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# Memorial to the Galleries for Blyth Respecting the Natives

You will find the Natives of this as of all other similar Countries very capricious, and impossible to be fixed to any select or pursuit, no necessity or other means could induce them to attempt Cultivation, altho they do not fail to profit of the White of the ~~White~~ <sup>White</sup> Man's Labour with great avidity & I believe with much necessity -

Some few make themselves useful by serving Boats going to Colonial Settlements, & attaching themselves to Scaling Gangs & what they have been much encouraged -

They have yearly plundered the islands & Settlements of this all, & attacked the Defences of all discontinuances, which has occasioned some violent Acts on both Sides, and I believe that here there is a possibility of intertaining some quarrels arising, that must have issued either to the White Man or the Natives, had not the assistance of the British been sent as from Fear & Mistrust, and the Natives once secured, comes no opportunity present or else that of avenging himself. Their barbarous has in many instances been very great & apparently unprovoked, but I can think that this always has been the case -

For the last two years they have been generally inoffensive, owing to the great effect that my sending two of their Numbers to Norfolk Island in 1784 had on them - since when no disturbance has occurred or any theft been committed -

Most of them keep about Broken & Botany Bay making frequent visits in the summer to fight their Battles which are often very numerous I should be glad to see almost suspending a business principle to which these acts, but being an interference with their Customs & prejudices, have been opposed -

I should have been said about the propriety of their being compelled to work as slaves, but as I have ever considered them the real Proprietors of the Soil I have never suffered any restraint to be put on them or to suffer any injury to be done to their persons or property - Had I should apprehend the best mode of improving that estate to be effected on the whole to be by settling them to some of the other Settlements where they might be made to labour as in the case with the two sent to Norfolk in 1784

Philip Gidley King