

The Oak Home
Beaconsfield, Bucks.

MS. II 22

My dear Spencer

I cannot express how ashamed I am at
having ^{allowed} so long a period ^{to} elapse since last writing to
you. I wish to congratulate you on your new share
well earned recognition by the thing of all that you
have done - may you long live to carry on this
work - secondly I have to thank you for your addition to
my library. - forwarded to me from the Antiquop:
Inst: I am sorry to say it and I started Company
over the decision of the Council to retain the German
Am: fellows. However that is past-history and I
don't want to dwell upon it.

Since leaving Hampshire I have devoted myself
to collecting Australasian Books + Prints - as
Illus: specimens became too cumbersome for a
modern house my collⁿ had to go into store.
It was put a stop to any chance of selling

This time last year I sold loggates as being too big to carry on as my wife was not strong & the domestic difficulties threw too much upon her. I was fortunate in hearing of this present home the very hour it came into the market - one of the best positions in B'field & as some one else wanted to buy mine, it all fitted in v. well with a clear profit of about £2000. Fortunately there was a very good garage here & as I did not want to keep a car I had it remodelled as a library, with a big bow window looking South over the garden.

I have had rather a poor year as I had a very severe attack of shingles in the head and I am still suffering a good deal of irritation & my doctor says there is nothing for it but to wear myself out, so I am a student in the School of Patience. It is evidently an after effect of the louse as I have heard of so many cases. Fortunately I have plenty to keep me occupied.

Have you seen the latest New Zealand puzzle. Illustrated in the Journ: Polytechnic Society June 1921. Number. I cannot think for one minute

7
that it ever was a Luitel - probably a house ornament.
& I should say of Indonesian origin I should like to
know what you think of it. There has since been another
found in these Kantaria Swamps in the shape of a
Pendant ^{a description of} which I suppose will appear in the Journal
in due course.

We are at present having a real old
fashioned winter which will benefit the
Gardens as we were eaten up with every
conceivable pest after the long dry summer
& I hope also it will make havoc of the
the worms.

When next you come to England you will
see a land of topsy-turvydom. The New Rich
are in evidence every where. & Social life
entirely changed. The old homes of Old
England are either being shut-up or sold.

I must not go on & on. So
with many kind remembrance

Yours & sincerely
J. E. Hartog