

1885-6.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.  
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PROTECTION OF THE ABORIGINES.  
(ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 22 July, 1886.

The Aborigines Protection Board to The Colonial Secretary.

Office of the Board for the Protection of the Aborigines,

114, Phillip-street, Sydney, 29 June, 1886.

Sir,

In compliance with the established practice, we do ourselves the honor to submit this our Annual Report respecting the work we have undertaken during the past year, together with information regarding the present condition of the Aborigines, and the means we have adopted to supply their necessities so far as the funds placed at the disposal of the Board would admit.

Subjoined will be found a comparative return or census of the Aborigines for last year, and this exhibiting the changes which have taken place and the diminutions in the race during the period.

	Aborigines--full blood.					Half-castes					General Total.
	Adults.			Children.	Total.	Adults.			Children.	Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.	Total.			
By return, 1884 .....	2,440	1,737	4,177	1,512	5,689	596	470	1,066	1,336	2,402	8,091
By return, 1885 .....	2,318	1,653	3,971	1,391	5,362	630	530	1,169	1,453	2,622	7,984
Decrease .....	122	84	206	121	327	...	...	.....	.....		
Increase .....	...	...	...	...	...	34	69	103	117	220	
Total decrease .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..			107

As far as can be ascertained, there are at the present time 520 Aboriginal and half-caste children receiving instruction, chiefly in Public Schools. Many gratifying reports have been received of the progress made by these scholars, which justify a hope that they may eventually be trained to take up their position amongst the industrial classes of the community.

Whilst the Board are not sanguine that there will be any general and permanent alteration in the condition and habits of the Aborigines, the outcome of increased energy of character on their part, there are fortunately many encouraging instances of industry and thrift, where assistance in the shape of land for cultivation and other aid have been advantageously bestowed.

We do not conceive that it is the intention of the Government or the Legislature that the sums voted for the benefit of the Aborigines should be expended in maintaining them, irrespective of age and condition, in a state of idleness. Such a course would, we consider, be productive of increased evils, instead of benefiting the recipients.

Moreover,

Moreover, a very considerable increased provision would have to be made if about 8,000 persons were to be clothed and fed.

We may again repeat that the rule by which the Board has been guided has been to provide rations and clothing, where necessary, for all aged sick or infirm Aborigines unable to work for their support, and also for the children of such who are attending school or not provided for by their parents.

The Board has held regular weekly meetings in addition to frequent consultations in dealing with emergent matters so constantly brought under notice by country Magistrates and others.

The reports obtained through the police are carefully recorded, and thus we are at any time enabled to refer for information the condition of various tribes or families when applications are made for assistance, or other action is called for.

The information thus sought from the police through the Colony has been promptly and intelligently afforded in all cases. This invaluable assistance the Board is anxious to gratefully acknowledge, as also the personal interest which has been taken by many of the officers and constables in looking after the wants and interests of the Aborigines in their districts, who have previously been almost entirely neglected.

We regret to record here the loss sustained by the Board by retirement of the Hon. A. Gordon on his departure for England, he having taken a deep interest in the welfare of the Aborigines, and cordially rendering us valuable assistance in the work we had undertaken to discharge.

Active measures have been, we are informed, taken by the Aborigines Protection Association for the more systematic management of the Aboriginal Mission Stations at Maloga and Warangesda. The aid afforded from the public funds has admitted of considerable improvements being made in the buildings, fencing, and plant at these stations, which will no doubt lead to more effective arrangements to increase the usefulness of these asylums.

No progress has been made towards the establishment of Aboriginal homes of a kindred character in other districts of the Colony, to which we made allusion in our former report. An officer of the association has visited the reserve in the neighbourhood of Brewarrina, where such an asylum would be of incalculable benefit to the large and neglected tribes who reside in that district, but we fear that the funds available, with reduced votes, will not allow of the heavy expenditure which would be entailed.

Some reserves for a similar purpose have been reported upon in the Clarence District but for a like reason the Board have been prevented from taking any further action.

The past year has been an unfavorable one for the Aborigines in the interior, the drought having rendered their means of subsistence even more than usually precarious. Native game has been scarce in some districts, and they have experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining employment, consequently the demands upon the Board have been more than usually numerous.

Appended will be found a detailed statement of the expenditure for the year 1885, for the general relief of the Aborigines of the Colony, and also statements obtained from the Aborigines Protectorate Association, of the cost of the Mission Stations at Warangesda and Maloga.

We have, &c.,

EDMUND FOSBERY, Chairman.

W. J. FOSTER.

RICHARD HILL.

PHILIP GIDLEY KING, M.L.C.

HUGH ROBISON.

## APPENDIX.

1885.

Locality.	Average monthly.		Period.	Rations, Clothing, Work done.	Amount expended in the year.
	Adults.	Children.			
Barrington .....	5	.....	12 months...	Rations, land ploughed.....	£ s. d. 34 17 0
Bellinger River .....	17	.....	4 " .....	" .....	49 1 0
Breeza .....	3	.....	6 " .....	" .....	6 2 4
Barrier .....	3	.....	12 " .....	" .....	13 4 3
Brewarrina .....	13	.....	12 " .....	" .....	111 18 9
Boorooma .....	26	26	12 " .....	" .....	89 17 5
Bega .....	7	.....	12 " .....	" .....	51 12 9
Bourke .....	6	3	12 " .....	" .....	48 18 4
Broke .....	3	.....	2 " .....	" .....	0 15 2
Cox's River .....	4	7	12 " .....	" .....	55 4 8
Coonabarabran .....	6	2	12 " .....	Clothing and rations.....	93 2 10
Coraki .....	1	.....	12 " .....	Rations .....	12 18 2
Collarendabri .....	4	4	12 " .....	" .....	48 14 4
Dubbo .....	15	6	12 " .....	" .....	85 3 11
Dandaloo .....	4	.....	12 " .....	" .....	22 16 4
Forster .....	4	.....	12 " .....	Rations, boat .....	37 7 3
Fernmount .....	27	.....	8 " .....	" .....	56 17 2
Gunnedah .....	3	.....	1 " .....	" .....	0 15 0
Gilgunnia .....	5	.....	12 " .....	Rations, clothing, huts.....	54 4 7
Gulgong .....	11	.....	2 " .....	Rations, clothing .....	5 18 0
Goodooga .....	1	2	8 " .....	" .....	11 9 9
Hawkesbury .....	21	11	8 " .....	Clothing, oars .....	Gov. Stores, 10 9 3
Iluka .....	5	.....	6 " .....	Rations .....	20 13 3
Inverell .....	3	.....	3 " .....	" and clothing .....	119 13 9
Jervis Bay .....	12	16	12 " .....	Rations, clothing, and stationery .....	13 0 6
Kogarah .....	1	2	12 " .....	" .....	202 12 10
Kempsey .....	42	.....	12 " .....	" and medical attendance .....	13 16 10
Kangaroo Valley .....	2	.....	12 " .....	" .....	Gov. Stores, 157 10 2
Lawrence .....	.....	.....	12 months...	Net .....	42 6 5
Mungindi .....	22	.....	12 months...	Rations .....	97 8 9
Moruya .....	4	6	12 " .....	" .....	11 15 6
Mogil Mogil .....	10	4	12 " .....	" .....	9 18 5
Macquarie Lake .....	2	.....	12 " .....	" .....	52 6 0
Mungyer .....	3	.....	12 " .....	" .....	21 17 3
Moree .....	6	.....	12 " .....	" .....	57 9 8
Milroy .....	15	.....	5 " .....	" .....	9 13 4
Narrandera .....	5	7	12 " .....	" .....	180 3 5
Narrabri .....	2	.....	12 " .....	" .....	4 9 3
Nambuccera .....	29	8	12 " .....	Rations and clothing .....	81 2 6
Nowra .....	2	.....	6 " .....	Rations .....	100 7 8
Port Macquarie .....	11	9	12 " .....	Rations and clothing .....	42 14 11
La Perouse .....	11	8	12 " .....	Rations, repairs to boat, sails .....	3 1 4
Pudman's Creek .....	4	14	12 " .....	Rations .....	54 10 0
Penrith .....	2	.....	9 " .....	" .....	51 5 6
Singleton .....	15	.....	12 " .....	" .....	162 0 6
Shellharbour .....	2	12	12 " .....	" .....	40 0 0
Port Stephens .....	17	9	12 " .....	Rations, repairs to boat .....	32 5 0
Tilba Tilba .....	6	.....	12 " .....	Rations .....	15 6 0
Terembone .....	5	.....	12 " .....	" .....	7 15 0
Tomboye .....	3	.....	12 " .....	" .....	24 12 4
Taree .....	.....	.....	12 months...	Medical attendance .....	49 6 11
Tomakin .....	4	.....	12 months...	Rations .....	9 14 4
Terry-Hi-Hi .....	15	.....	6 " .....	" .....	28 3 9
Ulladulla .....	2	.....	10 " .....	Rations and medicine .....	11 9 9
Ulladulla .....	2	.....	12 " .....	Rations .....	86 13 1
Warialda .....	4	.....	12 " .....	" .....	119 12 5
Windsor .....	11	12	3 " .....	" .....	29 17 11
Wellington .....	10	.....	12 " .....	" .....	3 2 4
Wingham .....	17	6	12 " .....	Rations and clothing .....	104 1 7
Warren .....	8	.....	12 " .....	Rations .....	Gov. Stores.
Whalon .....	2	.....	12 " .....	" .....	
Yass .....	.....	27	12 " .....	Rations, clothing, school requisites, and medical attendance.	
Tweed & Brunswick Rivers & Grafton.	90	52	12 " .....	Clothing .....	
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>253</b>			£ 2,975 6 5

## WARANGESDA.

Population, December, 1885.

Adults.		Children.		Total.
Blacks.	Half-castes.	Blacks.	Half-castes.	
29	19	17	35	*100

\* 100 is the number on the roll but the average population for December was 75.

Children

## Children attending Public School in December 1885,—36.

Cost of the above Station :—

	£	s.	d.
Management	467	3	2
Clothing	20	14	8
Rations	479	11	6
Building material, tools, and furniture	273	14	6
	<hr/>		
	£1,241	3	10

Of the above, £458 10s. 11d. was raised by private subscriptions; the cost to the Government was consequently £782 12s. 11d.

## MALOGA.

## Population, December, 1885.

Blacks.	Half-castes.	Total.
47	78	125

## Children attending Public School,—upwards of 40.

Cost of the above Station :—

	£	s.	d.
Management	451	14	7
Clothing	45	17	9
Rations	394	17	11
*Building material, tools, &c.	739	18	9
	<hr/>		
	£1,632	9	0

Of the above £500 16s. 9d. was raised by private subscription; the cost to the Government was consequently £1,132 2s. 3d.

\* Upwards of £700 worth of the above purchased in 1884 but paid for in 1885, and now erected into cottages, &c.

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“Report of the Board/NSW Aborigines Protection Board”

**Protection of the Aborigines 1886**