



ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LONDON,

SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.

17. IV. 94

My dear Spencer

I have to thank
you for the packet of your
valuable papers which you kindly
sent me a few days back - which
I do very heartily. I have looked
through them enviously & one
of them I am studying very closely.
I must say I applaud your wisdom
in avoiding all mention of the
supposed arachnid affinities
of Pentastomum. So far as I have
taken in your account of the matter
I cannot find a point worth
a straw to the morphologist for
the purpose of building a genetic

relationship with the
Arachnids above. The latter are
by no means a flabby group, not
which you can throw anything. How-
ever I have not yet finished either
some description of *Stenarthrum* nor
my own Arachnids.

I hope you are sitting down
to work again all the happier for
some trip to the old world. The
advantages are not all on here,
as you know better than I. I
hope if you come upon any *Opus*
you will try to get some pickles for
histology and get some of your men
to work out *Schemaphrodite's* question.
It may not of course be universal
in the group, but to establish that would
be one step 'forward'.

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I have lately applied to the Elizabeth-
Thompson fund for a grant of £50
for experiments on the retinal changes
under various monochromatic
lights. I hope next session to get
this table again close to our mutual
friend Storer, and to devote a
time to working out my theory
of the causation of visual sensations.
I hope you will find me all your
patriarch in the retina. All the histological
descriptions of ^{retinae} *Lepta* which I know of
(except Gopperts on the eye(?) of *Salpa*)
fit in well.

In the meantime I am working
hard to get my Arachnid paper
to the American Society before it
is too far into winter. Look out for it
summer. This is not easy with the
proof of Vol II of *Long* showing in
demanding naturally prior attention.

Hope that you & yours are well.
Yours truly
G. B. S. P.