

Illamurta

28th Jan 1896.

Dear Professor.

Many thanks
for "Lydekker" who arrived safely
this mail. After last mail
we had simply terrific heat
until about a fortnight ago
when a few welcome thunder-
-showers put a green com-
-plexion on affairs. You, no
doubt will have heard that I
did not visit Alice & Co for the
Races & Xmas, which I spent
quietly here. I gave an old
fellow a month's work cooking
for me so that I would not be
entirely alone & then Kean

Turned up on the 24th & with the aid of two bottles of beer, things were more typical of a Bush Xmas. Jiles sent me out a little Pudding when Martin returned & also what he calls a bottle of generous Port to wash it down. It is needless to dilate on his vivid imagination to you who can readily picture how easily he would translate cheap Colonial into the above highly named liqueur. It was reported that he was to visit the Mission Station this month & I asked him to let me know the date so that I could meet him there but he changed his mind, dreading the damage to his complexion & now has the

check. To invite me in to
steer a quiet whiskeyless
weed with him; I may have
to run in on a flying trip
shortly but will conduct myself
very sedately. Re niggers, I
believe he is something very
pure. I have sent him a few
stones & trunks which he says
were very acceptable as they
were genuine. a short time back
he obtained some very choice specim-
-ens from B.K. over which he
went into raptures but found
out later that a pileless, civilized
dardie had manufactured them
for the occasion - he is getting on
wonderfully fast & will shortly
be able to teach the Blacks if not
their own customs, at least what

they should have as customs.
& as you say the beauty of the
study he has taken into that
no one will refute his statements
As usual he won some money
and there is no doubt but that
his Catholic trajectory looks af-
-ter his own. The latest idea is
that he & I should jointly own
a horse next year but I feel
as the Gab is slightly too
for my taste & I fancy
that he would play Brer Rabbit
to my Turley Buzzard in the
long run and spit the serpentine
a wily tongue & charms very
cunningly.

My assistant, Kean, is
right enough in his way but of
the bourgeois bourgeois - you

The complications at Home are
I suppose settled ere this. Austr-
-alia could easily be captured &
all of us transferred to a Foreign
Power without any of us up
here being much wiser with this
six weekly mail - I hope Amer-
-ica has to come down for altho'
the British race are very much
inclined to be aggressive, they
can retreat when convinced of
error & this time I really believe
they are in the right. I recently
have been presented with a 'Swan
Fountain Pen & an Independent
Pen, I am writing with the latter
& must say that it is acting up
to its name, each time you ob-
serve any alteration in the sha-
-ding of the writing in this picke

you can fancy, one screwing & unscrewing and breathing blessings almost afraid to go down & cross on the subject & don't equally. the border for fear of only getting that boot which is to make best in sections. I have seen

Horn or mar him must have left none of them for fifteen years you with but little time for pleasure & their recollections of me are for over twelve months now & confined to visions of a pint & I can't make out why you don't white youth with nice manners quietly pass things up & try the which he dares not to cast off as dignified silence ^{is} yotself. his spirit tempted, having a I fancy if you ignored Horn healthy dread of a long reaching altogether for a time it would bring maternal & paternal hand. this matters into better train & converse has now lapsed & if I could really him that common courtesy is converse myself that it is merely just as welcome & necessary at distance blinding enchantment the Antipodes as it is at James' to the view I would risk it. & Hampton Court or such places as With heartiest good wishes for self your nobility frequent. & those you left behind when you

Sisters, Aunts & Cousins unite went to the Mountains with Mr in desiring my presence in Victoria French. Believe me
Yours very sincerely
Christ