

✓ W. Milnerforce, Esq. to Secretary August 19/19

Private

Kingsington Green

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Ans^d. Aug. 19/19

19 Aug? 1819.

no copy of this min. to .498 081

My dear Sir

Com^{rs}. Sep. 13/19 (in Cor.)

The Papers which you were so obliging as to send to me have been read over to me - but there is not among them the answer returned by Mr Marsden to Mr Secy. Campbell's public Letter to him of 3^o Aug? If that was sent you with the others, that only not been sent me by mistake, let me beg you to have the goodness to forward it to me at Hatchards 190. Piccadilly by the 2^d Post, unless you can lay your hand on it immediately, in which case I trust you will be so kind as to make it up, & send it to me by 3^o.

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Bearer, who will take this Packet
to Salisbury Square. I cannot but
regret that our excellent friend
should not have a little more worldly
wisdom, that he might judge better
what impression would be made
on those, who like the Members of
Government, may be supposed
favorable to the Government this Opinion
by his opinion, conduct & Language
in cases in which he conceives him-
self to be ill used. I had rather
you should not mention it publicly,
but I cannot but fear that Mr. Mansel
has been led to suppose me less friendly
to him, than I really am. Several

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circumstances concur in producing
this apprehension. However, great
allowance is to be made for any one
placed in such distressing circumstan-
ces without any confidential friends
with whom to take counsel. I
really regard him with the highest
respect, esteem and affection, when I
consider his generous and spirited
conduct in the discharge of his long
and painful course of service, and
especially in his Settlement of the
Colony in New Zealand. Captain
Welch called on me as you would
hear, before I had seen these Letters,
and I had understood from him that
McCampbell had intimated that

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There was some participation between
Marsden and the runaway Convicts.
Secy. Campbell's Letter to Marsden
conveys no insinuation of this kind.

If Cap. Welch and any other Persons
who are now in England, but then in
the Colony, could state any partic-
ulars which might tend to show
that Campbell's application to Marsden
as the Author of the report, must have
proceeded from malice, it would be
well to obtain their statements to
that effect, & then it might be worth
while to represent the whole to Lord
Bathurst's office. Otherwise I really
fear for the effect which will be
produced on the Minds of the official
Men here by what they will be too na-
turally

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regard as an unwarrantable disposition in Mr. Marsden
 to take offence. If for instance it could be shown that the
 report of these convicts having run away had been general
 throughout Sydney, or still more, if it could be shown that
 Barr the Constable who told Mr. Cooper & Marsden of the convicts
 intending to cut off the Governor, had conferred with Secy. Camp-
 bell, that would powerfully tend to prove that Campbells ap-
 plying to Marsden for particulars, could not ^{be} honestly in-
 tended. I cannot but think that some such information, or
 at least some statements which would give some grounds for
 Marsdens construction of Campbells application could be obtained
 from Capt. Welsh, by pumping him, because he was so fully im-
 pressed with the idea of Campbells having imputed some privacy
 with the convicts to Mr. Marsden. Campbells Letter itself does
 not warrant this, therefore I suppose the impression must have
 been received from some other source. I should not think it worth
 while to spend so much of your time or my own on this subject, but
 for my wish that our Friend Marsden should really stand as well with
 Government as he ought not appear to them unreasonably
 petulant & disposed to take offence. Not being quite well
 to-day I dictate this from my bed & while rising which how-
 ever my eyes were scarcely have allowed me to write with my
 own hand so early in the day had I been up. I was sorry not
 to see you yesterday, but you had but too good reasons for staying
 away. I am with esteem & regard My dear Sir yours sincerely
 W. Wilberforce

Rev. J. Pratt