

A Copy

Secretary's Office

14<sup>th</sup> January 1847.

Sir.

I have been honored with your Official communication on the subject of a Letter which appeared in a late Sydney Gazette, under the signature of Philo Free, and accompanied by the Copy of one addressed to yourself by W<sup>o</sup>. Marsden desiring to file a Criminal Information in your Name, against the Printer of the Gazette for having published that Letter which He considers to contain a Libel on himself. —

By a reference to the Gazette in which the Letter complained of appeared, you will observe that a Weighty press of Government matter in a Proclamation of considerable length, and different Government and General Orders which there bear my Official signature claimed no small share of my time and principal attention on that day; — I may also add, that I framed (tho' not officially) the Paragraph which appeared in that day's Paper descriptive of the late Congress of Natives at Parramatta, and that I had various letters to write and papers to Dispatch to His Excellency the Governor, and to other persons, My Object in mentioning these circumstances is to shew what I am sure you will easily imagine, that those several Duties must have necessarily divided my attention in no common degree (each claiming a share) and consequently that any Ordinary, or extraordinary Matter was not then likely to obtain the warmest consideration on my part. —

The Honorable

W<sup>o</sup> Judge Advocate Wyld

Esq. &amp;c. &amp;c.

As.