



THE MASONIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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PREPARED AND DELIVERED BY: June and Terry St Clair

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FREDERICK GARLING AND WILLIAM HENRY MOORE
THE FIRST CROWN SOLICITORS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

FREDERICK GARLING (1775 - 1848)

We could be forgiven for thinking that being a member both of the Bible Society and the Australian Racing Club seems a contradiction, but our Masonic Personality Bro Frederick Garling was apparently comfortable serving on both committees.

Born in 1775 in England, Frederick Garling was an attorney in the Court of King's Bench and a solicitor in the Court of Chancery.

In 1814 while still appearing in these courts he and William Henry Moore were chosen to go to Sydney to conduct cases in the Court of Criminal Jurisdiction, and the new Supreme Court and Governor's Court. A salary of 300 pounds was offered as an inducement to undertake the hazardous voyage to the far away land. And as we shall see it turned out to be horrendous.

In accepting his appointment Garling wrote to Under Secretary Goulburn and made certain suggestions regarding the emoluments of his office, expressing fears that Governor Macquarie might be uncertain as to the extent of the privileges to be attached to his office unless the Governor received instructions from the Home Government.. He also applied to be provided with certain legal books so he could refer to precedents and statutes.

Lord Bathurst also received a letter from Garling in which he said " I am not only abandoning all my professional prospects here, and with my whole family, quitting possibly forever, all those connections and associations which must naturally have been most dear to me, and finally, in the arrangements necessarily incurring considerable expense, while all pecuniary emoluments, with the exception of the Government salary is contingent and uncertain." He also requested "a residence, an allowance of convict servants, rations from the Government stores, a grant of land with a moderate quantity of stock from Government flocks and herds, and a suitable number of convict servants as cultivators under the usual restrictions". His letter finished up with an expression of nervous fear for the welfare of his wife and family in the event of his dying at an early period when he would not have sufficiently provided for their future.

Under Secretary Goulburn replied saying that Lord Bathurst would advise Governor Macquarie to provide advantages which were conferred upon the most respectable settlers on their first arrival but could not accede to requests not given to other

