good many necessitous. There are many who cannot get employment among the whites; the owners of runs employ so very few hands except at shearing time. Many of these poor people come to us at times when fish and game are scarce nearly starved. We cannot refuse them a little food. I have been pleased to see how very eagerly they will go to work at any kind of employment that offers. I have told them that henceforth all children of school-going age must attend our school and not come on the ration list for support.

The issuer of stores at the Needles very kindly took the trouble to make fifty-nine of these natives a Christmas dinner. Sixty pounds of plum pudding and a whole sheep cut up and baked made their hearts rejoice with such a dinner as they had never had before at this place. We supplied the fruit from the Point Macleay store. These simple-minded people highly appreciate and long remember such a treat as this.
Statement of the improvements and number of stock at Point Macleay and the Needles.

1, Schoolhouse and fittings; the schoolhouse contains:
   2 rooms, 34 ft. by 13 ft.
   2 rooms, 28 ft. by 10 ft.
   2 rooms, 14 ft. by 10 ft.
   2 rooms, 6 ft. by 10 ft.
   1 room, 12 ft. by 10 ft.
   1 room, 20 ft. by 10 ft.
   Large baker’s oven.

2, Storeroom, 20 ft. by 10 ft.

3, Superintendent’s dwellinghouse, 7 rooms.

4, One tank, and floor.

5, Teacher’s house, four rooms.

6, Overseer’s cottage, three rooms.

7, Seventeen cottages for natives, built of stone, and thatched.

8, Church and vestry – Church, 32 ft. by 16 ft., vestry, 7 ft. by 10 ft.

9, Smithy, 14 ft. by 10 ft.

10, Stable, 24 ft. by 16 ft.

11, Barn, 40 ft. by 16 ft.

12, Carpenters’ shop.

   All these buildings are of stone.

The stock consists of 7 bullocks, 1 bull, 23 cows and calves, 16 horses, 11 rams, 1,819 sheep.
Statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts.</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance in hand and in bank</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions and donations</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grant-in-aid</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends (from legacy)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of stores and materials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘‘ wool and skins</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘‘ barley</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘‘ horse</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor reimbursed</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,06</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£ 2,162</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments.</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries, superintendent and teachers</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages, farm overseer and natives</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stores, school</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘‘ , for sale and consumption</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials for work and buildings, new</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials for work &amp; buildings – Maintenance</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New implements</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General charges</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of stock</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm expense (repairs, freight on produce, &amp;c)</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance in bank, as per pass-book</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£ 2,162</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NATHL. OLDHAM, Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the accounts of which this is an extract, have compared the vouchers with the payments as entered, and the balance with the bank pass-book, and believe the above to be a correct statement of the funds of the Aborigines’ Friends’ Association for the year ended 30th June, 1878.

October 17th, 1878.  JAMES SMITH.
NARACOORTE.

Sergeant Besley reports:-
No complaints against the aborigines have reached me during the past quarter. Dr Gunning has ordered some sick to be supplied with meat, which has been done.
An aboriginal named Charles Runga, of the Chowilla tribe, River Murray, has resided for many years in this neighbourhood; on the 20th January, 1877, he married Mary Jenkins, a white woman, at Kingston, and has worked ever since on the railway line, and for two years previously.
He is now anxious to obtain a grant of a piece of land (about 300 acres) on the south side of the railway-line, about twenty miles from Kingston. I have known this aboriginal personally for about twenty-three years, and never knew a more deserving one; he is steady, hard-working, and trustworthy; I therefore trust his application may meet with favourable consideration.

GOOLWA.

P.T. Rumball reports:-
The conduct of the natives has not been so good, as, of late, a number of the young men and lubras have returned from Adelaide and elsewhere, and have been procuring a large quantity of liquor, and have been very disorderly in consequence.
A native named Lush has been sent to gaol for drunkeness, and resisting the police. Joe Newland has been summarily convicted of disorderly conduct.
William Cooper, a labourer, has been fined £ 5 for giving liquor to Annie Newland.
The health of the natives has been good, with the exception of some of the old ones, who are in a shaky condition.

LACEPEDE BAY.

Dr. Creelman, medical officer to the aborigines, states:-
I have the honor to report, for the information of the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands, that I have visited the aboriginal camps in my district on various occasions, and I have attended to and prescribed for thirty-one (31) cases of illness among the aborigines during the past year.
There is no contagious disease among them; they are well clothed, and cared for in every respect, and they are peaceable and well-conducted, not annoying anyone.
The greater number of them have been working throughout the district; most of them have been shearing, but are now returning.

TATIARA, BORDER TOWN.

Dr Penny, medical officer to the aborigines, reports:-
I have inspected the native camps at Nalang, Cannawiggra, Mundalla, and Wirrega, every quarter, and I have attended to and prescribed for twenty cases of illness among the aborigines during the past year.
A woman named Mary, aged forty, died of apoplexy.
Some of the natives have visited the mission station at Lake Hindmarsh, in Victoria; Black Bob, of Nalang, died whilst on his way to the mission station, I believe from coup de soleil; the date I cannot obtain.
The natives are well contented, and will work when work is obtainable. The aborigines are very industrious, and will work when solicited to do so, and are paid accordingly; some of them have been working and grubbing the square mile on Wirrega run. Pinkey and his wife and family are still working at Nalang and Archie and his lubra at Brimbaga, fourteen miles from my residence at Charla.

During my last quarterly inspection, I found the camps broken up, and the aborigines away, some at Padthaway, others at Lake Hindmarsh, and at the different shearing sheds, earning money. There has been very little sickness among them this quarter; they appear very contented, and are quiet and orderly.

The death of George (who was born and brought up at Padthaway station) was caused by jumping at some sports held there; he came to my house, and I gave him remedies; he subsequently went to Mount Gambier hospital for treatment; he came home, and died at Padthaway on the 15th. The majority of young men work at harvesting; the old men and women remain in the camp.

There has been no epidemic among them, and I have heard of no complaints from the police.

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POINT PIERCE MISSION STATION, YORKE’S PENINSULA.

The Rev. W. J. Kuhn, superintendent, says:-

I am glad to be able to report that the condition of the natives of late is greatly improved, which I attribute mainly to the more liberal way the government have dealt with them, by granting the Committee sufficient land to offer (which they do) every able-bodied native employment, remunerating them in proportion to their merits, which, as a rule, enables them to support themselves and families. The average number here during the year has been good, though fluctuating, as they still, and I believe ever will, cling to their wandering life. Their absence from the station has been of shorter duration than during previous years, thereby showing their appreciation of the additional comforts on the station.

Some of my early scholars are settled in stone cottages, with families growing up. Besides providing for themselves as I have above stated, they have money in the Savings Bank. Even some of the oldest couples who live in wurleys on the station have remained here nearly a year without seeking a change. At the commencement of my mission I always used every possible effort to prevent them leaving the station; but experience has taught me that it is not always wise to do so, as I believe a change is highly beneficial to their health.

On the whole the health of the natives has been good, though some have been compelled to seek medical aid. They are exceedingly susceptible to colds, which often settle on their lungs, arising generally in my opinion for want of proper care, which it is impossible to make them exercise. There have been four births and four deaths (from consumption) during the year.

The general employments here are agricultural and pastoral pursuits. Two hundred and sixty-eight acres have been under cultivation, thirty acres of which were cut for hay, yielding about one ton per acre. The crops averaged about four bushels per acre, consequently it will not cover working expenses. Generally I have had twelve (12) scholars in school, who have made fair progress in reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. After school hours I occupy them for a time in various ways. The girls are taught to sew, repair, and make their own clothes.

The Sabbath services have been well attended, as well as the daily morning and evening prayers.

[ 6 ]

The number of natives present at the station on the last day of each month was as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average attendance for the year, 52.
Statement of improvements and number of stock at Point Pierce.

Improvements.

Fencing, &c. –
Wire boundary fence (five wires), sixteen miles.
Wire divisional fence, three miles.
Wire subdivisional fence, one mile.
Tanks sunk, six.
Wells, two.

Buildings-
Mission-house: four rooms, two halls, kitchen, servant’s bedroom, and cellar.
Buggy shed and outoffice.
Overseer’s residence: four rooms and outoffice.
Dormitory for single women and girls.
Schoolroom, also used for divine service.
Dormitory for single men and boys.
Kitchen and dining room for single men, also used as a dormitory.
Store, used for station and Government stores.
Carpenter’s shop.
Corn store and stable.
Foundation and part walling for eight-stalled stable, now erecting.
Four two-roomed cottages for natives, each with w.c. and enclosed plot of ground for garden.
Shed, used as stable.
Large woolshed, properly fitted.
Two huts on run.
(All the above are built of stone).
One small paling cottage, one room.

Stock &c.

Horses, 7; sheep, 4,147; bullocks, 18.
Produce of wool, &c. - fleece, 63 bales; locks, 5 bales; lambs, 6 bales; skins, 1 bale.
Total, 75 bales.
Statement of receipts and expenditure on account of Point Pierce for Year 1878.

Receipts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stores sold to natives and others</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep sold</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skins</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool party – 1877 clip</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool party – 1878 clip</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat sold</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td>1,736</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance due to National Bank on 31st December, 1878 £ 2,441 18 8

£ 4,178 10 5

Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Missionary’s salary</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseer’s wages</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natives’</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical assistance</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank interest to September, 1878</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shearing</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaping</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testimonial to the rev. W. Wilson</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stores, repairs and additions to buildings, &amp;c.</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock and machinery</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed wheat</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twenty rams</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>2,438</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance due by the Mission, 31st December, 1878 1,740 7 8

£ 4,178 10 5
Statement of assets and liabilities on 31st December, 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,147 sheep</td>
<td>1,244</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 bullocks</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming implements</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 horses</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 tons hay</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drays and harness</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed wheat</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stores, say</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvements</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£ 4,087</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overdraft</td>
<td>2,441</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest due on same, say</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, being surplus</td>
<td>1,465</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£ 4,087</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

J. R. CORPE, Financial Secretary.

Moonta, 24th February, 1878.
POONINDIE NATIVE INSTITUTION, PORT LINCOLN.

The Superintendent, Mr J. Shaw, states:-
I have the honor to forward you the following report of this station: --
As I have been in charge of this place only since the 1st October, 1878, I cannot say much respecting anything prior to that date.

During the year, however, there has been a change of officers in every department; and although there was some slight disorganization while the changes were being made, everything is now going on satisfactorily, and the prospects of the institution were, perhaps, never brighter than they are at present.

The natives resident on the station may be set down as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married couples</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married men</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married woman</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single men</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphan boys</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphan girls</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with parents</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of births during the year has been six, and the deaths twelve. There has been a great deal of sickness, but at present I am thankful to say there is not one case of serious illness on the station, and I think it may be hoped that, with due regard to sanitary matters, the death-rate will be somewhat reduced in the future; to effect this, certain alterations are already under the consideration of the officers.

The wool clip was good, and realised excellent prices.
The wheat crop is not quite what was expected, but over 300 bags have been reaped, and are now ready for market.

I am happy to say that we are just about to secure the services of a very good and excellent schoolmistress, which is very desirable, as it is from the young we may expect the best results.

As my acquaintance with this station is so short, I refrain from saying much of the character and conduct of the natives, but many of them are very useful, intelligent, and industrious, and are a credit to my predecessors and the institution.

With regard to the financial state of the station, I have no doubt you will hear from the acting trustee.

-------------------
Statement of stock and improvements belonging to Poonindie.

Sheep, 9,756; cattle, 148; horses, 29; pigs, 20.

Improvements

Fencing—
Fifty miles of brush, including boundary and division fences; two miles of wire fence—four wires and top rail.
One mile post and three-rail fence.

Buildings—
Mission-house, six rooms and kitchen.
Buggy-house and out-office.
Overseer’s house, six rooms and kitchen.
One large underground tank.
Schoolmasters house, four rooms.
Church, stone and brick, and thatched.
Station kithem, weather-board.
Dormitory for orphan girls; stone, and iron roof.
Ditto for single men (used also for cooking).
Six cottages (brick), two rooms, for natives.
Eight ditto, (logs and pugged), one room, for natives.

Store, stone, and iron roof.
Corn store.
Stables and sheds for drays and implements.
Stockyard, new and substantial, just erected.
Woolshed, properly fitted up.
Carpenters’ and blacksmith’s shop.
1 well.
Two large gardens, stocked with fruit trees.
Statement of receipts and expenditure on account of Poonindie, for the year ended 31st March, 1878.

Receipts.

[Journal folio, 23; ledger folio, 278, &c]

£    s    d    £    s    d
Interest –
Interest on mortgages 236    12    9
Less interest on loans, and paid to
Elder Smith, & Co. 96    15    10 139    16    11

Produce of stock –
Proceeds of wool sold 2,046    4    7
Proceeds of skins and hides 318    8    0 2,098    2    7

Live stock –
Sheep sold 227    10    0
Net value – increase 318    8    0 545    18    0
£ 2,783    17    6

Expenditure

[Journal folio, 24; ledger folio, 179, &c.]

£    s    d
Salaries 377    0    0
Wages – General 220    11    10
Repairs to buildings 127    17    0
Stores – consumable 738    4    6
Farm produce 64    7    8
Wages – Natives 816    1    9
Hardware and crockery 16    14    9
Passages – Natives 9    0    0
Farm and station 227    7    5
Native institution 111    15    0
£ 2,708    19    11

Receipts over expenditure for the year 74    17    1
£ 2,783    17    6

Debit to profit and loss.

£    s    d
Boat and gear – worn out and useless – Cost 16    10    0
Furniture and fittings, wear and tear, written off for year 25    0    0
Drapery and slops – Loss in taking over stock at cost price 41    1    5
£ 82    11    5

E. & O.E.,
3rd June, 1878

G. W. Hawkes, Acting Trustee.
WALLIANIPPIE, STREAKY BAY.

Mr W. R. Thomson, states:-
The number of aborigines in this district is slowly decreasing; not that many deaths have occurred during the past year, but, as far as I remember, there were no births. The longer natives have been in contact with Europeans, the fewer children they have, and the few they do have seldom live past the age of two years.
They are very quiet and inoffensive and very lazy; no misdemeanors have come under my notice during the last twelve months.
There is very little sickness among the blacks that is of a serious nature; they give way to sickness much more readily than a white man does. I think they are healthier now than I have known them since I have been on the station – about eight years.
It is difficult to say whether there is any moral improvement in them or not; there are certainly not the same inducements for them to err as there were in the past, and they have a very wholesome terror of the law. I do not think anything more could be done for them by the Government than is done at present; they have plenty to eat and plenty to wear.
I do not think that any care or treatment can prevent them eventually dying out.
The following Instructions are furnished to Issuers of Stores at Aboriginal Depots:-

1, Rations to be issued regularly – only to the sick, the old and infirm, orphan children, and women with infants under twelve months. All healthy and able natives should be encouraged, as far as possible, to provide for their own and the wants of their families, but occasional supplies may be given to a le-bodied natives when there is reason to believe that they are in want, and unable to obtain employment or procure their natural food – in every case the reason to be entered in the column “Remarks”.

2, The rations or daily allowance to each person receiving relief not to exceed –

- Flour 1 lb
- Sugar 2 ozs
- Tea ¾ oz; to be entered in monthly return.

Rice or sago, as medical comforts, may be substituted for the flour. Tobacco is not to be considered a regular ration, to be issued at stated periods, but is to be given at the discretion of the issuer, as a reward for good conduct or good service in the case of able-bodied natives, and as a comfort for the aged and infirm.

3, The usual medical comforts may be issued when required, and also such other articles as may be certified by a qualified medical practitioner or a justice of the peace to be absolutely necessary, the accounts for which are to be certified by the issuer and forwarded to this office with the monthly return.

4, The issuer, when distributing stores, should caution the natives against selling or bartering their clothes, &c., for intoxicating liquors.

5, The monthly returns of “Receipts” and “Issues,” “Births and Deaths,” &c., to be regularly kept according to the forms transmitted, and forwarded direct to this office not later than the seventh of each month. Any circumstances which may be thought worthy of mention – such as, whether the natives are employed by the settlers; to what extent and or what wages; whether there have been any disturbances, &c – should be entered n the column “Remarks”.

6, Receipts for stores to be forwarded direct to this office as soon as possible after the arrival and inspection of the goods.

7, All returns to be signed and dated.

8, Care should be taken to make requisitions for fresh supplies in sufficient time to secure their dispatch and arrival at a depot prior to the stock on hand being exhausted.
Table 1. Summary showing the Number of Aborigines, Males and Females, in each County and Pastoral District of the Province of South Australia, at date of Census, 1876.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Adults (Healthy Adults)</th>
<th>Adults (Sick or Infirm Adults)</th>
<th>Children (Males)</th>
<th>Children (Females)</th>
<th>Total (Males)</th>
<th>Total (Females)</th>
<th>Males employed by settlers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COUNTIES -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adelaide</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gawler</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frome</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fergusson</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daly</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindmarsh</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sturt</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russell</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckingham</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardwell</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacDonnell</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robe</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flinders</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamley</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of Counties</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASTORAL DISTRICTS –</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Dist</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Dist</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Northern</td>
<td>1120</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>1341</td>
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Table II (abridged)- Showing the Number of Aborigines, Males and Females, in each county and Pastoral district of South Australia, at the date of the census of 1871 and 1876, together with Increase or Decrease [this version showing only Totals.]

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Grand Total of South Australia | 1833 | 2203 | 366  | 1536    | 1750 | 218  |
Table III – Showing the Distribution of Stores issued by the Aborigines Department during the year ended 31st December, 1878. – [a] Standard Stores.

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<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirrailpa</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrakimbo</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yadlamalka</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WESTERN DISTRICT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Flour</th>
<th>Sugar</th>
<th>Tea</th>
<th>Rice</th>
<th>Tobacco</th>
<th>Soap</th>
<th>Sago</th>
<th>Blankets</th>
<th>Shirts</th>
<th>Serge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coralbignie</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fowler’s Bay</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Harbor</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiltruby, G. R.</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poonindie</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Lincoln</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streaky Bay</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Lakes</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus Bay</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallianippie</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yardea</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Totals**: 160,000 22,874 3,680 3,386 815 2,669 1,051 1,771 472 1,416
Table III – Showing the Distribution of Stores issued by the Aborigines Department during the year ended 31st December, 1878. – [a] Miscellaneous Stores.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.E. DISTRICT-</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>200 needles, 2 lbs thread, 12 tomahawks, 4 axes, 36 spoons, 30 lbs netting twine, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 pannicans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guichen Bay</td>
<td>6 tomahawks, 12 fishing lines, 100 hooks, 12 pots, and 12 pannicans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacepede Bay</td>
<td>100 needles, 1 lb thread, 6 tomahawks, 32 lbs netting twine, 12 fishing lines, 100 hooks, 6 axes, 24 pannicans, 24 quart pots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milang</td>
<td>20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 2 lbs thread, 24 spoons, medicines, 13 loads of firewood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millicent</td>
<td>20 fishing lines, 12 pannicans, 12 quart pots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needles, Coorong</td>
<td>200 needles, 2 lbs thread, 18 tomahawks, 20 lbs netting twine, 36 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 4 axes, 36 spoons, 24 pannicans, 24 quart pots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Macleay</td>
<td>200 needles, 2 lbs thread, 24 tomahawks, 4 lbs netting twine, 36 fishing lines, 400 hooks, 36 quart pots, 36 pannicans, 6 axes, 60 spoons, medicines, 8 canoes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YORKE’S PENINSULA-</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edithburgh</td>
<td>12 tomahawks, 3 axes, 24 lbs netting twine, 24 fishing lines, 12 quart pots, 12 pannicans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kadina</td>
<td>100 needles, 1 lb thread, 6 tomahawks, 3 axes, 70 lbs netting twine, 12 fishing lines, 100 fish hooks, 12 quart pots, 12 pannicans, 12 spoons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Wakefield</td>
<td>12 quart pots, 12 pannicans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Pierce</td>
<td>600 needles, 6 lbs thread, 12 tomahawks, 6 axes, 70 lbs netting twine, 30 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 72 quart pots, 72 pannicans, 84 spoons, 100 yds wincey, medicines, 20 pairs mole trousers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MURRAY RIVER-</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>200 needles, 2 lbs thread, 12 tomahawks, 6 axes, 20 lbs netting twine, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 pannicans, 24 spoons, medicines, 4 canoes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanchetown</td>
<td>100 needles, 1 lb thread, 6 tomahawks, 2 canoes, 36 fishing lines, 100 hooks, 12 lbs netting twine, 12 pannicans, 12 quart pots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mannum</td>
<td>12 fishing lines, 100 hooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overland Corner</td>
<td>12 tomahawks, 12 fishing lines, 12 pannicans, 12 quart pots.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NORTHERN DISTRICT-</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Port Augusta</td>
<td>6 loads of firewood.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAR NORTHERN DISTRICT-</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blinman</td>
<td>400 needles 7 lbs thread, 24 tomahawks, 48 quart pots, 48 pannicans, 12 axes, 108 spoons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanchewater</td>
<td>24 quart pots, 24 pannicans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kopperamanna</td>
<td>300 needles, 4 lbs thread, 12 tomahawks, 6 axes, 20 lbs netting twine, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 pannicans, 24 spoons, medicines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umberatana</td>
<td>Medicines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[over]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Items and Supplies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coralbignie</td>
<td>6 tomahawks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fowler’s Bay</td>
<td>12 tomahawks, 3 axes, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 pannicans, medicines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Harbor</td>
<td>6 tomahawks, 200 needles 2 lbs thread.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiltruby, G. R.</td>
<td>6 tomahawks, 12 quart pots, 12 pannicans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poonindie</td>
<td>200 needles, 2 lbs thread, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 spoons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streaky Bay</td>
<td>12 tomahawks, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 pannicans, 24 quart pots, 4 axes, medicines, oars, anchor, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Lakes [Elliston]</td>
<td>12 tomahawks, 12 quart pots, 12 pannicans, and medicines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus Bay</td>
<td>12 tomahawks, 20 fishing lines, 200 hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 pannicans, 24 spoons, medicines, 1 boat, oars, &amp; anchor chain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallanippie [Streaky Bay]</td>
<td>400 needles, 4 lbs thread, 12 tomahawks, 3 axes, medicines, 20 lbs netting twine, 20 fishing lines, 200 fish hooks, 24 quart pots, 24 pannicans, 24 spoons.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table IV. – Return of Natives charged with any offence during the Year ended December 31st, 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Accused</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date of Offence</th>
<th>Result of Inquiry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tommy Smith</td>
<td>Assault police</td>
<td>Millicent</td>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>14 days in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“ &amp; Drunk, &amp;c</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s., or 7 days in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Anne</td>
<td>“ &amp; indecent language</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Fined 5s., or 48 hrs in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Sprat</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Port Pirie</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Gleeson</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Bungaree</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>1 month in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bungaree Billy</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Border Town</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Discharged, with caution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Stubbs</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Moonta</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddy Richardson</td>
<td>“ &amp; assault</td>
<td>Yarcowie</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>10 days’ imprisonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Buffalo</td>
<td>“ &amp; indecent lang.</td>
<td>E. Wellington</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 month’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maggie Bungaree</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 10s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toolingery</td>
<td>In unlawful possession</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Of intox. Liquor</td>
<td>Mulgundawa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Buffalo</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Hewitt</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Tripp</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Toms</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Walker</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James James</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmark Tommy</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Toms</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary White</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charley</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Walker</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy Smith</td>
<td>“ &amp; assault</td>
<td>Millicent</td>
<td></td>
<td>21 days in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Anne</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fines 15s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archie</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karpeny</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>E. Wellington</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulgunee</td>
<td>Larceny of bottle gin</td>
<td>Milang</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 month gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Phillips</td>
<td>Drunk &amp; riotous</td>
<td>Poonindie</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 days in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddy Richardson</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Yarcowie</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Lock</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddy Christ</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy Chewings</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Chewings</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Richards</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Point Pierce</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 month in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Richards</td>
<td>Threat’g lang.</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>14 days in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy Chewings</td>
<td>Dr</td>
<td>Jamestown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Thomson</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Milang</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Thomson</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 10s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarkaruppu [Taikarabbie?]</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Rankin</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Rankin</td>
<td>Assault on lubra</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Newland</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 10s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Morey</td>
<td>Unlawful poss.</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy</td>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Border Town</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 hours in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm Rundle (Tom Pepper)</td>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>Port Adelaide</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 years imprisonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Accused</td>
<td>Charge</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>Date of Offence</td>
<td>Result of Inquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Lush</td>
<td>Dr, resisting police</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td></td>
<td>10s., 2 months hard labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Newland</td>
<td>Disturbing peace</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 hours’ imprisonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmey Rankine</td>
<td>Dr</td>
<td>Milang</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Rankine</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Accused</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date of Offence</th>
<th>Result of Inquiry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louisa Rankine</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Milang</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Walker</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Ann Walker</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overland Johnny</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrubber</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Morgan</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliza</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George &amp; Ellen Bruin</td>
<td>Dr &amp; resist police</td>
<td>Mannum</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy &amp; Annie Crow</td>
<td>Riotous conduct</td>
<td>Naracoorte</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 month’s hard labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiger, Billy (Williamson), Wiggy, Billy (Murriba), Mary Annie</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Mt Gambier</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s. eACH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archie</td>
<td>Furious driving in street</td>
<td>Port Elliott</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged with caution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crankey Jemmy, Shooting Tommy, Sam Matthews, John Green, Richard Wilson, George Reed</td>
<td>Drunkenness</td>
<td>Near Kadina</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>7 days’ imprisonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Rollison, Young Buffaloe</td>
<td>Dr</td>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s. each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Tom Walker</td>
<td>Threat’g lang.</td>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archie</td>
<td>Dr</td>
<td>Milicent</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dismissed, with caution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaf Tommy, George Donald</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Kingston</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s. each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willie Weakley</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 5s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Newland</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overland Corner</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fined 10s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td></td>
<td>“</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table V. Return of persons charged with any Violation of clause 17 ['supplying'] of Act No. 22 of 1872 (forbidding liquors to be supplied to Aborigines) during the Year ended December 31st, 1878.

List of 37 Non-Aboriginal people, mostly publicans (7), laborers (16) and one teacher.
Table VI. – Return of Aborigines under Treatment in the Adelaide Hospital during the Year ended December 31st, 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country or Tribe</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>[Length of Stay]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Edith Solomon</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Adenitis</td>
<td>2 m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>George Corny</td>
<td>Tintini</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Contusion</td>
<td>5 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>James Hewitt</td>
<td>Mount Remarkable</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Conjunctivitis</td>
<td>6 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Raymond</td>
<td>Holowileana</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Phthisis (TB?)</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Sarah Newland</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Still in Hosp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>George Donally</td>
<td>South-East</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>1 week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Napoleon Bonaparte</td>
<td>Point Macleay</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Dyspepsia</td>
<td>9 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Mary Newland</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unk.</td>
<td>Phthisis</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>George Reid</td>
<td>Pt Victoria</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Debility</td>
<td>1 week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>John Gamble</td>
<td>Port Wakefield</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pneumonia</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>George Lindsay</td>
<td>River Murray</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Turnunculus</td>
<td>4 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Jane Newland</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unk.</td>
<td>Debility</td>
<td>8 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Jane Newland</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>3 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Joseph Newland</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Contusion on foot</td>
<td>5 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Jenny Holmes</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>Debility</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Charley Wilkins</td>
<td>Glenelg [KI/Pt Mcleay]</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Orchitis</td>
<td>12 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Amy Hamilton</td>
<td>Point Macleay</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Pleurisy</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Freeeling Carten [Carter?]</td>
<td>South Road [Pt Macleay?]</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Synovitis of knee</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Amy Hamilton</td>
<td>Point Macleay</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sprained wrist</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Annie</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Capillary bronchitis</td>
<td>5 days: died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Maggie Williams</td>
<td>Port Wakefield</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Phthisis</td>
<td>1 month: died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>Joe Murray</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>Diarrhoea</td>
<td>8 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>Eliza Wilson</td>
<td>Point Macleay</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Abscess of jaw</td>
<td>4 days.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table VII. – Showing Number of Births, Deaths and Causes of Death during the year ended December 31st, 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of depot</th>
<th>Births</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Name of depot</th>
<th>Births</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Name of depot</th>
<th>Births</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bimbowrie</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mannum</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Streaky Bay</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanchetown</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Milang</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Three Lakes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanchewater</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Millicent</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Venus Bay</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border Town</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Naracoorte</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Umberatana</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goolwa</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Overland Corner</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edithburgh</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Point Macleay</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Warrakimbo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiltrubey</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Point Pierce</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Stuart’s Creek</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kopperamanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Poonindie</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacepede Bay</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Port Augusta</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacDonnell Bay</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Parallana</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 55 95

[Note: many depots where there were no births OR deaths during the year.]

Causes of Death. –

- Accidentally suffocated by a dog: 1
- Atrophy: 9
- Bronchitis: 5
- Consumption [phthisis, TB]: 20
- Congestion of lungs: 7
- Diarrhoea: 6
- Drowned (accidently) in a well: 1
- Exposure: 1
- Unknown: 14
- Epilepsy: 1
- Hooping cough: 10
- Inflammation of stomach: 3
- Marasmus: 1
- Old age: 10
- Peritonitis: 2
- Spear wound: 1
- Tabes mesenterica: 2
- Venereal disease: 1.