Attempts made to alleviate the condition of the aborigines of New South Wales.

As far back as 1814, Governor Macquarie, in his Orders in Council, directed the establishment of a school for the instruction and maintenance of the children. The school was intended to educate as well as could be expected, and to exceed the anticipations of many. Several of the boys and girls made a fair progress in reading, writing, arithmetic, and religious knowledge.

The school, however, did not like the first idea, and the devise measures for its abolition. About 1822, I think, the children were all removed from Parramatta to some place near Prospect, called "Black Town." This change was a precursor to the final and complete extinction.
On 31st January 1815, an attempt was made to induce a number of the adult natives to locate and settle themselves at "George Bay," Axes were lent to them, and small patches of garden ground were prepared for them, provisions and clothing were provided for them, and a boat was given to them. Almost a man was appointed to instruct the natives; but the plan was not carried out successfully. The inhabitants, feeling little, if any, in the welfare of the natives, did not protect the property, nor appropriate to them, and no effort was made. The huts and gardens were destroyed, and the attempt failed.

About 1820 or 1821 another plan was devised in behalf of a different tribe at Elizabeth Bay, but it was executed, and some ground was prepared for their cultivation. But this place was too near to Sydney, for while there was none to protect the property, there were many to destroy. In these attempts to settle and civilize the adult natives there was no missionary employed to instruct them, nor any person of rank, intelligence, or influence, or of integrity to encourage them in their new condition or to show them by his own example the advantages of Christianity.

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