

12 Dec^r 98.

Trinity College,
Cambridge.

Dear Professor Spencer,

I fear that I shall not be able to be present when you address the anthropologicals, so I venture to put before you certain questions. I don't ask you to answer them; I only want to tell you some of the points on which an ignorant theorist like myself seeks informa-
-tion.

I understand that one of your people might be -

a witchetty grub,
because his mother
has been eaten by
a witchetty grub soul,

a member of
subclass P, because
the father who
opened the way
for the soul was
of subclass P,

a member
of class X,
to which sub-
-class P be-
-longe

+ that another might be -

a witchetty grub,
because her mother
has been eaten by
a witchetty grub soul.

a member of
subclap S; or
cause the
who points to
way for the soul
to be subclap S.

a member of
clap Y; to
whom subclap
& blamp.

I understand further that a member of
subclap P can have intercourse only with
a member of one other subclap, not P.
May his other subclap be one of the
-claps of X? or must it be one of the
subclaps of Y? So the cohabitation
permanence or casual? Besides the
limitation in regard to intercourse, the
membership of subclap P carry any
limitations, obligations, or privileges?
Do members of the subclap regard
members as specially connected?
ii) I understand that the witchetty grub
can perform magical operations to
increase the supply of witchetty grub
animals for the benefit of emu men
etc. Does this ~~community~~ membership
of the witchetty grub group carry, be.

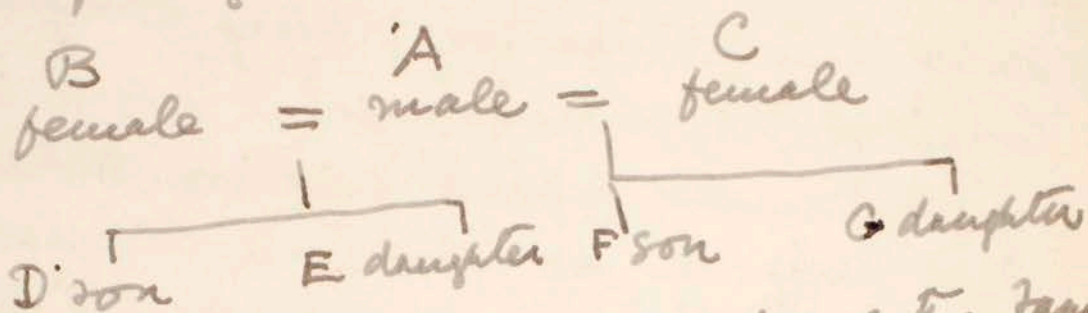
22
- does his obligation, any obligations,
limitations, or privileges? Does a witchetty
grub human regard another witchetty
grub human as specially connected
with him? Are they pitied from
intercourse with one another?

iii) In what respect does the clasp hold
the subclaps together? Is it merely a
tradition that the subclaps belong to the
clap? Or are there obligations, limitations,
privileges, in consequence?

iv) You & M follow me witchetty grub.
Do you both belong to the same sub-
clap & clasp? What did they understand
when M & G told them that he & you
were brothers? (a) that you were connected
at the same place? (b) that you had
the same human father? (c) that you had
had the same mother? (d) that you had
received it both the same totem soul?
Are the sons of the same human father
thought to be specially connected? or the boys

of the same mother?

vi pedigree according to our notions



I understand that A cannot be of the same
tribe as B + C. Can he be of the same
clan? Can they all be witchetty grub?

I understand that D E F G are of the same
tribe as A, but that all, or none,
or some, may be witchetty grub. Do D E

F G associate as a family? Do they re-
spectively regard A + B, A + C, as parents?

In short, is male kinship or female
kinship or male & female kinship recog-
nized in addition to (a) community of totem,

which (as I understand) does not bar inter-
course, & (b) membership, through the pa-
rents, of the tribe, whose members may

not have intercourse with one another?

Please excuse my importunate curiosity. I
cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed
hearing about your discoveries.

Yours most truly,

Henry Jackson.