Illawarra
17th April 1898.

Dear Professor,

Very glad indeed to get your letter, we were not allowed an extra fortnight like the Alice & people & it was about eight weeks since we had heard anything from the South. Pads, I can no more make out than yourself, I get a line about one mail in three, I fancy he is repulsively tired of the euphoniously christened "Binkpot". Kiernan, whose nose old jelly pouched scientifically some time back. Rose gone South for a spell & will probably return with wife & governess. You must be
delighted with the finish of the Black Work you have been engaged on but I think you should have seen the Black as a real wild beast as well as in the shape of a Corroboree Monger & knowing your common sense I feel convinced you would have thought there was also something very 'habitable' about the Australian as well as loveable - you often used to tell me that I only saw the wrong side of the blacks, perhaps I do, but in your brief experience of them did you ever come across a sign of genuine gratitude or feel convinced that any goodness of yours to them could not be wiped out in a second by a word or two from another black. Also in your researches into their distant origin
You also say 'd you wonder why we do not kill more? I think that more can they would be gone more slowly. Of course in war with each must stay. 'till then may have been another. Theirs have been for some years, and what came then. They have been for some years, and with the stormy weather will not come here. They have been for some years, and with the stormy weather will not come here.
if they are to have the protection of our laws they also must conform to the others. Our share of the rain was about 5 inches & fell too steadily to deserve much water in streams but the feed is lovely & vermin in the shape of caterpillars & flies a regular plague, I got an awful soaking out on Laurie's Creek for 2 days & another along the Levi Range some days later. Water fairly ran out of the tops of our boots & as everything in our swags was soaked we had to build a fire & dry ourselves as we could, even my diary & record of facts, in the middle of my blankets was wet, one furious of course at the trents getting washed out when we were so close on them when we might have kept dry in a cave
I have not seen any rats yet but I think they should show up. I should not be surprised if "Zaphelepturus Alessandrii" returned. Most of the small birds are plentiful but I have not seen a quail yet.

Did you not see "Albani"? It seemed quite strange to get your letter and needless to say refreshing to get one which did not run to a paragraph or two on her merits or demerits. I have tried to please the hearts of the egg people this time but there are a lot under my bed going stark ravingly, when one has only a few hours to do a big mail in eggs are certainly de trip. I never heard from Ver- Lap if he could do anything with the Bower birds I sent or if you cobble.
You should have a spell old man

or you will be ill. Kindly regard

to your health. Yourselfincerely

Charlotte