

Trowombé

26th July 1877

My dear Mr Clark

I have just received

your letter of the 20th

I am rather surprised at

Chief Justice & Barr, as I

had hitherto given him credit-

for more than he showed
in the case in question. I
never before heard it suggested
that the Defamatory Act was
obscure. But I have just heard
the contrary. I am however
willing to admit that Brown
& J. do not understand
it.

Truth was more a defence
than action for defamations in
Qd. so that 5.16 did not
alter the law in that respect.^{here}

But it is undoubtedly
inconsistent with the Common
Law of England. All defama-
tion is prima facie unlawful
and there is no provision in

the Act - perfectly - person who
justified it - many on the
ground of its truth. Truth & public
benefit must - concern to afford a
space.

I am very sorry you will not
be at the Federal Convention - I
hope you hope America will
do you good.

A few days ago I advised

Mr Daniel S. Rensselaer

(of the firm of Rensselaer & Parsons

Education - Wall St. New York,

to put himself in communication

with you on the subject of

Hair System. He is a

man who takes great interest

in politics of antislavery in the
 & has published books on the subject -
ballot - laws. I do not

know him personally but he

has corresponded with me for

some time. If you go to

New York I would advise

you to call on him.

Yours very truly

J. W. Pfeiffer

C4/C187

S.W. Griffith
Toowoomba
26 Feb 1897

My dear Mr Clark

I have just received your letter of the 20th.

I am rather surprised at Chief Justice Dobson, as I had hitherto given him credit for more sense than he showed in the case in question. I never before heard it suggested that the Defamation Act was obscure but I have often heard the contrary. I am however willing to admit that Dobson CJ does not understand it.

Truth was never a defence to an action for defamation in Qd. so that s. 16 did not alter the law in that respect here.

But it is undoubtedly inconsistent with the Common Law of England. All defamation is declared to be prima facie unlawful and there is no provision in the Act protecting a person who publishes it, merely on the grounds of its truth. Truth and public benefit must concur to afford an excuse.

I am very sorry you will not be at the Federal Convention. I hope that your trip to America will do you good.

A few days ago I advised a Mr Daniel S. Renison (of the firm of Renison & Parsons Solicitors - Wall St, New York) to put himself in communication with you as to the working of Hare's system. He is a man who takes a great interest in politics and particularly in the ballot laws and has published a book on the subject. I do not know him personally but he has corresponded with me for some time. If you go to New York I would advise you to call and see him.

Very truly yours
S.W. Griffith