



THE OWENS COLLEGE.
MANCHESTER.

22-5-03.

My dear Baldwin,

Your last letter has been too long unanswered - the more so as your generous gift of specimens arrived some time ago & has been I hope officially acknowledged.

It is very good of you to treat us so generously, the more so as there is so little we can send you.

We are getting by degrees a good set of ethnographical things & we have got a room all painted & white washed to make an exhibition in, but we have no cases.

I am just starting a begging expedition to get £2000 for the purpose.

It is a bound nuisance being so short of money as we are here. We can only just pay the ordinary regular expenses & for every kind of extension we have to beg.

The post went in the zoological world here has been the Secretaryship of the Zoo, but no doubt doubt you have heard all about that. I am very sorry for Guy Selate: I think it is rather rough on him to be chucked out without having had a chance of showing what he could do — at the same time, of course, he never ought to have been put in. I hope Charles Mitchell will make a good thing of it; there is plenty of need.

The worry of it has been too much for our dear old Howes; he is now at Naples recovering and understand he is better but not fit to return home yet.

I suppose Lillie will be in England very soon now, though I do not know whether she is due before we go abroad on June 2nd.

My sister is at home again now, but I have not seen her since her return: she wrote very appreciatively of the reception she received in Melbourne.

Your friend Steele did not deposit any of his specimens here; I believe I did shake hands with him in Belport, but I do not know whether he came to Manchester.

J.P. Hill has been, however, a few months ago & spent a few hours, & a lot of fruit left us a very nice lot of Australian Crustacea.



Madagascar

We also bought a jolly lot of ~~Australian~~ ^{Madagascar} mammals from Henry Woodward some time ago, so that our set of Insectivora is now quite decent.

Next month I hope to increase my knowledge & experience by a visit to the Museum of Dresden & Vienna, & then we are going to the Salzammergut to play among the mountains for 10 days or a fortnight, & then home to work again. I hope - the way by a couple of days in Würzburg where the German Zoological Society is meeting. There are few things to me more refreshing than to mix with a lot of colleagues (especially Germans) & talk shop for a few days, amidst new night sounds. That is one of the advantages of being in Europe that one can get to these interesting places in a day or two.

how I must stop, but I did not want



... mail to go without a line from me.

With all good wishes

Yours very faithfully

W. H. Hoyle.