

you are as
hopeless as
Billie
on Bleeds. I read
your letter to him &
we penetrated it
with "Quite correct"
I agree entirely
May the
Give your
Dear Professor. Give your
December 1899

I was lucky
enough to meet your eminent
collaborateur at Alice Springs
& to be present at the small
social tendered to him by a
few of his intimates, of course
flattering remarks were the
only ones admitted & his
receptivity was great, at times
he was a little inclined to
let himself go & rave on
'Basil Thompson' 'Andrew Laing'
the 'Times' etc but we did not
thoroughly succeed in penetrating
the mass of modesty in which

he has wrapped himself since
his lecturing tour - God alone
knows where it will end
for he has now tasted pub-
-licity & although he disclaims
all notion of again lecturing
fancy, he has a large stock
of phrases carefully rounded
off & waiting only the hint
of an invitation to launch
them on the enlightened
public. Living alone has done
him a lot of good & he is
now more human & rational
& far more like an Alaturga
of the Alcheringe than a
white man degraded by contact
with the blacks, he takes the
'Observations' at irregular intervals
now. I went out again from
the Bend & met him on his

way down & he trapped me beautifully over the election of his Political Idol C.K. when I fell in, his language was like that of Robert Cray & totally unworthy of him, quite subdued me because I was so completely fond & instead of his having to give me a bottle of whisky found I owed him one. Voting was not tried at Horse Shoebend & the air was heavy with the flavor of rum & onions but I believe the old members will be returned & the Bend Electors showed their common sense in almost unanimously rejecting Catenerson of franchise for Legis^c Council. Activity here on Sunday night, I again met the Pontiff & Bradshaw & have spent the last couple of days in amiable discussion. Pado has not been in his best form & his very natural grief at Jillen's departure has robbed me of an ally that I firmly relied on. Several times and firmly convinced the Pontiff that he had overwhelmed me completely. Bradshaw, who seems a nice fellow left yesterday after we had all pushed his trap a hundred yards or so towards the Boundary line & I left this morning amidst a perfect volley of curses & invocations to the Holy Trinity from Bob Cray after breaking the buggy pole as a preliminary.

I would like to be present at the 1900 Meeting for Advancement of Science if you advise fully the fact that F.H. is to be a Vice President it should be a grand draw & many people no doubt will forego the Paris Exposition Trip to hear him speak. Pado joins in kindest regards. Yours sincerely C.L. Coude