

BOORT.

Mr. Green reports that there are sixty blacks who frequent this place. He only saw one, however, and he heard that there had not been much sickness amongst them during the past twelve months.

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ABORIGINES ON THE 31ST MAY, 1869.
(FROM MR. GREEN'S RETURNS AND ESTIMATES.)

Districts.	Localities.	Total Number of Men, Women, and Children.
Southern	Coranderrk and Mordialloc	110
South-Western	Geelong and Colac	24
	Camperdown	18
	Framlingham, Warrnambool, Belfast, and Mortlake	62
	Nareeb-nareeb, Wickliffe	69
	Hamilton	46
	Mount Rouse, Condah, and Portland	97
	Casterton and Sandford	28
	Balmoral	22
	Carngham and Talbot	60
		426
North-Western	Mount Talbot	28
	Apsley	17
	Wimmera, Richardson, and Carr's Plains	269
	Mildura, Kulkynne, and Swan Hill	340
	Boort, Loddon	60
	Gunbower and Terrick-terrick	80
		794
Northern	Echuca, Wyuna, and Ulupna	94
	Goulburn Valley... ..	50
		144
South-Eastern	Gippsland	186
North-Eastern	Wangaratta and Tangambalanga	74
	Wanderers (number estimated by Mr. Green)	1,734
		100
		1,834

NOTE.—During his tour of inspection in 1868 and 1869 Mr. Green collected the names of 1,514 Aborigines.

APPENDIX II.

REPORTS OF MR. R. BROUGH SMYTH AND MR. JOHN MACKENZIE.

CORANDERRK.

GENTLEMEN,

Queen-street, 16th November, 1867.

On Friday, the 15th instant, I visited the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk. I went there about ten o'clock in the morning, and at once entered the school-room, where the teacher, Mr. Lang, was engaged in teaching about thirty children. The room was clean, and order and regularity were everywhere apparent. Mr. Lang caused some of the boys and girls to read some sentences in a child's book, and with one or two exceptions they acquitted themselves very well. One rather small boy showed remarkable intelligence, and not only read well but appeared to understand what he was reading. The classes then sang, and the improvement quite astonished me. Now that they are properly taught, their voices are sweet and agreeable. I inspected their copy-books, and was glad to see that here too Mr. Lang's beneficial labors are apparent. Many of them write neatly, and all the books were better kept and cleaner than was to be expected.

The new building, consisting of a large store-room and dormitories, is well built, and though it was costly the expenditure was not injudicious. It is solid and substantial, and whatever changes may be made it will remain a valuable property. The bed-rooms were neat and tidy, and very clean. The floor of the store-room is of boards, and not cemented as originally designed, and I cannot tell who is responsible for the mistake. There is at present no destruction by vermin, but they will attack the provisions by and by without doubt, unless a proper floor be laid down. The arrangement of the stores was not as good as I could have wished, but there was nothing so far wrong as to call for complaint; and some allowance must be made on account of the haste which is necessary in distributing the provisions.

The garden in front of the house looks very well, and in every part of the station I saw improvement. I entered and examined a great many of the huts occupied by the married people, and it was gratifying to see so many marks of the change produced by domestication. The men were away at work in the fields or on the station, and the women were occupied in little offices in their homes. Objects indicating some taste and some pride in the appearance of their dwellings were not few. Their native baskets were hung up against the walls, the walls were here and there ornamented with pictures, their rugs and clothing were arranged in order, and their fires tidily kept. All these little things serve to astonish those who are acquainted with the habits and feelings of the Aborigines. It is known that in his original condition the Aboriginal is not indifferent to his appearance, and that he takes a pride in his weapons; but contact with the whites makes him careless and slovenly, and much patience and skill and judgment are needed to bring back his self-respect and to induce him to interest himself in a direction in which he is so far distanced by the European. It has been effected at Coranderrk. The condition of the huts, the way in which the infants are dressed and cared for, and the cheerfulness and activity of the people, are evidence of it.

In one of the fields I saw some of the men ploughing, and their shouts as they drove the oxen and turned the plough seemed to me to indicate that they work freely and take some pleasure in it.

In riding about the place, unaccompanied by any one connected with the station, I had a good opportunity of seeing things in their ordinary condition; and it will be gratifying to the Central Board to learn that, judging from the appearance of the cattle, due care is taken of the stock. The fences are good, and some of them are protected from fire by a ditch and earthen bank.

It was reported to me that there was no sickness at the place. Everybody whom I saw looked healthy, except one man, who appeared to be suffering from some throat affection.

The little village presents quite a pleasing picture, but I am still of opinion that the real work of improvement has yet to begin. The station should be made self-supporting, and there are many ways in which it could be done. It is very likely, because of inexperience and of want of a more correct knowledge of the habits of the Aborigines and of the capabilities of the soils at Coranderrk, I may not be competent to devise the best scheme; but, according to my view, it would be more economical to raise such crops on the station as would need the least amount of labor for their proper culture, and such labor as the blacks would willingly give, and such crops as would in themselves gratify the tastes of the blacks. The heavy work of fencing-in paddocks and preparing the ground for wheat, the dull monotony of forming drills and furrows, might well, in my humble judgment, be exchanged for the lighter tasks belonging to the vineyard, the orchard, and the garden. With an abundant supply of water, fine soils, and an excellent climate, I believe it would be possible to grow fruit for the Melbourne market; and as the roads are now pretty good and every day being made better, I cannot see why the fruit and some of the garden produce might not be brought to market in small baskets packed in a suitably constructed waggon. Apples, pears, plums, nectarines, apricots, peaches, cherries, almonds, grapes for the table, strawberries, and gooseberries, could easily be delivered in Melbourne in the early morning on market days in as good condition as fruit brought from Brighton. I say with proper management, because, if the business were conducted in a slovenly way, and no proper conveyance or suitable horses provided for carrying the produce, and if the fruit were not pulled quickly and speedily packed and sent away at once, the plan would fail.

I believe it would pay better to grow onions than to raise wheat and oats, though neither wheat nor oats should be altogether neglected.

Other produce, such as cabbages, carrots, turnips, and potatoes, would be consumed on the station.

As the land could be irrigated, the crops would probably be heavy, and quite a large orchard and garden could be well kept, where the labor of the children would in certain seasons be as valuable as that of the men and women.

The Aborigines should also be encouraged to make baskets and rugs for sale, and the moneys got in this way, as well as by the sale of fruit, &c., should be paid into the consolidated revenue. The plan of appropriating the profits obtained in any way by the labor of the blacks in the purchase of clothes, &c., by the superintendent, should be stopped. The Parliament should have the entire control of the funds, in what way soever they may be obtained, and it is certain that in any case where, by good management, a station became self-supporting or showed a balance of profits over expenditure, it would excite liberality rather than induce a too rigid economy. But a strict account should be kept of all moneys obtained by the labor of individuals, and they should be rewarded suitably whenever diligence or skill, or more than ordinary attention to duty, was manifested. In this way, or in some other perhaps better way, the Aborigines could be raised out of the condition of pauperism.

It is humiliating to think that nearly one hundred blacks on a good station, which they have occupied about five years, should still be dependent in a great measure on the bounty of the country.

The more I have considered the proposal that the blacks and half-castes should be taught useful trades, I am the more convinced that it would prove an unwise step. Wherever the Aboriginal is placed, the uneducated whites look with pity on him; and no skilled tradesman could exert himself in a society where he would be always regarded as an inferior—as a creature that by some extraordinary act of nature had come to be nearly like other men. He could never join in the recreations of his fellow-workmen, and he would be subjected continually to slights, which might not be intended to give pain, but would surely wound. The Aboriginal is susceptible and quick in detecting motives. An Aboriginal blacksmith, or joiner, or shoemaker, would never make a living if he had to compete with Europeans; and moreover, improve him as we may, it is doubtful whether he would ever be self-reliant and able to exert self-control. He would much more likely become a nuisance. The best course, probably, is to keep the blacks together, and bring them as seldom as possible in contact with other races.

If the Central Board approve of the suggestion I made when the Coranderrk station was established, that the labor of the blacks should be employed in raising produce for the market, I shall issue the necessary instructions at once.

In order that it may be done well, I should recommend that a skilful gardener be employed to visit the station and select a site, and furnish a plan of the proposed orchard and garden, and that a competent person be engaged for, say two years, to plant the trees and manage the establishment.

I was sorry to see some of the boys on the station insufficiently clad. I beg to suggest that a sufficient number of duck trousers be supplied for wear in summer, and moleskin for winter.

The children might be taught to make for themselves good coverings for the feet out of kangaroo skins ; and if skins cannot be got at Coranderrk, Mr. Green might easily procure them from the Aboriginal station in the Western district, or buy them. They could use wooden soles when working or looking after stock.

It would be well to confine Mr. Green almost entirely to the duties of his office, Inspector of Stations, or appoint him manager at Coranderrk, and get some other person to act as inspector. He should continue to live at Coranderrk, as his influence among the blacks is considerable ; and it appears to have been always used, as far as I can learn, beneficially.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

R. BROUGH SMYTH.

The Central Board appointed to watch
over the interests of the Aborigines, Melbourne.

GENTLEMEN,

Melbourne, 26th October, 1868.

We have the honor to report for your information the results of our inspection of the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk.

We arrived at the station about ten o'clock a.m. on Saturday, the 24th instant, and we found Mr. Lang, the teacher, in the school-house, who conducted us through the buildings and huts.

Good order, cleanliness, and a cheerful appearance of industry were everywhere apparent. The Government buildings and the huts inhabited by the Aborigines were in good order, and many of the latter were as convenient and as comfortable as the cottages inhabited by the poorer class of Europeans.

We caused the Aborigines to assemble in the school-room ; sixty-seven of them obeyed the call, but some of the adults were absent, either following some employment or engaged in hunting or shooting. They were not aware that we were about to visit the station, or they would have been present.

The appearance of the people was satisfactory. Only two were sick or slightly unwell, and the inspecting surgeon had been apprised of their ailments.

The children exhibited their copy-books ; some of them read to us, and the classes sang several hymns, &c., and we are bound to state, that their conduct and acquirements reflect credit on Mr. Lang, the teacher.

In going through the village we observed the ruins of some huts which were destroyed when fever was amongst the blacks, and we suggested that the old timbers should be removed and the ground cleared, and Mr. Lang promised to attend to this.

We instructed Mr. Lang to cause the piggeries to be removed to some spot near the flat, and we have been informed that this work has been commenced and will soon be completed.

We refrained from enquiring into certain complaints preferred by some of the adult blacks, because Mr. Green, whose management to some extent they affected, was absent. The complainants were present, and we have reason to believe that they are now tolerably well satisfied with the arrangements which have been made in regard to the hours of labor, the disposal of produce, &c. ; but having in view the peculiarities of the Aboriginal mind, and the trust they repose in those who have the care of their interests, and the perfect reliance they place in persons in authority who make promises to them, we are of opinion that no time should be lost in investigating the complaints which were made some time back by Wonga and others. If the enquiry be further postponed, the complainants will be dissatisfied, and their confidence in us will be abated.

Wonga, in the presence of the members of the Board and the Honorable J. F. Sullivan, who accompanied us to the station, gave an interesting address to the Aborigines in his native tongue. It was impressive, and seemed to rivet the attention of the adult Aborigines.

We beg to suggest that steps be taken to induce the Aborigines who some time back left Coranderrk and settled on the Alexandra goldfields to return to the station, and that an attempt be made to get the Aborigines who frequent Geelong and Mordialloc to take up their abode with their friends at this place.

We saw a fine crop of wheat in one of the paddocks ; the garden was in good order, and the orchard seemed likely to produce a great quantity of fruit. Nearly all the fruit trees which were sent to Coranderrk in the winter were looking well.

We cannot conclude this report without recommending that the report of the Secretary, affecting as it does the present and future management of the station, should engage your earnest consideration, and that, in order to the better understanding of the matters involved, the members should visit and examine the station as we have done. Indeed, periodical visits are indispensably necessary if the results sought by the Board are to be realized.

We have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servants,

R. BROUGH SMYTH,
JOHN MACKENZIE.

The President and Members of the Central Board
appointed to watch over the interests of the Aborigines.

SIR,

Queen-street, Melbourne, 27th May, 1869.

I have the honor to inform you that I visited the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on the 15th instant, and I am glad to be able to state that I found the Aborigines (numbering nearly 100) in good health, and in better circumstances than ever I have seen them.

I saw every person on the station, and examined every hut, and nothing seemed to be wanting to the comfort and happiness of the people. Order, cleanliness, and cheerfulness were everywhere observed.

In company with the principal men I visited the farm, the orchard, and the store-room, and examined the stock ; and all I saw satisfied me that the labors of Mr. Green and Mr. Lang have been eminently beneficial.

I directed Mr. Green to employ men to clear a space of about ten acres of land lying to the north of the huts (which can be done at small cost), and put in a crop, and I have reason to believe that the result in all respects will be satisfactory.

The children were healthy and cheerful, and appear to have profited much from the instruction imparted by Mr. Lang.

I shall give further information to the Central Board at the next meeting.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

The President of the Central Board
for the Protection of Aborigines, &c.

R. BROUGH SMYTH.

APPENDIX III.

DR. GIBSON'S REPORTS.

CORANDERRK.

GENTLEMEN,

Flemington, 9th August, 1865.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station of the Aborigines at Coranderrk on 5th July, and, for the short time the station has been in operation, it is in a most satisfactory condition. There were ninety-nine Aborigines on the station, consisting of families, single men, and children. With the exception of three adults, they were all in good health. One of these is suffering from chronic inflammation of the orbit, the eyeball having been rudely destroyed in infancy; a second is suffering from acute bronchitis; and a third from that very intractable skin disease, psoriasis. For these I prescribed, and, with the care of your superintendent, I have every confidence in a favorable result. The children are in buoyant spirits, robust and active, and well advanced in education for such a class. They have their meals in the school-room, which, from its size, is well suited for the purpose. Their dormitories, including beds and bedding, are very comfortable.

The families, and indeed all on the station, have a very satisfactory degree of comfort; some of those that have been longest there having an amount of order and cleanliness that quite surprised me, but showing what can be done for this unfortunate race.

I examined the stores, which consisted of tea, sugar, flour, salt beef, and potatoes. These were all good and sound. The potatoes were grown on the station.

I also examined the medicine-chest. It contains a good supply of all the ordinary medicines.

In view of the whole arrangements, and the very intractable habits of the race, I consider the station in a very satisfactory state for the time it has been in operation.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

To the Central Board for the Protection
of the Aborigines.

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

GENTLEMEN,

Flemington, 30th August, 1865.

I have the honor to report that on the 24th instant I made a special visit to Coranderrk Aboriginal station, at the request of your superintendent, Mr. Green, to examine an Aboriginal boy who had been sick several days.

The boy is about ten years old, and is ill of low, continued fever; is very much wasted and in a dangerous state. I prescribed for him and enjoined his complete separation from the rest of the community. This latter suggestion, I am sorry to say, can only be partially carried out, as there is no special room for that purpose.

I would therefore suggest the necessity of having some such room built, as at present there are no means of effectually separating any case of sickness, however infectious.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

To the Central Board for the Protection
of the Aborigines.

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

P.S.—While writing the above, I have received a note from Mr. Green informing me that the boy has since died.—J.G.

GENTLEMEN,

Flemington, 18th January, 1866.

I have the honor to report that I visited the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on 4th October last. There were eighty Aborigines on the station, their number having been reduced since my previous visit on account of the shearing season, several having gone (under permission) to shear.

I have further to report the highly satisfactory state of health on the station, as there is not a single case of sickness. The children are clean and cheerful, and the adult portion of the community have the same healthy, contented appearance. Their huts are clean, and many of them very comfortable.

I also inspected the stores, and found them good and sound. The order and general management of the station reflect much credit on the tact and industry of your superintendent.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

To the Central Board for the Protection
of the Aborigines.

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

GENTLEMEN,

Flemington, 26th July, 1866.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station at Coranderrk on 23rd May. There were then on the station one hundred and nine (109) Aborigines. I am happy to report that, with the exception of a few minor cases of influenza, they are all in good health. Their huts are clean and in good order, several of them showing taste in their arrangements. The children have a cheerful and healthy appearance, and many of them can read and write very fairly.

I also examined the stores, consisting of flour, salt meat, tea and sugar, and potatoes. They are all good and sound. Since my last report a room has been built, to be used in case of need as an hospital. In any emergency this will be a very great benefit to the station.

In view of the whole, the station is in good order, and the Aborigines are comfortable and contented.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

To the Central Board for the Protection
of the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 17th September, 1866.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station at Coranderrk on the 14th instant. There were then on the station 108 Aborigines, and with the exception of one man (Harry Neilson), who is recovering from an attack of rheumatism, they are all in good health.

I arrived at the station at eight o'clock in the morning, and found sixty-one of them assembled at prayers in the school-room. During the service they conducted themselves with strict propriety and earnestness. The school-room was clean, and this being washing-day, the children's dormitories were all washed out and were thoroughly clean; the blankets and bedding were outside airing, and were also clean. There are thirty-four children in the school (nineteen boys, and fifteen girls); of these, fourteen are under seven years old, fifteen between seven and thirteen years, and five above thirteen years. They were very orderly in school, and according to their ages read and write well. The want, however, of a regular teacher is at present a great drawback to their progress, as the greater part of their teaching is now carried on by the elder pupils.

The children were all clean and in good health, and appeared cheerful and happy. In reference to the size of their dormitories, they are becoming too full, and it is very desirable that the proposed additions should be made immediately that they might be available in the hot weather.

There are eighteen single men on the station; their huts (two) are clean, but do not present that appearance of comfort that many of their married friends do. Still their beds are clean, and (with the exception of Harry Neilson, already mentioned) they are all in good health, and most of them are robust young men.

The huts of the married people present a great variety of appearance, from good to very middling. Three of them (those of William Barak, Johnny Ferguson, and Farmer Tommy) deserve especial commendation as being very tidy and comfortable, and would stand favorable comparison with many cottages of their white brethren. The others, although not by any means so clean or orderly, are comfortable to a much greater degree than their inmates ever could have attained unassisted, and, considering their intractable disposition, do your most indefatigable superintendent much credit. Their bedding and blankets are clean, and many of the females and old men were engaged in basket-making. This being hunting day (Friday) there was no work going on on the farm; all the able men and several women left in the forenoon for hunting. This is now becoming a more precarious means of eking out their subsistence, as the game is getting much scarcer, and will necessitate the Board's adopting, in a short time, other means of supplying meat. This is the less to be regretted, as the exposure on cold and wet nights of these semi-civilized individuals produces many diseases, and the adopting of their wild state of living for two days every week must check the civilizing process very much, especially in the youth. A few additional cattle on the station would render it self-supporting as far as meat is concerned; and the exertions of your superintendent have now brought so much land under cultivation, that the Board may expect, in a very short time, to be relieved from supplying any rations but tea and sugar.

I examined the stores, consisting of flour, tea, sugar, salt, and potatoes. They were all sound and good. The potatoes have been grown on the station, and are excellent. There is also a large supply of carrots which were produced on the station, and are still sound and good.

Since my last visit much has been done in fencing and clearing the ground; and there is at present a large field of oats, and another of wheat, showing large growing crops; and a third field is in preparation for potatoes.

In view of the whole, there is an appearance of progress; and the orderly arrangements of the home station, with the contented comfortable aspect of the blacks, indicate great zeal and energy on the part of your excellent superintendent, and at the same time show that the aim of your Board (the protection and civilizing of the Aborigines) is being well carried out.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary to Central Board for Protection of the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 6th December, 1866.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station at Coranderrk on the 23rd November. There were on the station eighty-two Aborigines, the diminution in number since my last report having arisen by a party, by permission, having gone to sheep-shearing, and a few to the hunting. With the exception of three minor cases of illness, they are all in good health. I arrived at the station in the morning and found the children in the school-room at breakfast, which was put down comfortably, and at which, under the superintendence of Mr. Payne, your newly-appointed assistant, they conducted themselves orderly as well as with appetites. Immediately after breakfast, about fifty-six assembled for prayers, which were also conducted by Mr. Payne, your superintendent being on a journey in the interior. The exercise was conducted with strict

propriety, and the Aborigines present were clean and orderly. The school-room was also clean, and the dormitories attached, including beds and bedding. I visited all the huts on the station; the young men's huts (two) still have the same untidy appearance noticed in my last report, but their beds and bedding are clean and comfortable. The young man, Harry Neilson, mentioned in my last as suffering from rheumatism, is now quite recovered, and, with the exception of Tarra Bobbie, who is suffering from chronic inflammation of the eyes, all the young men are in good health. The huts of the married people still present a great variety of appearance, but are clean, and some of them very comfortable. The people themselves appear happy and contented, and are clean for their class and in good health, with the exception of two children. Lexy, a girl about twelve years old, is suffering from chronic inflammation of the glands of the neck, and Bobbie, a boy about ten years old, is suffering from irritation of the stomach.

The school assembled at ten o'clock; thirty-four children were present, fourteen girls and twenty boys. It was conducted in a very orderly manner by Mrs. Payne. It was arranged in four classes, the highest being taught by Mrs. Payne, the others by the elder pupils, and the progress of the children in reading and writing is very fair.

I also examined the stores, consisting of flour, tea, sugar, beef, and tobacco; they were all good and sound.

The work on the station (clearing, fencing, and cultivating) is progressing well. There were several small parties actually engaged in clearing, and there are large growing crops of oats, wheat, and potatoes in a very promising condition.

Reviewing the whole, the station is in a very favorable state of progress, and the orderly arrangements do much credit to your zealous superintendent; and the comfort and means of civilization which your station affords to the Aborigines is really very great.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary to Central Board for Protection to the Aborigines.

GENTLEMEN,

Flemington, 29th March, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station at Coranderk on the 21st instant.

There were on the station 105 Aborigines in all; forty-four of these were children under fourteen years of age (twenty-five boys and nineteen girls); seven are under three years of age.

The girl Lexy, mentioned in my last, is still suffering from suppuration of the glands of the neck, and is in a very weakly state, but everything is being done for her that can be done.

The young man Ned, noticed also in a previous report as suffering from an injury to his ankle, is much better and begins to go about.

Tommy Johnston, a young man about twenty-five years of age, died two days before my visit. He had been falling off for some time, and, from the symptoms detailed to me by your superintendent, died of phthisis.

Harry, one of the married men, is suffering from a sprained back, and will be unfit for work for some time.

Eliza, a married woman, is suffering from glandular swellings in the neck, but they are not likely to be tedious.

With these exceptions the health of the station is good, and the Aborigines appear cheerful and comfortable. The huts of the married people are clean, and show, in some cases, small attempts at more tidiness lately. Three of the huts are very much improved in their internal appearance and furniture, and would compare with the cottages of many of their white brethren. There are three huts being built, and the workmanship and material in them are very superior to anything already on the place, and show a very great advance on their taste and constructive ability. However, those lately come live in very indifferent huts and have a very poor idea of comfort; still all on the station are much more comfortable than they ever could have been in their primitive state.

The huts (two) of the young men, although not orderly, are clean; the bedding is also clean. The children's dormitories and bedding are clean and in good order.

The children, except Lexy already noticed, are in good health. The clothing of the boys, consisting of two shirts reaching to about the knees, although sufficiently warm in the hot weather, is not enough for the winter season, and I would suggest the necessity of giving them trousers before the cold commences. This is now the more requisite as most of them have had years of comfortable indoor quarters, rendering them less able to stand the external cold.

I examined the stores, consisting of flour, tea, sugar, salt, tobacco, and potatoes; they were all sound and good. On my arrival at the station I had the pleasure of seeing a load of wheat on the way to the mill for grinding, being, I suppose, the first ever produced by the Aborigines of Victoria.

The new building for dormitory and store is well advanced and will soon be available, and will be a most useful addition.

I may just add that the discipline and order are very good, and that the station has a cleanly and comfortable appearance, reflecting much credit on its management.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

To the Board for the Protection
of the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 22nd April, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I made a special visit to the Aboriginal station at Coranderk yesterday, the 21st instant.

In addition to your superintendent, Mr. Green, and two of his own family, who are suffering from intermittent fever, there are seven of the Aborigines also suffering from the same complaint, while several are just recovering.

The subjoined list contains the names of those at present ill :—David Hunter, a married man ; William Barker, aged about twenty, single ; Carrie, a girl about seventeen, single ; Agnes, a girl about eight ; Bobbie Wandon, a boy about thirteen ; Mister Bell, a boy about fourteen ; John Bond, a boy about eight.

I gave instructions as to their treatment and medicine, and trust that, with proper care, the further spread of the fever may be prevented.

It will be necessary to forward the following medicines at once, viz. :—One ounce quinine, two ounces dilute sulphuric acid, and one ounce James' fever powder.

I may just add that the other Aborigines on the station are in good health, with the exception of Ellen Pindock, a girl about thirteen years old, who is suffering from ophthalmia.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary to Central Board for Protection to the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 20th May, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I have made a special visit to the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on the 14th instant.

The low intermittent fever, reported in my last, still continues, several new cases having occurred since my last visit. There has also been one death, that of a young man aged twenty-two years. This and the amount of sickness cause a look of distress among the blacks quite unusual to them. There are fifteen under treatment, but many of these are convalescing patients.

Of the men, four are ill, Wm. Parker, Dick, Jamie Webster, and Bobbie Hollis ; but these are all convalescents.

Two boys—Johnny, fourteen years old ; and Wm. Nash, ten years—have just taken the fever. Other three—Martin, fourteen years old ; Willie Norris, seven years ; and Bobbie Wandon, thirteen years—have been for some time ill, and are now also getting better, although very weak.

There are also five girls—Lizzy, seventeen years old ; Ellen Pindock, fourteen years ; Burnie, Agnes, and Isabella, all seven years old ; these are all in bed but in a fair way of recovery. There is also a baby—Margaret Hobson, two years and nine months—ill of the fever.

Your superintendent, Mr. Green, although considerably better since my last report, is still exceedingly weak, and the additional fatigue of the station at present is almost too much for him. His two children, reported ill in my last, are convalescing, but a third, a boy about eight years old, has taken the fever.

I went over the station—the huts are in their usual state, many of them very tidy, but others capable of much improvement. The dog nuisance on the station has come to a point which cannot longer be tolerated. They are so numerous that they actually pollute the camp ; and besides, being very badly fed, many of them are diseased ; still many of the Aborigines will insist on keeping them inside their huts, which, of itself, is enough to account for the present fever ; and I am informed by your superintendent that the dogs are of no use to them even for hunting purposes. I would therefore urge the necessity of destroying every dog on the station.

The new dormitory is partially occupied and has come in very opportunely in the present distress. The building is a substantial one and well adapted for the purpose.

I examined the stores, consisting of flour, meat, tea, sugar, potatoes, and tobacco. They are all sound and good. The flour is of their own growth and makes excellent bread. The potatoes have also been grown on the station and are first-rate. So far as victualling is concerned, there should be good health.

For the sick it will be requisite to forward, say, one dozen bottles port wine, with the following medicines :—Seven pounds Epsom salts, two pounds senna leaves, and one ounce quinine.

Although the number of patients have increased since my last visit, still all the cases are progressing favorably, and my instructions are being carefully carried out by your superintendent, and everything is being done that can be done for the sick, and, from present appearances, I think my next report will be much more favorable than the present.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary to Central Board for Protection to the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 24th June, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I made a special visit to the station at Corranderrk on the 15th instant.

Although the fever (already reported on), still continues, the patients are now very much diminished in number, five only being confined to bed.

Lizzy, a girl seven years old, mentioned in my last, is in a very low state, but is very carefully tended. Martin, a boy fourteen years old, continues also very ill, but is still in a hopeful condition. Jack, a boy eight years old, has taken the fever, but in a mild form. Jamie Webster, a young man, is suffering from debility, the result of the fever, but is in a fair way of recovery. Mrs. Green, your superintendent's wife, has also taken the fever, and in a severe form ; and this is in many ways very trying to Mr. Green, as, in his own present weakness, she was of much service in tending the sick and otherwise assisting. Your white assistant, Thomas Harris, has also been ill during the past fortnight, but is now getting about again, and in a few days will be able to resume work. These (six) are all the cases of fever on the station at present, and the blacks seem in a much more cheerful mood than when I visited them a month ago. There is also a case of dysentery to report—Annie, a married woman. She was one of a few that left through dread of the fever, and also to save their dogs, and the exposure for a few nights in the bush brought on the attack, when both her and her husband returned to the station. She is in a low state, but is well cared for, and with the treatment she is now under I think her life will be saved.

I went through all the huts on the station. They were all fairly clean, and many of them very tidy. The children's dormitories and bedding are also clean and in good order. I saw them at supper and breakfast. They had substantial meals, and conducted themselves most orderly. I was also present at evening and morning prayers; there were about seventy blacks present (children and adults), and all behaved with strict propriety.

I examined the stores and found them (as in my last) good.

Mr. Green's health has improved much since I was last up, and in a short time he will be quite well.

In reference to the dog nuisance—a very large proportion of the dogs have been destroyed; I only counted six on the station, and even on that account it is much cleaner.

It will be necessary to forward an ounce of quinine, as the present stock is nearly out.

Referring to my last report, it will be seen there is a very great improvement in the present, and, from appearance, I expect that in a very short time I will be able to present a clean bill of health.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary to Central Board for Protection to the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 19th August, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station at Coranderrk on the 8th instant.

There were then on the station seventy-eight Aborigines. I have to report that the low intermittent fever that has prevailed during the past four months has now disappeared. However, there are five cases of influenza fever and one of dysentery. The following is a list of those ill:—Jamie Wombat, Simon, Ellen, Bobbie Hollis, and Minnie, all ill of influenza fever, and Timothy of dysentery.

Your superintendent, Mr. Green, although recovered from the fever, is still very weak, and it will be some time before he is sufficiently strong to travel. In my last I reported Mrs. Green's illness; the Board will be glad to know that she is now quite recovered. Thomas Harris, the white servant, also reported sick, is now quite well and has resumed work.

I inspected the children. There are thirty-five living with Mr. Green at the school-house, and three with their parents; twenty-one of these are boys, and seventeen girls; four are under five years and thirteen under ten years old. They were all clean and in good health, and appear cheerful and content. Their dress, a single over-all of strong tweed, is perhaps sufficiently warm for them, being so shortly reclaimed from a state of nudity; but being all shoeless is, at least throughout the winter, a great hardship, and is the cause of much sickness among them. I would suggest to the Board the necessity of giving them one pair of boots in the year, which, with care, would carry them through the cold weather. The boys now sleep in the new dormitory, which is a very convenient arrangement, and the girls have those attached to the school-room. These latter are very good for the purpose; but a small portion of the lining is of hardwood boards, which have so shrunk that there are large spaces between them, rendering them useless as a lining, and making it impossible to keep them free from bugs. I would strongly urge the necessity of re-lining these parts and painting the whole. This is absolutely required to get rid of the nuisance referred to.

The huts of the adult people are in a fair state of cleanliness; but many of them, having been up for a considerable time, are becoming a very poor defence from the wind, although they are mostly proof against rain. I suggested this to your zealous superintendent, and also the necessity of cutting a good drain along the front of the huts. There is also a complete absence of privy accommodation for the Aboriginal adults, and although their habits in this respect are cleanly and peculiar, I think it is now time that there should be the usual conveniences.

The medicine-chest will require replenishing with the following drugs:—Laudanum, 8 ozs.; basilicon ointment, 1 lb.; paregoric, 8 ozs.; quinine, 1 oz.

Your newly-appointed assistant, Mr. Lang, had arrived at the station a few days prior to my visit, and was reorganizing the school while I was there.

In conclusion I may just add that the Aborigines on the station appear content and cheerful, and the order and discipline reflect much credit on your superintendent.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary, Central Board for Protecting the Aborigines

SIR,

Flemington, 15th November, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I made a special visit to Coranderrk Aboriginal station on the 8th instant.

Tommy Hobson, an Aboriginal man, had been attacked with rupture of a hydatid sac in the lungs, and had several large discharges therefrom during the previous three days, which had produced sinking and complete prostration. The discharges in the large quantities and the bleeding have now ceased, and as he is a careful man, he has a fair chance of recovery. His hut is a comfortable one, and he is well tended by his wife, who, as well as himself, is a very intelligent black.

Another case also demanding immediate attention was Rosa, a married woman, suffering from urethral obstruction. She had been ill for several days, but is now comfortable, and has every prospect of being well in a few days.

Connelly, a boy about nine years old, is suffering from influenza fever; but with the care of your superintendent, I have no doubt a few days will bring him round.

I now made a general inspection of the station, and, with the exception stated, they are all in good health. There are seventy-six blacks on it at present. These consist of forty-one children and thirty-five adults. Of the children, twenty-one are boys and twenty girls. They may be classified as follows:—Under five years old, six; from five to seven years, four; above seven years, thirty-one; total, forty-one. Of the adults, twenty are able men, one aged man, and fourteen women. The whole of the children and several of the women attend the day school, and a good proportion of the men the evening school. The children are making fair progress under Mr. Lang, your lately appointed teacher, who seems earnest in his work.

The school-room and dormitories attached are clean and orderly; but I would again urge on the Board the necessity of re-lining a portion of their interior and painting as mentioned in my last report. This is indispensable to keep down the bug nuisance. The boys' dormitory is also clean and orderly. The bedding of both is clean and in good order.

The huts on the station are in various conditions. Those occupied by the oldest settlers are tidy and clean and tolerably comfortable; but the more recent arrivals have very simple and primitive arrangements, although throughout the whole there is a marked improvement in cleanliness; but there is still one or two of this second class that require improvement.

Drainage.—Since my last visit the drains indicated have been opened up, and although not yet completed, are so far forward as to be of great service to the camp.

The piggery is being extended and improved.

The stable and stockyard being situated on rising ground above the camp, although at a considerable distance from the creek, still in wet weather its drainage must flow into and vitiate that pure stream, which is their only water supply. As the buildings referred to are of a temporary character, it would be well that a less objectionable site were selected for more permanent erections.

Stores.—These are well arranged in the new store-room, which, of itself, is a great acquisition to the station; they consist of flour, tea, sugar, tobacco, salt, potatoes, and corned meat. They are all sound and good.

Crops.—These consist of wheat, oats and potatoes, and at present look very prosperous. In addition to these, I may add, there is a large stock of green vegetables in the garden which are in daily use. The extent of ground under crop is considerably increased since last season, notwithstanding the severe epidemic which so completely prostrated the station during the first half of the present year.

The appearance of the blacks is both cheerful and comfortable, and the management of the whole reflects much credit on your superintendent.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary, Central Board for Protecting Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 24th December, 1867.

I have the honor to report that I made a special visit to the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on the 8th instant to see Tommy Hobson, who I reported suffering from hydatids in my last letter to you.

The excitement consequent on the attack produced irregular action of the heart, resulting in dropsical effusions over the lower parts of the body. This has so much reduced his strength, and is also of so urgent a character, that he requires more active treatment than could be obtained without constant medical supervision; I therefore ordered his immediate removal to the Melbourne Hospital, as affording him the only chance of relief.

At the same time I went over the station, and have to report the whole (with the above exception) in good health, and the general appearance of the place clean and orderly.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary, Central Board for Protecting the Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 28th February, 1868.

I have the honor to report that I made a special visit to the station at Coranderrk on the 20th instant to attend Connelly, an Aboriginal boy about ten years old. He has been in a sickly state for some time past, and is suffering from tubercular disease of the abdominal glands (tabes mesenterica) together with St. Vitus' dance (chorea), and is in a low sinking state. I advised for his relief, and although the more severe symptoms may be very much alleviated, a successful termination to the case can scarcely be anticipated.

I am happy in being able to state that, with this exception, there is no case of sickness on the station, and that it is clean and orderly, and the Aborigines seem contented and happy, although, since the fever of last year, their number has been very much reduced, those who left in dread of it not having returned. There were seventy-three on the station at my visit; but I am glad to observe that there is no diminution of the children at school, and that the deficiency is in adults only. This is all the more satisfactory to the Board, as they have now a settled teacher, and the instruction of the children has not been interrupted.

The children's dormitories, including beds and bedding, were clean and orderly, and the whole arrangements are very creditable to your superintendent.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 28th April, 1868.

I have the honor to report that I visited the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on the 11th instant. I am glad to be able again to report the station in good health, as, with the exception of the boy Connelly, who was ill at my last report, there is no case of sickness at present. Connelly, a boy about ten years of age, is still suffering from tubercular disease of the abdominal glands, and although the more urgent symptoms have been much relieved, is still in a declining state.

There are on the station seventy-five Aborigines in all; thirty-five of these are adults, five infants, and thirty-five children attending school.

The progress of the children in reading, writing, and arithmetic is good. Mr. Lang, your school-master, also teaches them music, and they now sing with great taste. With two or three exceptions, they look strong, and are all in good health, clean, and orderly. The school-room and dormitories, including beds and bedding, are also clean and in good order. The huts occupied by the adults, with the exception of three very primitive ones, are in a fair state of order and cleanliness. There have been several marriages since my last report; and I am glad to see a marked improvement in the internal arrangements of the huts occupied by the newly-married couples.

I inspected the stores, consisting of flour, tea, sugar, salt beef, and potatoes; they are all of good quality and sound.

In view of the whole, the blacks appear contented and happy, and have an amount of comfort which might bear favorable comparison with many of their white brethren.

There has been a considerable amount of work done lately, as fencing and grubbing, &c., and the fencing is done in a very substantial way, and the progress of the station is very creditable to your superintendent.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to the Aborigines.

P.S.—Would you please forward to the station 1 lb. tinctura ferri sesquichloridi. The boy Connelly is using this, and the present supply is nearly exhausted.—J.G.

SIR,

Flemington, 26th May, 1868.

I am in receipt of yours of the 20th, calling my attention to a letter enclosed of the 15th instant, respecting the case of Connelly, an Aboriginal boy, who has been under my treatment at Coranderrk for some time past.

As you are aware, from my report of 28th February, I made a special visit to the station to attend this boy on 20th February. My report of him then was, "Connelly, an Aboriginal boy, ten years old, has been in a sickly state for some time past, and is suffering from tubercular disease of the abdominal glands (tabes mesenterica) together with St. Vitus' dance (chorea), and is in a sinking state. I advised for his relief, and although the more severe symptoms may be very much alleviated, a successful termination to the case can scarcely be anticipated."

Again on 11th April, as also reported to you, I made an ordinary visit, and in reference to this boy my report was—"With the exception of Connelly, who was ill at my last report, there is no case of sickness on the station. He is still suffering from the same complaint, tubercular disease of the abdominal glands, and although much relieved is *still* in a declining state."

At my first visit to him he was in the boys' dormitory, lying on a bed with a woollen shirt on, and covered with an ordinary colored blanket, and another lad slept with him. I suggested the necessity of a separate bed, and he was thereon removed to a separate room, built some time ago for hospital purposes, and at my last visit I found him there on a bed, dressed in the same way, and with the same covering, and an opossum rug over all. As to his diet, he was represented to me as eating greedily, and my instructions to your superintendent were any light nourishing food, as light broth, beef tea, arrowroot, &c., with wine and spirits. I also ordered the requisite medicines.

As to his nursing while in the dormitory, one of the older boys attended him under the supervision of Mr. Green and his assistant, but since his removal to the hospital his mother lives with him; but of course he is still under the same supervision.

The case is necessarily long and lingering, and I am not surprised at the statement that he is prostrated to the last degree, as he was so at my first visit, and I feel confident had he not been cared for and treated not only medically, but with nourishing diet and stimulants, he could not have lived to this time.

In fine, at the time of my visit, he was very comfortably placed, and appeared to be under the anxious supervision of your superintendent, and I can only express my surprise that any person on the station could have supposed him under no medical care, and not have communicated that fact to Mr. Green or yourself.

In reference to the other matters in Mr. Weigall's communication, as they are aside from fact I need not say a word.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth,

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to Aborigines.

J. GIBSON.

SIR,

Flemington, 7th July, 1868.

I have the honor to report that I visited the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on the 30th ult.

There were seventy-seven Aborigines on the station; of these, forty-three are males and thirty-four females.

The whole may be classified as under:—

Males—Adults	21	Females—Adults	17
From 12 to 16 years	9	From 12 to 16 years	6
" 5 to 12 "	11	" 5 to 12 "	7
Under 5 years	2	Under 5 years	4
	—		—
	43		34
	—		—

Of the twenty-one male adults, eighteen are able men.

The health of the station continues good, as, with the exception of the boy Connelly, who is continuing to sink and the widow of Tommy Hobson, who is suffering from exposure *post parturiam*, there is no other serious case of illness. Hannah, a baby nine months old, is suffering from teething fever, and Mary, a girl fifteen years of age, is ill of indigestion, the result of over-eating.

The huts on the station are of every degree, from very good to very primitive.

Two are very tidy and comfortable, four or five are clean and comfortable, and possess some rude pieces of furniture, as a table and stools; the remainder live in a very nomadic style, but they are the more uncivilized part of the community, and allowance must be made for their intractable ways.

In an early report I mentioned the complete want of privy accommodation, and I have still to report that, with the exception of a single closet for the children, there is none on the place for the Aborigines. I

would suggest that four are required, and that they be erected with a special care that no drainage therefrom could find its way into the creek.

The station is clean and orderly, and when I arrived I found the older boys busy constructing a very useful drain in the camp.

I examined the stores, consisting of fresh and salt beef, bacon, flour, tea, sugar, potatoes, rice, and tobacco. They are all sound and good. The bacon and potatoes have been produced on the station, and are of the first quality. There are also a few green vegetables growing, but your superintendent has not been so successful in that department in the present season.

I may here add that the pigs have increased rapidly, and that there are at present twenty-four, and they will be a very useful addition to the stock on the place. I would, however, insist on the piggery being at once removed to a considerable distance from the dwellings, say at least three hundred yards, as the effluvia arising from so large a herd in the summer heat would be pestilential if allowed to remain in their present position. I would also urge the necessity of pitching the bottom with stones, *and no part whatever to be laid with wood*. There can be no difficulty in doing this, as stones are to be had conveniently.

I inspected the school. There were twenty-five children present; they were clean, and the discipline was good. The children show a fair advancement in the ordinary branches of education. The school-room and furniture were clean and in good order; the dormitories, including beds and bedding, are also in good order, and the children have a healthful happy appearance.

There has been considerable progress made in ploughing on the farm, and the wheat crop is looking prosperous. Fencing has not been going on so actively lately, as I suppose the Board are aware that some dissatisfaction exists at present among the men. This still to some extent continues, and a few of them think it a good excuse for being idle. However, I have no doubt that, with the management of your superintendent, harmony will soon be restored, and the discontents return to work.

The medicine-chest will require the following additions:—Powdered jalap, 8ozs.; P. rhubarb, 8ozs.; Dover's powder, 4 ozs.; spirits of nitre, 1 lb.; turpentine, $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon; quinine, 1 oz.; olive oil, $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon; aqua ammoniæ fortissimæ, 1 lb. With these additions it will be in good order.

In closing, I may just add that, except the points indicated, the arrangement and progress of the station are good, and are very creditable to your zealous superintendent.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary to Central Board for Protection to the Aborigines.

P.S.—In reference to the new site for the piggery, I omitted to say it must be a place where the drainage would flow towards the flat. The creek must *on no account* be contaminated.—J.G.

SIR,

Flemington, 29th September, 1868.

I have the honor to report that I visited the station at Coranderrk on the 28th ultimo.

Since my last visit there have been two deaths. One of these was the boy Connelly, who has been so long ill; and the other an adult, Jamie Barbar. Andrew and Dan, two adults, are suffering from inflammation of the lungs; I advised for their relief, and with ordinary care I expect a recovery, although they will be a long time weak. Harriet, an adult female, is suffering from rheumatism, the result of irregular living; I also advised for her, and have no doubt she will soon be well. There were eighty-two Aborigines on the station, being five more than on my previous inspection. The health of the station is good, as, with the exception of the three indicated, there is no other case of illness.

I inspected the huts. Six of these are comfortable; but for the others, the bark of which they are built has become so twisted with the weather that they would require rebuilding. In reconstructing them, slabs should be used, and this work should be proceeded with in such a way that they may be rebuilt during the present summer, as by the winter they will not be habitable. To the better class of huts there have been small vegetable garden-plots fenced in and cultivated since my last visit, and they add much to the appearance of the station, and must have a humanising influence on the blacks.

There are thirty-six children (say from two to sixteen years) living apart from their parents with Mr. Green. These are all healthy and appear cheerful and contented; many of them read and write well, and some of them understand the simple rules of arithmetic. The school-room and furniture are in good order, and the dormitories, including beds and bedding, are also clean and orderly.

The stores, consisting of flour, tea, sugar, potatoes, fresh meat, bacon, salt, and tobacco, are sound and good.

A good site has been chosen for a new piggery, and fencing commenced. This work must not be delayed, as the pigs are increasing and their present position is extremely objectionable. In reference to the discontent among the working part of the community mentioned in my last, I may just say it has been got over, and the work of the station is going on in the usual way; and I may further add, that a considerable addition has been made to the extent under cultivation, and that the station continues to make good progress.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 7th December, 1868.

I have the honor to report that I made a special visit to Coranderrk Aboriginal station on the 5th instant to advise for John Bone, an Aboriginal boy, and one of Mr. Green's own children, and in fact for nearly all on the station, as whooping-cough has attacked all the children and most of the adults.

Mr. Green's own family are all very ill with it; two of them are dangerously so, and indeed one, a girl about five years old, I scarcely expected would survive the night I spent there. However, she was somewhat better in the morning, but is still in a very precarious state. His eldest boy (about ten years old) is very ill and confined to bed.

The Aboriginal boy, John Bone, is in a very low condition, having inflammation of the lungs as well as whooping-cough; but although very dangerously ill, with care he may get better. The other cases are severe, but not complicated with any other chest affection, and with proper attention and the favorable period of the year may all get well.

I directed the treatment for the whole, and have the honor to request that you will please forward the undermentioned medicines in addition to those I recommended last week, as they are urgently required:—Powdered rhubarb, 8 ozs.; powdered jalap, 8 ozs.; quinine, 1 oz.; aqua ammoniæ fortissimæ, 1 lb.

Mr. Green stated to me that he was under orders to proceed at once on a journey for the Board. When you know the trying circumstances in which he is placed at present with his family, I know if it is practicable you will allow him to remain at home a few days till his family are so far through the present affliction.

I was requested by Mr. Green to state his case for your consideration, that he might be relieved for a short time.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 7th January, 1869.

I have the honor to report that I visited the Aboriginal station at Coranderrk on the 29th ultimo.

Since my last visit, one child (baby Hobson, four months old) has died from the whooping-cough. I am sorry to say that it still prevails throughout the station, but its force is considerably abated, and from the favorable period of the year, I do not expect that it will now cause much more concern.

Mr. Green's own family, on whom it was very severe, are now all convalescent. I may also add that every case on the station is in the same favorable state. Work on the farm has been resumed, and the business of the school has also commenced again. Mr. Green was not at home at my visit, having gone two days previously to Gippsland. I went over the station with Mr. Lang. There were on the station sixty-five Aborigines, who may be classified as follow:—

Men	...	...	11	Girls from 16 to 20 years	...	6
Lads from 16 to 20 years	...	...	4	Girls about 10 years	...	3
Boys from 10 to 16 years	...	...	13	Girls from 5 to 10 years	...	4
Boys from 5 to 10 years	...	...	5	Girls under 5 years	...	3
Boys under 5 years	...	...	3			
Women	...	...	13			65

The huts were clean and orderly, five of them were very clean and tidy, and in good repair. The greater part of them have now small kitchen-gardens attached, and they are in a very fair state of cultivation.

I inspected the children's dormitories, including beds and bedding; they were clean and in good order; the children are also clean and cheerful, although many of them are still suffering from the cough. I also inspected the stores, consisting of flour, rice, tea, sugar, beef (salt and fresh), potatoes, tobacco, and salt; they are all good and sound.

The wheat crop was nearly all in stack at my visit, and it is both large and good. The oat and potato crops also look well, and promise to be very abundant.

The pigs have been removed to the new piggery, which is well situated, and they are in a thriving condition.

From what I have already said, it will be almost unnecessary for me to add that, with the exception of the whooping-cough (and it is now on the decline), the station is in a very satisfactory condition.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to Aborigines.

SIR,

Flemington, 26th April, 1869.

Having visited the station at Coranderrk frequently during the past four years, it has occurred to me that an attempt should now be made to settle some of the Aborigines on the land. The present system, however necessary and useful in the first instance, seems, if continued, to be only capable of neutralizing itself, as those who have had all the advantages of training and civilizing under your superintendent's special care, and separated from the full grown, and I believe, in a great measure, uncivilizable portion of the natives, are (as they attain maturity) being gradually thrust into the general camp, thereby placing them at once with this untaught portion, and introducing them to all their ways and habits.

It has suggested itself to me that were there a system of placing the young and educated portion of this community on small holdings, say ten to fifteen acres, giving them assistance to build a house, fence, and in the first instance to plough and sow the land: this, while it would avert the contaminating influences referred to, would also hold out to them the stimulus of independence, and be conducting your present efforts to that desirable issue. As to the details of the plan, these will readily suggest themselves to you—such as grass for a cow and horse, and rations till their crops are gathered; all operations to be under the approval of your superintendent, with a distinct understanding that any want of care of the crops, or neglect to cultivate, would forfeit their holding.

Should your Board think favorably of this suggestion, I have no doubt Mr. Green could easily select two couples to make a trial with, and that would be sufficient for the purpose.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. B. Smyth, Esq.,

J. GIBSON, M.R.C.S., Ed.

Secretary, Central Board for Protection to Aborigines.