

Manureta

20th Sep 1902.

Dear Professor

Yours of 8th July

reached me last mail also
 letters from Gillen & Chance, the
 really first authentic news I
 had had of any of you since I
 saw you at Alice Sp^d. I followed
 most of your ramblings in
 the paper till I went to Adelaide
 though. of course I can under-
 stand how busy you have
 been since your return prep-
 aring for the lectures which
 I am pleased to hear were so
 successful. the money from
 Gillen's was apparently after

all, devoted to the Aborigines
but the price of admission should
be higher especially as the interest
of the Public ^{is} excited with
the idea of seeing pictures more
or less indecent. You may
have noticed ~~now~~ various
telegrams & reports of the starving
condition of Blacks in the
Interior, well, certainly it is
an awful season for food and
water but I am quite con-
vinced that it is a mistake,
this distribution of rations in
a regular manner. from what
I can see it has the effect of
encouraging Natives in to centres
where game is very scarce and
the natural foods almost entirely
absent, they get a pittance of flour
and hang on, too lazy to hunt

as long as this is a certainty, or
 spends the day in talking the
 whereas if they remained in their
 own country in little groups
 they would be fat. you notice
 the difference travelling for the cond-
 ition of many is astonishing
 even at Tempe where there are
 no towns any cattle for them
 to trouble. our involunt State
 will find the trouble increase
 instead of diminishing because
 more & more will go to center
 each year whenever things tighten
 & it bears out my argument
 all along that on the Stations it
 is not the whites who keep the
 Blacks at head quarters but the
 Blacks who will congregate in
 their vicinity once they have
 got a taste of whisky

articles. Tempe Downs is not
 troubled with Blacks at all now,
 except by the few station ones or
 a working boy. Coulthard has
 given them the Station & shifted
 to a well on the Palmer about
 18 miles from here & near the
 junction of the Walker & that
 Creek only employing an old
 fellow & his tubbo. 16 shepherds
 goats & three young boys, two
 of whom are from the Helen
 way & his trouble is to keep the
 others away from this one spot
 so that they will not go through
 his goats in his absence with
 his man or cage the tucker
 that he gives to his workers.
 they snead in in spite of
 his precautions & are off again
 to their swagges where what.

- ever they get to eat, keeps them really in show condition, I could hardly credit the beef they have on them, while the sheep & goats are so poor. here, I have had to kill over 60 lambs last month to buy & keep their mothers alive and if it does not rain soon I will be compelled to fry chops in Castor oil or neatfoot. for I have a little of that left. the garden has been excellent all the year but there are various caterpillars beginning to show up & something wrong with the onions which I do not like the look of. Re Churinga. I understand how those ~~notes~~ you have ^{are} ~~do not~~ covered notes you have cover more than you have, but I told you in my

last letter that I had a case
 waiting here which the Afghans
 would not take in February, or
 I have nearly got another and
 hope to get them both away in
 November. I have been here alone
 since the end of April and
 hope I am likely to be left so,
 lately I have been busy cutting
 timber with the intention of
 putting up a place to keep stores
 in, the Govt. has given me
 4000 lbs of iron as I offered to
 put up the place free of any
 cost to them and I am now
 waiting till I can borrow the
 Humber dowsers to drag in
 the stuff. if I get this wurley
 up it will be a godsend for
 with nations, papers, clothes and
 other rubbish gathered in the

last 9 or 10 years my charity
 is simply closed. I have done
 a good deal of travelling this year.
 In July the Missionaries with
 me that they had secured 11
 Blacks for Kettle killing on their
 Station so I escorted them to
 Alice's & then to Charlotte
 Waters where I handed them over
 to Williams, Pado was looking
 very well & so my sorrow the
 world not join me in which
 even with the seductions of Gomo
 added, I hope he sticks to his
 resolution. Bennett of Barrow
 Creek travelled down with me
 & we just missed Scott on the
 road. Alice's is getting a
 queer place now, no ~~less~~ than
 nine women in it and at
 time of my visit they were all

on friendly terms and my dear-
 ing me another. Progression
 Euxine Parties, Marguerite's
 soap and cheap perfume
 purchased the township and a
 lawn tennis club is talked of.
 Bradshaw is not a bad fellow
 to my fancy. Mr Brookes was
 in Delair's & her husband's
 ménage was characterized
 by a total absence of restraint
 which was charming. Oh.
 I received a letter from Jim
 Field & also the watch I pre-
 sented you with, I could not
 understand why you returned
 it until I set it going, then
 I found out, it's vagaries
 are rather startling & in
 the vernacular, it is a bit
 Chance is happy at the

Diamantina, I did begin to think from his silence that you or Gilles had him planted & were going to use him as a diagram to illustrate tribal markings etc.

25th Mail got here today & Pado says he has just heard poor old Winnecke is dead, the old chap seemed to have gone off a lot when I saw him in Adelaide & presented a frowzy untempt appearance, don't know whether business was bad or if it was illness but he was a totally different man to the Winnecke I had known so long. I enjoyed your description of your journey from Borrooloola very much, the Queensland Govt. evidently know their duty as regards liquor

& no doubt have had experiences
 of other explorers & parliamentary
 parties. I noted your remarks
 about Democracy & think you
 are right, what surprises me is
 the way people advocate gigantic
 schemes as if we had unlimited
 millions to work on instead of
 being in a state of practical
 insolvency - for instance flooding
 Lake Eyre. How has the University
 come out of the financial troubles?
 I hope the State came to the
 rescue although someone's neg-
 -lect was "criminal". You must
 pine for the privacy of Hamner-
 -dale but you are close to your
 word & if Mr. Spencer is satisfied
 I suppose you will have to be.
 are the Unit Residences any way
 commodious? I hear of various

Chinese that are to be got but
 I am standing off for a while.
 I have often told you that too many
 gentlemen escort probably one
 or two sticks & how each of rods was
 either a 50 lb bag or the leg of
 a No. 7 pair of moles & expect
 them to have a bloated appear-
 -ance on his departure, by
 showing them that I am not been
 I will get the articles easier dis-
 -tally if they are worth securing
 No more tonight, this is terrible
 scratchy & disjointed but it is
 close & muggy & insectivorous -
 rounds the lamps. Kindest
 regards to W. Spencer & trusting
 you are having a bit of a rest
 With all good wishes for yourself
 & the brook. Believe me
 Yours very sincerely
 C. Lowe

P.S. Don't it surprising how
 these German Missionaries
 treat them - they are good neighbours
 though & we get on excellently
 now that they have realized that
 the aborigine has a few failings,
 it is a pity that they cannot
 learn that christianizing them
 is all not, drop it & confine
 themselves to feeding them &
 teaching them handicrafts.
 I am sure you would be
 surprised to see how
 much of a good as would be
 found if you were to
 visit the place & see
 the things they have
 made & the way they
 live.