

my dear Professor.

Yours of scattered dates from 16<sup>th</sup> to end of January safely to hand & by this time I hope you have got the bases safely. Martin was misled the impression that his one had gone to you in error but his is still at Tempe. Domo because the Afghan did not wait for Coulthart to come home he is a bit disappointed because he wanted to fix it up for the old Country. I wrote you a few hurried lines from Bend advising you of the boxes & giving you news of Passerell - well after that, I had to go back to look for & bury Comacel who was reported as dead out East of the Footwell - fortunately he was only nine miles out & the hot weather has left the body dry so it was not such an unpleasant job to bury. I anticipated neither crows nor wild dogs had disturbed the body after about five or six days.

had here with me put in a very venomous report about me, to avoid having to go back to the Bush & wrote & asked me to forgive him for anything he said about me, he had to resign & I did not see the report till I asked for it - the fool practically pointed out that I did not want him to cook or do things not connected with Police for me but to do things for himself & as he liked & the reality was that I had stuck at waiting on & being a servant practically to such a loafer - all this is mere detail. About the same time, some sent an Anonymous letter to Lord Tennyson stating that it was commonly reported that on the best authority, that I kept several aboriginal Native mistresses to my own disgrace & the scandal & detriment of the young troopers stationed under me. I had done this for years to the injury & degradation of all concerned. I had powerful friends but undoubtedly in the interests of morality I should be removed to settled District & civilizing influences & any of the young troopers who had been stationed under me could convict me if they chose. His Excellency had promised to assist the helpless natives & this was a chance to redeem that promise. Tennyson, with the customary gentlemanly instincts of a man ennobled through the accident of having had a talented father, put this before the Cabinet & Comm<sup>o</sup> of Police & Bradshaw was to hold an enquiry - As he could not

will come out, I went in & saw him & I think he was satisfied of the malicious falsity of the charges. personally I would have much preferred his coming out & seeing things for himself & making the very fullest enquiries. but if people in my position are to be subjected to such things on the strength of anonymous letters, then the game is not worth the candle for instead of a charge being proved against a man as in ordinary justice, one has to disprove them & half truths are always worse to combat than either straight out lies or whole facts.

Both Pado & I know the Maurice who called on you, he is a son of the late Price Maurice, one of our wealthiest absentee owners of Station Property, Maurice is a splendid fellow, a first class bushman with a fancy for exploring outside spots with a few camels & a blackfellow or two whom he systematically spoils, BUT he is cursed with the demon of Drink & when in its vicinity seems able to exert no self control & makes a perfect beast of himself. I can quite understand the venous smell as I have been there when he has been that way.

Your remarks re the Bush bringing out one's better qualities are flattering to the out back people. personally I believe that the bush dweller, I mean the one with a real love for the Bush gets perhaps too self reliant & from a constant habit of doing things for me in I

to have done things well but as you say, the wealthy people have had all the cream of the expenses & the bulk of the people got on the pageant.

glad to say, the Pontiff was in such good form when you saw him, I do not think I can write to him this time but may see you on the road up. I am off tomorrow for the Bend to meet the up mail for I am instructed that Census papers are coming by this intermediate one. probably Brookes may be going down over the Craig-Wilson case & this may mean that we will be doing the whole district & after that I reckon on Federal Elections as there is every chance of my happening up with your menagerie as with that end in view, will try & arrange to work the lower end myself. All sorts of rumours are current as to how you are coming up - first I heard Raggett was bringing you to Alice Sp<sup>r</sup>, then that you were coming p Camels & from Alb. with horses. none of you tell me any details. I will not have time to go through this screw so you must take it as it is, I can clear up any of its failings if we meet which I devoutly trust is coming off. kindest regards & best wishes

Yours very sincerely  
Chowle

If this reaches you in Melbourne, please remember to Mr Spencer when does she go to England.