

A Copy

Judge Advocate's Office Sydney

January 14th 1817

Sir.

The various duties of my Office immediately and urgently pressing on my Attention, have opposed my wish of sooner communicating with you on the subject of your letter to me upon Phil Frees public letter in the Sydney Gazette -

I took as early opportunity as I could after your reference to peruse the letter in question and having taken the contents into consideration, altho' from my state of knowledge as to Persons and Subject treated of in the observations, I could not trace sufficient of allusion or remark or circumstance to perceive that yourself or any other Individual was particularly pointed out and designated, I certainly felt surprize and regret that any composition which could possibly be considered or construed as reflecting upon you or the respectable Societies connected with you in Missionary purposes and Exertions, should have been admitted into a Government Gazette and thence appear to assume a kind of public Authority and sanction. - With this view I thought fit to address a letter to Mr Secretary Campbell as Censor of the Press, a Copy of which is inclosed as also of his answer thereto, which will explain his sentiments on the subject and the manner in which inadvertently the letter obtained admission into the Gazette. -

I have had the letter much in consideration; because if I could satisfy myself, that in the plain obvious and natural construction of it -
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