After many efforts are made in favour of this colony, it is feared it will not arrive at its wished for improvement, though it should be established. How can we suppose that these people can manage a government of their own in their present situation? How can they be expected to improve the same in their present ignorance? But let us consider if there is much probability of it, being carried into effect, this would be a great undertaking for the general government, much less our individual thing, and therefore it is likely all the money made in favour of the cause will fall hereafter. Those who wish to steer all of us who wish to show our humanity to these unfortunate people, ought to endeavour to show our good-will, the injustice in permitting these people to be made an object of public charity, in permitting them to be driven about in droves like beasts to market. Since we have the power among us, and nothing to dispose of them to their own advantage, we must keep it, and as we all know the wretched condition of their situation, it is our duty to improve it, it lies in our power to make it better or worse; then as we have the power of showing our gratitude let us endeavour to make the state of the place a fair for trade and commerce, and always bear in mind, it is our duty to treat them as men, and not as we are responsible for our conduct as masters.

James T. Morehead

Speech for the 9th of December