

The University 9.  
Melbourne  
June 17. 1894.

Dear Professor Spencer,

I was very glad to hear from you & to learn a little more than we gather from the short telegrams we see in the papers.

The work in the Biological School is going on beautifully (I hope). I have had no trouble of any kind from the men. The only case I had was one man the other day who threw a piece of paper during practical work. I kicked him out & he has not showed up since.

We have just about finished the histology & begin the other work on Tuesday. Fielder has pleaded for a sponge section so I agreed.

He & I are getting on very well together & he wished to be kindly remembered when I was writing.

Pritchard is still about with Catalogue  
& is going through Gallego's splendid  
collection. He has been there several times  
& has now got as far as the Turbinidae  
with him.

Had the good luck to get among a  
school of Salps at Black rock one Sunday  
but had no bottle. - so I went back on the  
Monday afternoon & got a fair supply  
tho' there were only a few stragglers left.

Fiddler went some days later & got none.  
I got both solitary & chain forms. It is

*S. mucronata - deonocera* -

Fiddler preserved them rather well

I sprained my ankle badly before I got  
down on the rocks or I might have got  
more specimens. I had to go about  
with two sticks for some days, but managed  
to keep the work going.

We got *Dasyurus* from Le Saig for the  
seniors to dissect, & they seem to have  
enjoyed themselves with it.

The Convergence of the Fuc came off on  
Thursday & Friday last. The weather was  
wretched & I am afraid we shall not  
make anything out of it. There was a  
splendid show of exhibits - no rubbish  
appeared.

M' Coy opened the show & he & the Baron  
spent a good deal of time in praise of  
one another then walked off the stage  
hand in hand - We were all deeply  
affected.

Pritchard mended up that bone from  
Shotts wood & it turns out to be the  
tibia of one of the Kangaroos - 2.3 inches  
long.

You may tell Professor Dale - to whom I  
wish to be kindly remembered - that  
in the last Ann. Rep. Min. Dep. Vic.  
M' Coy says there is no ground for assuming  
anything older than Miocene to our latest  
deposits as we have no Volucratites &  
the percent last of living forms is too high.  
I believe he snubbed Sterling for suggesting  
a change.

A shaft for coal at Newport is passing through Eocene blue clays + Pritchard has taken the matter up + is working the heap.

Fison has gone home to attend the Britless having been invited - + I believe his friends quietly provided a fund that he might be able to accept + get enough for their purpose.

I hope you are having a good time amongst Motorcycles + that the whisky did not give out. Methylated spirits is not a good drink -

"Shearers' rum" may be made as follows

Sheep wash tobacco 1 lb.

Treacle 1 cup

Boiling water 1 bucket

This is only to be used as a last resource

We hope to see you by the beginning of next term -

Yours faithfully

J. S. Hall