

Essexdon

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Friday ev 9

My dear Spencer,

It was very kind of you to write about Ray upon Mathew; but I have thankfully noted that you occasionally exhibit marks of grace, which kindle within me a trembling hope that you will not turn out an utter castaway.

Between you & me - tell it not in Gath - Ray knew something of Mathew's work before he saw the book. I told him about an absurd paper I heard from M. at the Royal Society, & showed him specimens of the methods employed by our friend. Ray & I had a long talk about him & that ass Fraser of Sydney. This was when I went to England in 1894.

I have not read M's book. I looked into it at the P. L. soon after it came out, & saw at a glance that it was exactly what you call it, so I shut it up, & turned to better work. It will be a lasting disgrace to our University if the authorities give him a degree for that rubbish.

Matthews of Parramatta has written to me offering to send me another photo he has. The other he sent before has been figured over & over again. You said you would send this M's back to him. His address is Hassall St., Parramatta, N. S. W. Can I get at ^{any} my papers?

I want to cut out two pages - intended to do it before I handed the papers to you, but forgot. A little editing also is wanted in one of Field's papers. This also I forgot. I don't want to trouble you to send the papers to me. Mahomet could go to the mountains where he blew where it was.

I most sincerely trust that your hopes about Ray will be fulfilled. It would be a grand thing to get him out here, & turn him out to grass on the Papuan & Australian languages. I fear, however, that the news is almost too good to be true. Couldn't we make him a Fellow of Queens? Say a Bye-Fellowship. That is not being him into the Governing Body, but it is give him some sort of a stand

Orient Line
The Pacific Steam Navigation Co.
(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1840)
Royal Mail Steamer

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Aghast I find, on turning
over the leaf, that this is a
sheet of the Orient Steamer's
note paper, one of the relics of
my trip to England. But I
suppose the letter will be
none the less legible. Please
give my kindest remembrances
to your little girls, & tell them that
a sister of mine has sent me three more
of the fairy tales our old nurse used to tell
us when we were little children.

And so, farewell.

Yours sincerely,
Horner Fison.