My dear Spencer,

I see there are one or two matters in your last letter that I omitted to discuss.

Re menstrual flow and soil, grass stuck up in a tree. One of the superstitions according to which the women at Cardwell declare their menstrae can be stopped: as however there cannot ever be stopped except physiologically (at pregnancy and the climacteric), and as they know full well that the men would touch nothing that passed from them while it, they are quite safe in making the assertion in question. However, many thanks for drawing my attention to the matter — I will make it clearer in my final MSS.

Now with regard to my statement on the intelligence being
Situated in the ear, etc., also for further proof of the "MSS. Bulletin" No. 2 p. 7, bottom of right hand column, as well as p. 8 under "Milka, etc., etc." This parallel "He hath that hath will give," was given me by Bishop White, who assured me that this referred not to the "acoustic properties of the person addressed but to their sense of intelligence; their idea..."

While at Cape Bedford last week, I came across certain spirits who after making men and women of adult size, can cause them to shrink smaller and smaller, and so 'get them within the woman who now becomes pregnant. Schwanz will get me the fullest particulars he can about this matter."

I shall have the complete MSS. of my "Supernatural Bulletin" ready in about a month, but as I want to insert some illustrations—photographs of some charms, etc. in my collection, which I cannot possibly get hold of until next November, when I return to Brisbane, things will have to wait until then. In the meantime, I am putting together my notes on domestic implements, and utensils, including wood, shell and bone work; so that if all is well, I hope to have two bulletins out by Xmas.

By the by, has it ever struck you how many names of ideas are all based upon names of parts of the human body? The body apparently appears to have been specialised—so far as names of its different parts are concerned—at a very early age. On cannot help noticing this very
markedly in my Vocabulary (2nd Bulletin) of portions of the human frame. I wonder if the same thing holds good in other tribes.

To return to matters non-scientific. By the by. Mrs. Roth says she has written two or three times to your wife, but having received no reply is anxious about them having got astray. We saw as much as we could of young Dr. O'Brien—what a nice gentlemanly fellow he is—and have given him introductions to all the nicest people we know there in Brisbane.

With love from the wife to Mrs. Spencers and the children, and kindest remembrances from myself. Always sincerely yours,

Walter E. Roth

As soon as they arrive, I will send you one of my Annual Reports. I want to convince you that the Mission Station in Queensland are not pauperising “dole for men” institutions!!!