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12a
32 & 33, Eagle Chambers,
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Adelaide, *Dec 18* 1890

My dear Spencer

I was very pleased on my return from Jarroola yesterday to peruse your letter, I wish very much that I had met you here, but this being denied me, I now wish you every possible success and also a pleasant trip. I wish I could have gone with you I would have done my best to be of some use.

You ask me if I could suggest any likely localities worth your while to visit, there are two where I think you and Gillett would find some things of great interest one is the tribes that follow the Buchanan river, they are without a doubt, the most perfectly

(physically) developed blacks I
have seen, equal if not superior
on an average to the Caucasian
then there is another tribe on the
Sandover North East about 200 miles
of Alice Springs, I saw that many
of them with small pox marks and
as this is a numerous tribe it
extends over a large area, they
have no connection with the Barrow
Creek or Queensland tribes
and their language so my black
boy ^{miere} told me differs entirely from
those of the tribes with which he
was acquainted, then again there
is an interesting point to clear
up in this region, on the south
side of the Sandover I first discovered
an old dry track, this was seen
again 10 years afterwards still
distinctly visible, such marks

may last for 50 years in this country, the track was very old when I say it is 18th or 1849 but I feel sure it is still visible. I followed it without any difficulty and finally could trace its course on my map for over 200 miles, although to other work prevented me from solving this puzzle at that time. I do not know if Deduchard had a vehicle, but I think not. I once questioned Baron von Mueller but he too, although possessed the best authority, confessed to me that he was uncertain on this point. Now this track was travelling westward I saw it about 50 miles (at its eastern point) west of the Queensland Boundary in Latitude 21° 50' and ^{longitude 137° 10'} East observed in the Boundary a tributary of the Sandover in Latitude

22° 20' Longitude 135° 5' a portion of which Gillon may know something reached one when north east of Alice Springs that a party of white men had pushed and that the horses had died in the shaft of the dray somewhere in the direction in which Host saw this track. It was a two wheeled dray without a base - in crossing the small stream running into the main River the marks on the eastern side were only found while those on the western side were always deeply indented, thus I could tell its direction etc and think it must have been during a rainy or good season. Wishing you and Gillon every success and a pleasant and prosperous trip and with kindest regards to you both Believe me Yours very sincerely
I can do nothing for you. *Chas. Y. M. M. C. R.*
please command me