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b Clauricard gardens  
London. W.  
31<sup>st</sup> March 1901.

My dear Spencer,

I hear that you have a year's leave and are off again to Central Australia. So I wonder if a letter will ever find you. However it is not much of a wish to scribble a few lines on the chance of its drawing a few lines from you some time when you come across such luxuries as pen and ink and have a few spare minutes to tell me what you are up to yourself which it would interest me to hear.

I have been just settled down here all the winter and having no regular business to distract me have been able to work fairly steadily at S. Kew.

This time I have been settled in Pocock's Room. I have been brought into pretty close relation with him & F. O. S. Cambridge who works chiefly at S. American Collections.



I am sorry to say that poor Pocock is pretty constantly troubled with domestic illnesses. His wife seems constitutionally delicate and his down all die as babies which makes his wife miserable. She has been away in the country for some weeks recovering from the death of her first baby and now their only daughter a girl of thirteen has just suddenly got ill from influenza or diphtheria consequences and died - or out of your office. Poor he is now without any children - I am very sorry for him poor chap, as it has been a continual drag upon him.

I hope to have a paper on the Theraphosidae of Australia (originally Derritelarice, now defined) in Hall in time for his June meeting so as to get in for the next Vol. so I must finish polished off posted in the next fortnight or thereabouts. I hope you may be able to get and bring with you some more specimens of this family that poor the

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From exp: had -

One that from Ceph: & three from Paris of Ceph: I called *Trigon paradiscus* & which I now know must have been a new genus. (rather bright yellow Cephalothorax) and another of which you had two bottles full I ~~now~~ identified as *Sideritis* ~~Blond~~ but which must almost certainly also a new species.

There is only one specimen of *Sideritis* in the Brit. Mus: or identified as such.

A poor old friend ~~the~~ *Crompus* - since *Phlogopus*. I now *Selenocosmica* ans. he

has plenty so they may be left to breed. Of them we had originally as you know no males but there is one

from Crompus Point Station I saw in the Brit Mus & I have good drawings of him still the males and females of all of these are very badly identified, and many species are only known from one set only. Do the *Trigon* taken under

*Cistaceae* not admitting of much doubt are always valuable -

I have been reading Murray's life by his son, lately and it sadly makes me



feel what a lot of time I have wasted  
and how much more I might have  
done in Australia itself, collecting if  
nothing else, I shall have to come  
out again to get more and at any-  
rate know what is valuable to  
get and where to look for them more  
than I did - But you will know I hope  
when you get my next paper - about one  
portion - and be able to get people to  
work -

I have come to know a friend  
of yours named Bernard (he lives  
with Cambridge while his wife & children  
are at St Andrews) - He dissects eyes  
all his time and is wondering when  
you are going to send him some pro-  
mised Ceratodus eyes - I might have  
brought them with me if you had  
only thought -

Write to me when you find a  
few odd minutes - My wife wishes  
to be remembered to yourself & Mrs  
Spencer & I am always

Sincerely yours

Prof. W. Baldwin Spencer

J. R. Stagg

Melb: or elsewhere -