since I read The letter of
April 5th. I have been much blown to
the snugness of my own
knowledge of the Aborigines was
very small indeed. When we came
to this Country in 1828. Located on the
District of Police by the
Aborigines was considered to
be a very dangerous spot, the tribe of the
 settlements for a body of other tribes in
the N.E. corner of the Colony. In their
journeys seeking the opportunity of
attacking them, where they
found alone unprotected. Our first
experience of them was on settling at
Held on Francis where his family was
residing at Mr. Dr. the outstanding fact
Held Dr. similar to the St. was being
prepared for our future residence.
3 men were employed in clearing a small
piece of land, fronting on a labouring
a small creek on each side, it was high
with trees, children lived in a hut on the
creek side while taking their breakfast
they noticed the Bullocks running towards
the hut as if it were there. By order of
but I was informed of having gone
to their work. They placed their spades in
at the last of a tree they were going
to cut at for burning it commenced chopping
off the branches. When Jones looked
off his work observed the natives were
speaking up on them he called out to
Jack to grab the piece but it was too
late the Natives got hold of the guns the men were so frightened by the sudden appearance of the Blacks that they could not defend themselves. The men of the crew were killed, but swimming through the Lagoon the Blacks had to go round a distance before they could again overtake them. One of the escaped, the other went on to the beach, all but one of the Natives gave up the pursuit, he however was more determined to follow along the beach. It was early now and the man however kept his eye upon the Black and deliberately awaited the attack. On reaching the end of the Beach the Black gave up the pursuit. The man was usual was going to the woomera when he was met by James, who led away to him to a nearby home where they were content with the Black who was on the Beach. The report being taken at once to the Police Court, the Local Police constables were at once dispatched to the spot, but no trace were the Natives that had stripped the ship of everything. Two sheep, blankets and they had disappeared. I could not be traced anywhere. They took also 2 kangaroo dogs, one of them returned in a few days, hardly able to crawl. In several men's shoes, the others were not aware of their being in the neighbourhood.
Thus it was only by knowing which way the tribe was travelling that persons were warned of their approach, hearing of a murder committed in one's place was a warning to others to be on their guard. It was safe to travel with a Gun, a Gun not directed upon them for that would have been certain death; they knew you could only fire once without reloading it would save the object of rushing upon one with their spears to 'kill'. They said they were not aware of the necessity of reloading, but thought the Gun would "go on and on" as long as the person pleased. They seemed to be paternal in their visits confining themselves to the sea coast if not going far inland—hunting Kangaroos with their dogs. Obtaining also oysters. The women would dive in the sea after shellfish but it seems they never caught other fish no fish bones having ever been observed at their fires. Perhaps they may have had a prejudice against eating them as the Aborigines had against eating the native Ceiling Root which grows so abundantly in the Barossa Valley. Ranges. If it can be eaten by Europeans without either unpleasant effects but be when the Native said the Europeans collecting said "plenty people die now" in Adelaide. They visit in the season the Lagoons for Swallet Eggs —

J. A. Robeson