Chief Constable, Newcastle, informs me on Saturday last the 16th, that three blackogg, named Kitty, Yellow Mary Ann, and Reaney, all belonging to Newcastle, had been taken up at the country by the Lieutenant Company's drays to their station at Liverpool, whence, and have since arrived, by the drays of that place. The brought to my recollection a circumstance which occurred last year, witnessed by two of my servants, connected with the case. Robert Evans, free, and Thomas Cheston, my pretend servant, were bringing down cattle for our family use, and on Sunday morning, about 12 o'clock, proceeding to the steps of that landing. Thomas Cheston stated news to one, that they stopped at a place about a mile beyond Prickin' Mains, where they found no more two of our sheep, with cattle, and a company's dray loaded. The said Bill and another man were in charge of it. There were also Kitty the black girl, and Yellow Mary Ann. He then asked my two men to assist among the dray while they guarded the cattle. Kitty in the mean time with one of our houses, when the dray was parked, one armed Bill against her off the horse, the other amounted of crying, and saying she wished to go back to her friends. Chester said she could not go back with them, as they had cattle. One armed Bill then said to her. 'Let you had better go with one to look for the lost bullocks.' The reply was, she would not go for she didn't intend to go any farther with them. He then said, Bill see whether you will not.
Norton, taking at the same time the end of a rope, about 6 inches round, and beat her on the back and across the necks several times. Norton then interrupted, saying don't beat the poor girl, may be she will go with you. Bill then ran to Norton exclaiming you (he— or you want to take the woman away), making a blow at him in the side of the head, with his fist. Norton in getting away fell over a log, and then Bill kicked him in falling. Norton recovered himself ran to his horse and got out of the way. Both Kitty and Bill, Norton states were intoxicated. He swears Bill did not interfere and Jones defended himself from assault by his whip. Norton intended to complain to the bench at Eldridge's Plains, but Jones persuaded him not lest they should be arrested on the road by way of retaliation. I have acquired frequently after the above black young women of the tribes at Newcastle and believe they were returned from that period. One named Bill is an African servant to the Australian Agricultural Company. Thomas Norton is my African servant. Bill the last, Jones is not now in my employ.

May 21st 1838

L. E. McDonald

Flourville,
Lake Macquarie.
Aug 17th 1839
Honorable Lord Margam
R. W. Clive, Esq.

Dear Sir,

The enclosed information was communicated to me on Wednesday last, and as the last trace of the unfortunate women can, perhaps be legally traced to the place and person mentioned (though an inquiry might expose practices which occasion outrages, of act or foot by legal authority), I have taken the liberty therefore of sending you a copy of the statement now forwarded to the Governor for his consideration.

There is something unpleasant in the business, as the Honourable Mr. Pitt gave information to me as to the NES. of Margam, which after much trouble proved only a lie.

I remain,

Yours affecly,

R. E. Clive.