

Stamurta

21st Jan 1903.

Dear Professor.

Yours to hand
 & many thanks for good wishes
 We got very patch rains here
 between end of Nov^r & middle
 of December, totalled about 2 1/2
 inches just here & feed came
 on capitally but it has been
 murderously hot ever since
 (till today which is cool &
 windy) & feed dried up rapidly
 a lot of that snowy weather
 you & I had in Jan 1897. I was
 passed off quietly. Coulthard
 was here & the old chap that
 I keep to look after things while

I am away, camels arrived a
 week before hand with a nice
 selection of fixings from sisters
 liquor & otherwise, my two
 kegs of wine etc, garden yielded
 Rockmelons, tomatoes & carrots
 & the boys got 15 large fat
 wild ducks. I don't think
 many blacks fares better
 than ours on that day for I
 got old Dave to make them
 5 falls ginger beer & gave them
 three bottles of raspberry vinegar.
 We drank everyone's health
 & cursed the flies & I thought of
 you & old Jellen more than
 once. At the New Year I started
 for Erlendura & on the 1st day
 I believe I got a sunstroke
 or was affected by the heat.
 Got dizzy & seemed to be riding

down hill. slightly uneven ground appears to be all holes & gutters & a few bushes dense scrub, if I raise my eyes fully, all objects are duplicated, but it was alright if I close one or lower my eyelids, as it got towards dusk I could see Desper's Cats natural size ahead of me & a miniature reproduction of same trees near me & at night, two moons, two fires etc & was very shaky on my feet. I felt that I would be sick & wondered if I would wake up blind but was better in the morning & after a days spell at Eskunka, pretty well got over the dizziness & eye trouble but my legs

are still anyone else's but my own & frequently when I go to walk, I reel & feel like a drunken man & have difficulty in standing upon my feet - appetite & continuation of jobs & I have been living well so I do not think it can be anything else but the sun. I walked about a mile to look at a River Bird's nest this morning (didn't know it was so far) & got very distressed climbing but the little rough range to get to it, I am going for a trip to the Mission at end of the week to see if the sharing up will pass it off & we have written to a Doctor in Adelaide for stuff.

Higgins pretty quiet as far as
 I know & a rare crop of
 Yella is assured. great rains
 over Alice Sp⁸ way and Paso
 tells me that tribes of sharp
 faced individuals are flocking
 to Artunja as representa-
 -tives of little 20¢ syndicates
 I fancy things are exaggerated
 for A.R. smokes big for very
 little fire. These people hardly
 realize Central Aust^a till
 they get two bung eyes & strike
 the sunoon of the Desert
 in the shape of one of Honess
 E.H. Sargeant's Price lists at
 Horseshoe Bend in a dust
 - storm. Am standing out myself
 p force of lack of cash for
 one reason & distrust of the
 damned hole for another

Tarcoda was going to be another
Kalgoorlie & M^W Morgan combined
until I shot £250 into it &
that collapsed it - Blast it

(C. French revised). Notice Mauria
has been having a good time in
Adelaide & his niggers naming
articles in the collection he
has given the Museum, how
does it fit in when they are
Musgrave blacks & many of
the articles come from Tinde
& elsewhere? What becomes of
Aboriginals when Joe simple
of the land, Trans^e Railway, is
handed over to syndicators? are
they to be allowed to run the
show under their own laws
as at present or do they become
absolute property of the Concession-
aires as Products Mineral

