Illamurra
28th May 1900

My dear Spencer,

Yours of April 11th turned up about three weeks ago evidently crossing one of mine, I could not possibly reply as in a line to H, asked him to tell you so on this occasion I am taking time by the wool. I told you I was going to the Mission to get Jadoon boy tried the boy got a whipping and Jado was sentenced to 6 months I brought him here a shot up a lot of horses and started away South to try to get him some companions.
but had an unsuccessful trip. We did not see a sign of any tracks till we got over 100 miles from here about 50 miles West of Snyder (Coolida) 1/8 to a bit S. E. of what I took to be McConn. The one I wanted had been about here & boxed with a lot of others from further South, we tracked them to one or two dry clay pans & then had to give it up & make back for water, I would have liked to have gone on as they were evidently making a young man (the trackers pointed out where they had been boiling their upsets) but I had never been in that part of the country before & feared the water they might make to might be impracticable for already thirsty horses. As it was, at one
place we carried water on horse 

gorge for over two hours & the only 
other water we met was native Wells 
in ground...something like that 
at Kamran's Well, we lost a day at 
each of a couple of them cleaning 
them out & found they made about 
10 gallons an hour or say 1 4 to 1 2 horses 
rather slow you can guess, with tender 
head to water...two or three other wells 
we did not use & no doubt there 
are plenty of others scattered about 
if one had a good guide...don't seem 
So be any good waters about the 
scattered Rangers...the most eventful 
occurrence was when we tried to 
cut off a corner by crossing an 
apparently safe arm of a lake, all 
went well till we reached the far 
side & I was just congratulating 
myself when all the horses went 
down flop the saddle ones struggled 
back onto safe ground with the 
loose ones but the heavy packs 
anchored the others, took off every 
thing & got out two your friend 
'Manfred' would not make an 
effort & I felt inclined to shoot 
the pig, we had to clear his legs 
out of being (oh so cold) mud to 
then roll him over & over with 
the curvature, even when he 
reached good ground, he would 
not rush himself to stand up 
for a good bit...as soon as I got home 
I started Barlow off down home with 
Jabo...since that I have been here, 
reading up the accumulated papers 
& doing odd jobs, nursing a small 
swelling or two of rheumatic...
He had two or three nice showers since I wrote you and all the country could not well look better although the rain was a little late. Martin has got nearly all his cattle off Tempe onto Heenbury & is trying to sell the horses. Station now for very little just before we went to the Mission eleven blacks including "Meena-martyna" came over to Tempe one night from Ayers Rock way & speared an old man, left him rather bristly with 8 spears in him. (I believe he was sleeping with two others whom they first woke up) they also wanted "Arabi" but the devil looks after his own for I told you he has gone out George Gill Range way.
the reason was that they two has killed one of their mates close to Tempe a couple of years ago. We do not interfere in these matters but they killed a couple of beasts as they were going back on Bring Creek place as I'll have to look them up soon.

I note your remarks on Carex, Eremophila etc. I am sending you some of the Palm seeds ("Echinocephalus") and some of the seeds of that "Eremaea Australis" at least that is what I should you call it, the thing that the black joint of the spear is made of with a pithy centre. grows near Rocks. The clusters of flowers are large and pretty, creamy coloured with brownish centre, flowers about size of Eremophila
I will set down this brief chance in the midst of other's. Anon. some day I will write and tell you all about this. Nothing has come of a prospect here. We have resided at a place that has the reputation of being a shilling farm. We camped in the marshes, and then pitched our tent on the shore. We went as far as we could, but the weather was not favorable for our plans.

The next day we went to a place that was called the "Big Rock," and then returned to our tent. We were there about three days, and then left for the city. We had intended to stay longer, but the weather was not favorable for our plans. We then went to the city and spent the rest of the day.

I have not yet written anything to you, but I will do so soon. I have been kept busy with other things, and have not had much opportunity to write.

I hope you are well, and that all is well with you. I am sure that you will be glad to hear from me, and that you will write soon.

Yours truly,
[Signature]
almost to account for two bright stars in the sky. "You of course know the 20k of things. It seems to me that Aleharinga blacks of say Kangaroo totem, these go on Kangaroos, now the difficulty comes in that these Kangaroo totem men sometimes assume the actual shape of Kangaroo (see Undeara notes) Snakes or Emus etc likewise & it is difficult to tell when they were feeding on their ordinary totemic food or eating each other cannibalistically. I am not using the same totemic names as you do in your word like Erlia (Emu) men, Achilpa (wild Cat men) but I think you will see what I mean. The Erlia men or men of Emu totem lived principally on Emus this
does not come in always for I have a churinga of blue crane totem & this one & others travelled with Mulgah seed men & fed on Mulgah seeds. I think I told you about the set of circumcisional articles I got—Pooras. Peni
Hoequianta. Tisuras.
Ill-yung-a-pooleo. Toreshtino.
Ballina. Stone knife.
Initch-ez-willala. Gum tree bark.
Quinquetts of the grass seed totem. 

These are said sufficiently like the articles they are supposed to represent to be recognizable. The stone knife is a flat blade that, the stone representing the piece of gum tree bark is not unlike the shape a burnt blade often assume. In this case it was a woman of the lizard totem that was burning the articles off a lot of Wllakupera totem.
walks: 3.00 from where you 1.00 after leaving "the Edwin" you quarrel and I will send you an account to follow them. Don't change from the climate. Last Oct.

between these. The climate is not suitable for those who are not used. I hope you will enjoy the climate. I am sure I will.

brought them to me. After the dinner he wrapped a piece of paper with my initials and gave it to me. My intention was to have it put in the middle of the page.

the house and the children were all present. They had tea, but the house was dark.
They reckon I pulled them through the measles & kept them from any deaths which occurred at nearly every other place. War still dragging on in spite of Roberts' presence, I do so hope marching gets saved in time. Pasco writes occasionally & is well but a bit down just now over shares like myself. I put every penny in them & if I has sold out on the top prices, could have stored banks about £2000, now not a quarter of it. Never mind they may go up again. Gllen wrote me a long letter by same mail as yours & I think likes Mounta. In reality it is taking a leading part in local affairs by the aid of a Magic Lantern & a glib tongue. I reckon his
success at Alice & is not much likes r for some reason has his knife into Gillen on every occasion.
I have not been there since poor old Gillen left & don't often hear any news of the place. Things very mixed at the Police Camp there. Well I suppose you will be pretty full of me before you get this far so I hope you are well & chink up. May ass more after mail. I hope Mr. Spencer's trip Dorothy get out safely & pleasant trip.

Yours Sincerely

Chuou Cottel

Over

Over
Your letter came yesterday as I was about to go out of town. As I read it, I felt that I had made a mistake in not attending to your request to send it to you. I hope you will not be too much offended.

I am afraid I cannot do as you suggest. I have no money, and I cannot afford to lose any time in writing letters.

As for the Adelaide post, I understand that it is not a bad place. I have heard good reports of it, and I think it would be an excellent place for a young man to start.

If you send me a few shillings, I shall be able to pay the expenses of the journey, and I promise to write to you as soon as I arrive.

I have no particular plans for the future. I shall probably stay in London for a few weeks, and then I shall probably go to the Continent.

I hope you will not be too much disappointed with my lack of interest in the matter. I am afraid I cannot do as you suggest, but I shall do my best to make the most of the opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
he had said straight out at the start that he might make something out of them it would have been alright. I also see that you have sent Roro of 20 for me to lay out. This should be ample for a good bit although I did not mean you to do that when I wrote. I meant it was a pity you had not done it ages ago before the blacks parted with so many things to Tom, Dick & Harry as they have done and that a lot could have been got cheaply at the start before the more civilized ones taught them to put a higher price on things. I told you in a previous part of this that the market was slack at present owing to a
good season but can only say
I'll do what I can. The guileless
native though when he really knows
one is in the market shapes
somewhat thus. 1st. several
churns, all blacks literally
rewarded. 2nd. visit about half
a dozen turn up with perhaps
a couple of churns & when it
comes to payment each produce
a good sized packet & can't unsta-
stand that there is a limit to
flour & the purchasing power
of each ancestor consequent
disappointment. I presume you
want all the churns I can get
both wooden, stone, & any other
nigger weapons you prefer whatever
that is genuine. or is there a
limit to the number of boomerangs?
Kommeras, Ritchie etc. I was collecting a few things myself but will knock off & get Rob to send me about $10 worth of stuff to leave the balance in his hands for carriage etc. Bill we see how we get on.

Anyhow don’t send any more money because I should have finished the concern & settled easily enough with you.

Grants’ Sept. 1894, Lethbridge, Alberta. “Uncle Hhd.” are only obtainable now as recognisable coots forms apparently keep well. will send attyinica (Ritchy proper) by I see & will see if there is an attyinica bush in flower round about Camp before mail day.

Thanks for sending prints to Kelly. I have some spirits.

I still hear from old Winnemucca regularly. I do not think he has missed more than one mail since 1894. Papers seem full of byronic the Appeal Clause in the Commonwealth Bill. My talented brother-in-law Symon seems to be in hot water all round & of course is right, his advocate support of Kingston in spite of the better feeling between the pair of them will please the Sillen immensely and draw us very close together. No more just now old man, I’m a bit tiring in the shins. With best wishes & yours sincerely,

C. Mead-Cole

Shall I write out the notes on Cherina. I got here & see if you can connect them with any others our I think relate to the origin of the Perouse River.