

I soon met a chief named Evey in a most violent rage with the Gardener in charge accompanied by several more natives - when he came up he stated that the Gardener had stopt behind me and had violently dragged his wife into the bush, and committed an assault upon her person, at the same time stopping her mouth to prevent her cries from being heard, and that he himself had taken the Gardener in the very act of committing the assault, and would instantly have put him to death if I had not been there. He had struck the Gardener one blow with the musket, which he had in his hand when he caught him. I observed the Gardener had received a blow upon the mouth. I felt very indignant at the conduct of the Gardener - The evidence was so clear against him that there was no room left to doubt his guilt - All he could say in his own justification was that the woman was not a virtuous character in his opinion.

Evey had lived with me at Parramatta which induced him to forbear inflicting that punishment which he otherwise would have done - I have no doubt if we had all been strangers but that the Gardener would have been immediately put to death, and if he had, the cause of his death would probably never have been satisfactorily ascertained, and might have been attributed solely to the savage disposition of the