

ELLESMERE HOUSE,
WITHINGTON.

Dec 25 1900

My dear Spencer

I was very glad to hear from you again the other day & to know that all is well with you. I hope you will have a good time in the wilds of the north with your colleague Gillen. I envy you the grand opportunities you get of doing field work.

It seems almost impossible
for us in Manchester to get
away for more than the
customary 2 months in the
Summer. Our University
machinery is so complicated
that it would be ~~abso~~ very
difficult for a temporary
deputy to do the necessary
work. However I am hoping
some day when my children
are a little older to get
leave of absence for a
Summer. At present I
am very busy indeed

having undertaken to write
the article on Ciliata & Suctorians
for Chaetetes Zoology before
the ~~beginning~~ end of March. I
have got some interesting
new results on Dendroconetes
which I shall include in it.
I want to separate these
two groups from the other
Protozoa under the name
Heterokaryota as they have
in all cases two kinds of nuclei
with different functions. No
other cello nor animals in the
A.K. exhibit such a phenomenon.
These two groups too are the
only ones that exhibit Cilia
& they ought to be widely

separated from the Hagellata
which are much more
primitive. I am also at
work on Alcyonaria having
another large consignment
including several very interesting
forms from the Cape waters
and elsewhere. I shall send
you in a few days my
first paper on the Cape
Alcyonarians.

We are getting on pretty well
in the matter of research
but we are sadly in want
of some Fellowship in place
of the old Berkeley fellowships
which have ceased to exist.
There is absolutely no

ELLESMERE HOUSE,
WITHINGTON.

encouragement now for a man to stop a year to do research with us, the poor men have no prospect & the rich men go to Cambridge or Plymouth to carry on their investigations.

However Gamble is doing brilliantly. His last paper with Keeble on Colour change in Hippolyte is regarded as one of the finest things of recent years. Have you read it?

Ashworth has gone as a junior demonstrator to Ewart at Edinburgh & is giving

as I have not been South since
the summer and very few
people come north at this
time of year. I am going
up to London in a few days
however to have a chat with
Rankiner about various
things. I wonder when
Gregory's place at the British
Museum is going to be
filled up. It is still vacant.
By the way. If you see
Gregory give him my kind
regards & thanks for the
papers he sent to me the
other day. If there are any
papers of ours he would
like to have I will send
him copies of those we
have still in stock.

them some notions there about
Invertebrates. I have got
in his place a young
Cambridge man named
Laidlaw who was on the
Skeat expedition in ^{the} Malay
peninsula & has got extensive
& peculiar knowledge of
land mollusks & other things.
He promises well. Mr. Pratt
is also working in the Fossil
lab^r on some Falkland
Island marine worms to test
the bipolar theory.
I know really very little of the
fauna on in other Is^{lands}.

Thanks for sending me the
"Gradus" It has not come
yet but I expect it in due
course. I am glad to hear
that Roth has got a post
that suits him. I should
like to see him again.

Talking about the photo of
old Oxford day. I heard of
Kewin the other day. He is
quite flourishing in a good
practice. G. C. Bourne is a
Colonel in Militia now & has,
so I heard, gone to S Africa
with his regiment. He has
been on military duty now
some 15 months & his zoological
& tutorial work has for
the time come to a full stop.

ELLESMERE HOUSE,
WITHINGTON.

I do not know exactly what
Fowler is doing, now.

He left University College
when Minchin was promoted
over his head & is living
at Richmond. He does not
seem to write much nor
put in an appearance at
the Societies nor other meetings.
Hoping to hear soon of
some success in your
expedition I am

Yours very sincerely
Edney J. Hickson