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Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery
of South Australia.

The Museum,

Adelaide, 5th Nov^r. 1902.

My dear Spencer,

Thanks for your letter -
Tietz will be over in Melbourne
on the 18th inst for a week to
attend the ornithological congress &
will of course come & see your
things he will also know what
we have got. I want myself
to come over but during next
week we have some garden
parties and the exams are the
week after so I don't know
when I shall get over - This
is just the nicest time at
Mt. Lofty

and I am loath to leave it into
the hands of its full beauty.

Miss Lambert was up with
us last night - she is a good
style of girl. I took the chair
at her lecture the other night.

It was all good stuff but too
long - it took just $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours for
her to reach the real subject.

She had a middling good
audience but unfortunately
she piced on a night with
countess attractions elsewhere
which was a pity - considering
what she had to say.

I have seen sundry notices about
the finances of Well. University
which are not good reading & I
have also seen the progress report
of the Commission which is worse.

I was under the impression
that you had a better hold of your
politicians than we have here
with ours but it does not seem
so - Our position is by no means
satisfactory but there is nothing to
be alarmed at if only we are left
alone. Fortunately - very fortunately -
at this time our Gov.^t salary is
under an act of the upper house
as at present

Constituted would stand by us.

But as regards the museum
we come under the estimate
and everything has been cut
down to starvation point - For
the rest of this year we can spend
practically nothing and everybody's
salary has been reduced about
20%

I am glad to hear the book is
getting on -

Where are you going for a trip
this summer & when?

Sincerely yours

E. C. Mearns