Monday 11th June 1836

Capt. Spotswood

Was this morning favoured with your note and the letter from the reinforcements at Wellington College.

I have again recently seen Col. Coburn's Secretary in the Barracks, to which the letter chiefly refers. The matter has

been inquired into in every respect. The answer I believe have done everything which under all the circumstances of

the case, they could with propriety attempt.
Attempts made to ameliorate the condition of the aborigines of New South Wales. 1814 - 1853.

As Parramatta establishment was commenced for the instruction and maintenance of the children, the institution exceeded as well as could be expected. In fact beyond the anticipations of many. Several of the boys and girls made a fair progress in reading, writing, arithmetic, and religious knowledge. The first secretary, however, did not like the institution, and he devised measures for its abolition. About 1822 I think the children were all removed from Parramatta to some place near Prospect, called "Blacktown." This change was a precursor to the final and complete extinction.
On 11 January 1815, an attempt was made to induce a number of the adult Natives to locate and settle themselves at George Bay. Some were happy, some not. Small patches of garden ground were prepared for them, houses and clothing were provided for them, and a boat was given to them. At first this plan was approved to send the Natives to the coast, but the plan was not continued in the same manner. In the meantime, feeling little, if any, care for the welfare of the Natives, did not protect the property they acquired for them, and no attempt was made to educate them, and the attempt failed. About 1820 or 1821 another plan was devised on behalf of different tribes at Elizabeth Bay, but it was never successful. While there were many attempts to educate and civilize the adult Natives, there was no Missionary employed to instruct them, nor any person of rank, intelligence, or influence to encourage them in their new condition. This was shown by his own example.