

Campbell, he seemed to doubt his own Jurisdiction, he refused officially to assist, and gave his Reasons at length, and he created Confusion and discussion where every thing was simple and so and plain. — The Letter "Phil. Free" of which I complained, has been published in the Sydney Gazette, the whole Colony knew that the writer meant me, by the words Christian Mahomet, as well as in many other Parts, that Insinuations were levelled at me; all that I requested of Mr Wylde was, that he as Judge Advocate would direct me how this Subject might be brought in proper form before the Criminal Court. I did not want to know the Governours opinion or Mr Campbells — Mr Wylde consulting there was an act entirely his own. —

Eleventhly — I have always left Mr Wylde to his own unbiassed Judgment, and I agree with him, that as he has to sit in future Judgment, it would be desirable that he should abstain from ex parte Communications. — Mr Wylde has had nothing from me but the depositions necessary to found the Information upon, and which as all Crimes are proceeded against in this Colony by Information drawn and filed by the Judge Advocate — he must see in every Case it is an anomaly productive of serious evil. — The late Judge Advocate, who was a great and wise Man pointed this out in a Letter printed by order of the House of Commons, and it was one of the main Reasons of his ceasing to preside as Chairman of the Weekly Bench — an office which Mr Wylde has voluntarily resumed, and by that means has placed himself under the necessity of constantly hearing ex parte Statements, in Cases in which he may have to sit in future Judgment. So long back as the Year 1810, the late Judge Advocate lamented that the necessities of the Colony obliged him to preside at the Bench of Magistrates, and deprecated this severely, as he was convinced it was scarcely possible that a Man could preserve his Judgment unbiassed. I have heard him repeatedly express his feelings upon this Subject, and at length he resolved under this Conviction to retire altogether from the Bench, which he did, I think before Mr Wylde had said so much upon this point, he should have maturely considered what he was doing every Day. —

The above Observations made on Mr Judge Advocate Wylde's Letter was intended as an answer to it, but I have not deemed it necessary at present to transmit them. Mr Wylde's Letter is dated Jan'y 23^d 1817.