C4/C190

JUDGES' CHAMBERS, BRISBANE.

9 th ay 1900

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C4/C190

S.W. Griffith

9th August 1900

Judges' Chambers, Brisbane

My dear Clark

Many thanks for the copy of your paper on the Appellate Provisions of the Commonwealth Bill, which I have read more than once, & which, I hope, will be published. I quite agree, but I think a single Court of Appeal for the whole nation would be a good thing. I have very little respect for the P.C, as now constituted. They often fail to deal with the real point in the case at all.

I was not at all in sympathy with Way's methods - I do not think I should have intervened at all if the drafting of the proposed compromise had not been so confused and faulty.

The provisions of 1891 (which however required perhaps verbal amendment) were better than those of 1898 and I see no reason to depart materially from my opinion of 9 years ago. The last changes were made at Melbourne hurriedly and without proper consideration of the words used and omitted. I think that Barton in London was trying to retrieve the blunder he had made in drafting in Melbourne and in doing so made still worse blunders

Yours Very Truly

S.W. Griffith