

convicts. They seized thirty of the unoffending natives, tied them together with a rope, led them away a short distance from the station, and then put every one of them, men, women, and children, to death, with the exception of one woman, whom, on account of her good looks, they kept as a concubine for one of their comrades. The murderers were subsequently apprehended and tried. The first jury refused to convict, though the evidence against them was conclusive. They were tried a second time for the same, though technically a different, offence, and on the same evidence; they were convicted, condemned to death, and seven of them were executed. It may be remarked, as illustrative of the state of feeling in the penal colonies with regard to the natives, that not only did the first jury refuse to convict, but the second jury signed a petition in behalf of the murderers. Petitions likewise were presented in their favour from a considerable body of colonists. Some of the colonial newspapers loudly condemned the governor (to use their own words) "for putting white men to death for having killed a few black cannibals." And the condemned themselves, in their last moments, declared that they were not aware at the time that they were committing any offence in destroying the blacks, as similar acts had been frequent in the colony; and of the truth of this