Illawarra
23rd Nov 1900

My dear Professor,

I have yours of 11th Sep. 21st October to reply to, when last mail left I was down the road over Eethoos as I anticipated I would be. I spent the best part of two days at C.W. I had a good time. John & William Bailer were there bound for Adelaide and Jos. Jolly was up from the town. The Bailer did very well out of this last contract & John has not altered much since you saw him, while at C.W. I posted you some seeds of everlasting pepe of that other...
Rush that I am anxious to get the name of a thund it would look well cultivated. Who are Knight Bros of Benesgo? They have been writing to the Mission for Palm seeds.

Dr Sone came out of his shell over the funds for your Expedition. I was very glad to hear but still I think the Scientists who were as anxious for the work to be done ought to have contributed some of the cash. (I noted the objection that results would have had to go to them though.) I suppose Mr. Allen sent you a letter from Egypt signed "Cephalo Harmer," which I expect riled him a bit, especially being called a 'Postmaster of a small town at a bi-lalary.' However it was that penned this must have some knowledge of the Pontiff for he appears to be certain that he won't be out of Pocket over it. I agree
With it being in that respect, it is a pity you could not get old George Beckett but old Chance is about as handy a man as you could have dropped across as a good cook. What's more, he will not worry you too much before sunrise (which will suit J.J.). I never knew whether you really objected to my earliness or not for you always seemed to get up so readily and cheerfully about spirit; you ought to have accepted the claret for your friends and take plenty of that medicinal brandy instead as proves ineffectual. It is not if you have not got it, for help you if you supply its place with what immediate control (not meant for). I am afraid you will obtain in most places.

after day, if hot or cold, one or two.

Kidman Bros. got Tomas Downs

rips of good liquid has a wonderfully strong and could hard have the County.
he has sold the McBurnell place to old Hayes. Martin will probably go down soon and take a trip home, he says he will come back by to get a little place lower down country. (I am afraid he will putter away his capital if he does though) I hope Mr. Kidman might not close at the end of his option that Conie Bloomfield’s and I might have got the place for in that case I could have still remained here but the Kidmans knew too well what a good thing it was.

Martin offered me Tempe, with all rations, plant about 400 horses of one sort and another a few months back, for a little over $800. At this time though, I was thinking seriously of going down country and trying to settle and reward the misplaced affection of some damsel, so declining
Shares were at a good figure & the money would have been no trouble at all. Subsequent events (affections transferred elsewhere) robbed me of my only reason for desiring to leave Bush & then Cash was not so plentiful but still tried to get place back and found it under offer to Kidman. Have been kicking myself ever since. Suppose Kidman will remove stock now that there has been rain down at Chis. & should get over flood for the first 100 head. Temper has been sacrificed through the regular arrival of budgets of English Magazines & papers & the policy of always "Going to do" instead of "Doing."

Do you understand what I mean? Had a most awful storm here on the 3rd, it only lasted about a quarter of an hour but unroofed the hut, ruined the garden, smashed
nearly all the big trees left the place looking as if a bush fire has passed over it, killed 10 kids, stunned others, drowned or killed 20 children where the hail was the biggest I have ever seen. I bruised the bark of trees as if shot from a gun.

My companion is not coming back. He resigned, he got down below. I tried all sorts of ways to get out of going back to the Bush, at least reckon he could not live with me. (I would not have him in any case) have not seen the correspondence but suppose I'll get it next mail. What annoys me though is that new people coming up this way are not informed what sort of a place it is. Come from town believing Illamanta is a village. When they arrive.

They want to leave at once. This last article, I think, used to do him most to get one to report him as that he might get near a Pub again. I would not do that for his father's sake but told him he would alter or cost for himself - this had was erected chiefly by me at my expense. I did not cost 60. My two pennies for iron or anything else so I think I am entitled to the occupation of it.

Re poor old Todd, the loyalty you speak of amongst his officers is very pretty & touching but that is exactly the bane of our Civil Service all over the Colonies. Retirement should be compulsory at a certain age if not earlier & no loophole whatever, such as "unless considered beneficial to State to be..."
allowed to remain longer, this simply means if popular + influential in most cases the states go on paying high salaries to useless figureheads who ought to have saved enough to have comfort to the end of their days, instead of this they are let hang on to their places as long as they can be wheeled to them + their compensation goes on mounting up + up while some poor subordinate is doing all the work at a pittance. The public if they inquired would be told, ‘Oh, the head of the Dept. is simply indispensable & we have no one we could promote to his position & so on. Unfortunately I am trying to get a 2nd box filled. I have about 50 on one list & another in addition to the list I sent you of the closed cases."
Expect camels about middle of the month but they are damned in-dependent & wont trouble to take a case or two often, because they say one or two camels loaded delays them so much as if all were there's something in it. Several of the Stone Churches I got last month are good & also big—"Umuttinghite" Grub—"Uncharla" Grub—"Possum" Euro & Kangaroos very old in most cases but can't get much information except that they bin all day sit down at such a such a place by by bin so long a ground there one wants to see a big Waterhole or cave or some other feature or to have, just at that moment, the nigger associated with that spot and ask how that tree or rock or so forth got there & then you could get the tradition you know how
little the others know of the traditions of groups not intermingled with them or closely associated. Your old Pejo came from Owen 800 with a dozen sticks last night (of course mail time & cost me four hours this morning for no result except one snag). One Churina represents a boy, one of a lot of boys of the Alehinga tribe with no totem, just a Boy scalene. Remind would say the other boys rambled away to show but this one went into the ground near the sites from where they started, his name was 'Kooritcha' now re-incarnated as a buffalo, 'Gabbaga' his totem. I think it 'Barr' which the boys at this spot played with & threw at one another. Her mother conceived her at this place & the child was a female, what interests me is that the only Alehinga that went into the ground here was a male.

I did not know the sea could be transferred in this manner. I fancy the old people would have got out of the fire in some other way. But we know what you think of this & if you have come across similar cases. My best improbable to away but there is no doubt about the foreseeing - when my boy returns from his spell I will try to get this old fellow, the Churina & him together & see if I can get anything more but the getting the two together will be difficult. Wish thank you. I hope to see you on the road somewhere & discuss matters.

Please wish Mr. Spencer & the little one all good luck in their hearts desire & may they have a Royal time in the new year in France & yourself the same amongst the poor Blacks.

Yours sincerely,

C.B.