

If you have
oiled send me
Some for covering bottles -
Need mail ^{over} leaves at the
usual time ^{to} ^{see} ^{below} ^{my}
mail ^{note} ^{only} 324

15.

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Miss Springs
Nov. 17th 1895

My dear Spencer

Once again I am
addressing you from the
old familiar den which
meets more than ever of
things anthropological. In
addition to the old smell
are odors peculiar to my
Royal brother, the Alcaatanga
of the Uduvungala, ~~and~~ pervades
the place, he and a few
of his chosen disciples
have visited & colloqued with
me here daily. ^{muscular} in
the August of my ^{past} ^{year} who
declares that I am ^{cowardly}

Another attack of typhoid
(Did I tell you that Drs
Stirling & Cochrane both say
I have had a form of
typhoid?) We got home on
the 18th onto Newbury Hill
of the road which we had
found hot, dusty & quacked
infested to an awful degree
The Meddies, Bui & Balfour
got bad eyes & this gave
us considerable anxiety -
It was a great relief to
me to get them all safely
home again - We spent a
week with Byrne, he was in
great form, as keen as ever
in collecting for you, he
was making money too on
his share transactions - We also

Spent a couple of days at
 the Crown where I secured
 a lizard & a marsupial from
 which I take to be the
 Chiropis I am sending both
 to you this mail in
 the same box you will
 find a bottle of sundries
 1 phas: mac:tc. I hope one
 or two of the lizards will
 turn out to be new. please
 let me know when you
 write. I was sorry to learn
 from your letter that you
 had lost a friend, it was
 very good of you to
 trouble writing under the
 circumstances. Field was very
 glad to hear that he had
 sent you a new rat head

tells me that he has been
sending a number of birds
& eggs to Earlland & one
of the birds turns out
to be of the Arctic regions
& hitherto unknown in
Australia. Before leaving
Adelaide I got into the
vortex of the share boom
& I had sold out &
when leaving Town I could
have made nearly £200
unfortunately I kind of
now shares have fallen,
my profits have vanished
& with them a part of
my hard earned savings.
I know I shall not get any
sympathy from you but
somehow I can't help telling

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You. If I had only gone in
when I first went down I
could have made some
thousands & there would
have been no necessity to
return here & perhaps
Anthropological Science would
have lost something. Apropos
I am sending you in
separate enclosure full
answers to all your questions
from which you will see
that much of the information
given in Melbourne was
incorrect - guided by those
questions I have been able
to discover several errors &
extract a mass of information
I am also sending you
full particulars of the

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Coordaitcha business. If you
will work this into the
Article on Chooronga the
whole will make a very
decent sized paper. I am
sending you by parcel post
in package marked No 1

One properly made & decorated
Coordaitcha shoe - decorated
as when used by Coordaitcha
One charmed bone Injilla
" " Stick Inna

One ball hair string used for
lacing boot to leg

One bottle containing Eparepa
Coordaitcha lizard

One Awoola Naama twinna for
description of which see

Questions & Answers - You
may require these things for

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for description but in any case they will form an interesting addition to your collection which I am anxious to make equal to my own. Since my return I have secured part of a set of Stone Chorrings belonging to the Unjeamba ^(Hadia) Ochnanadilla I sent Berley with the blacks belonging to this particular Totem to get the stones from the hiding place about 40 miles N.N.E of here where the Chitchica tube mingles with the Awanta. I am sending you one of the stones in box No 12. I have worked out the class system of the Chitchica

^{denis} ^{Hadia} from the flower of which the blacks prepare a

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Very Carefully & am sending
result with other material —
if you do not make use
of it in this paper you
can keep it for future use.
Do please let me have a
list of questions by each
mail I must have the guidance
of your scientifically trained
mind to work by or I shall
accomplish very little. It
is not likely that I shall remain
here longer than two years &
I am most anxious to make
the very best use of my time.
It would be a calamity to
me if your interest in
the subject cooled down. If
you will continue to direct my
inquiries I am sure we shall

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(11)

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be able to collect a mass
of valuable information within
the time mentioned. Mr. Forrest
will be interested to learn
that I have traced a group
near as far north as
Crown Point. you will remember
our conversation on the
subject at your house in
Melbourne. The system of Piracy
which he describes in his
paper "On the Organization of
Anti-Tricks" is known under
the somewhat ludicrous name of
Pirangara amongst the Southern
Arabs. I was much interested
in the paper referred to, it
is contained in the Transactions
of the Royal Soc: of Viet:
which you gave me in Melb.

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I have not yet had time
to read Namalovin + Turmai
or the other papers but hope
to do so after I get rid
of this mail. Please tell Mr
Fison that I will not fail
to return the papers he was
good enough to lend me -
Tell me - did you receive
some Santon slides which I
lent from Adelaide through
Baker House? Have you
received the moles from Stirling?
if not why not? - Stan
was very anxious to have some
particulars about the Cooradine
but I declined to give any
information on that or any
other subject: I am sending him
some conclusions (but no additions)

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(11)

(15)

to my notes by this mail - by
the way there was no letter from
him this mail is he going
to drop the correspondence? I
hope not for I like the
old beggar though I am much
afraid our worst anticipations
will be realized. When we were
leaving he sent the WIFE a
very beautiful edition of Shakespeare
in three volumes - I can't
understand why he changed his
mind about getting me to
revise his paper or why he
did not show it to me. I
think I told you that he
showed me several chapters in
that he had made two or
three mistakes which I corrected.
What do you make of it all?

I am sure he will be angry when he finds that he cannot get hold of the plates & enquire still when he finds that you are part owner - When you are fixing up this paper on Choorunga & Coordatcha it would be as well to mention that I had contributed notes to the 14000 volume. Don't you think? A great number of people now know that he has had my notes to work on for twelve months & if he does not give me full credit he will be subjected to some rough criticism. If he deals fairly I shall feel that I have been cruelly treated & I feel meanly suspicious but there

Can be no doubt his mode of
action is calculated to ~~be~~
generate suspicion. I got some
very good views on the road
up also some black types
will send you copies of all
by next mail & if there are
any of which you would
like lantern slides just let me
know I am going to try
my hand at slide making
as soon as the machine &
material arrives. You will
be surprised to hear that
I bought an Anschutz Camera
exactly the same as the one
we saw with Mr Henderson's
friend in Melbourne - I looked
at one & handled after it
many times in Adelaide

but it was not until I
arrived at Crown Point that
I screwed myself up to
the necessary pitch of Extravagance
then on the spur of the
moment I wrote to Baker
& Rouse & the whole paraphernalia
including developing dishes &
printing frames will be here
in a fortnight - Now I
shall be able to produce
some really instantaneous work.
If you succeed in disposing
of those Choorunga stones to
the Anthrop Institute I shall go
in for a full plate camera
of the same sort & try my
hand at taking Corroborees by
magnesium light - By the way
in writing of Corroborees would

it not be better to use
 the local term Quaapara?
 Shortly after Christmas I hope
 to visit the Mission Station
 in my capacity as Nigger
 Protector & while there I hope
 to expect to collect a lot
 of information about the
 Illooritcha tribe I shall
 also take the Camera &
 arrange beforehand with the
 Missionaries to organize some
 Corroborees & Ceremonies. I
 wish you would make a
 point of letting me have
 a list of questions in time
 to use on the trip - next
 May I shall go north
 to Attac's Creek a series of
 Corroborees will be organized at

Photographed at Barron to
Pendants' (And mats will be collected
if you furnish questions!) Cook.

I wish it more possible for
you to accompany me on
these trips however the next best
thing is to have the assistance
of a good series of questions
& I hope you will find
time to let me have them -
On my return from the
North I hope to find you
here. Byrne & I will do
everything possible to make
things easy for you & if
necessary you can depend
upon us to convey you from
Podadatta this would be a
saving of expense & give you
more time to look about you

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I am sending Wesley to Lemnans
Crack in a week or two
to relieve the Station Master
there who is going down
for a holiday. He will
collect for you while there
& dry salt a male & female
specimen of each kind
of beast found in that
neighbourhood. I am afraid
I shall not be able to spare
him more than a bottle or
two of spirits, the Can
you sent here was not full
when it arrived & it appears
to have diminished considerably
during my absence. I wired
you a few days ago
for tins & bottles
I hope the *Eparcepa* *Coordutcha* *bezout*

As now you will find two
 larger specimens in bottles contained
 in box No 2 - This lizard moves
 with snake like motion & does not
 appear to use the legs, which
 appear to me to be only rudimentary
 at all. It is not easily procured
 in this locality - the dry salted
 lizard is also uncommon - So
 far I have not been able to
 able to procure a wild cat but
 there is no doubt about their
 being in this country. Before
 showing me the proofs of
 your Zoological paper also prints
 of mammals & lizards are splendidly
 done. I was much interested
 in them, ^{also in your paper} Do you intend
 having the photographs done in
 the Colonies? When in N. A.

amber I saw some engravings
from photos done in Sydney &
they appeared to me to be
excellent. Our mail in future
is to be essentially this will
give you an extra week
to answer letters, the train
to Oodnadatta now only runs
fortnightly. If you should
require quick replies to
any questions at any time
post the questions to Herrick
& he will wire them on
to me. I have arranged with
him to do this. I can also
wire my replies to him.
If the matter is urgent
you might ask Sir Chas
Todd to wire from Adelaide
& I could reply through him

(20) (PI)

I am sure he would be only too happy to oblige. I had some intention of speaking to him about the matter in Adelaide but I was afraid he might try to influence me with regard to furnishing information to Stirling -

Here is a characteristic junk from a letter of Cowles when met me at the Charlotte

"It is a pity you should spoil an otherwise promising career with such foolish & fanatical ideas on the Irish question not to speak of your blind and unquestioning belief in the bell wether of this effete government - If this is the boasted civilization of the nineteenth

Century & the Rule of Democracy
then by all means left as well
revert to the habits of the
Blacks "Catch as catch can" I am
fairly full of them as
yesterday was my birthday"

He is collecting Choorunga
for me so far I have not
been able to definitely trace
the Stone Choorunga within the
Sooritêha Country. I have always
been under the impression
that the Stones Stirling got did
not belong to the Sooritêha
Cowie from whom I expect to
get definite information on this
subject writes "I have about
a dozen very wretched little
things (ie Choorunga) but hope
to do better shortly. I would

Very much like to have another
talk with you over the wooden
ones (meaning *Arvola 229*) I spoke
of to you before and
which I believe take the
place of the stone ones
in some Districts as the
stones I got were borrowed
from "another country". I
am inclined to think that
the stones he has belong either
to the Western wing of his tribe
or to the Chitchica but I shall
be able to thoroughly
throw out the subject when
I go to the Mission Station
where the *Loorichea* *Arvola* &
Chitchica intermingle. I shall
be anxious to get your next
letter to know what you

think of these Chooringa notes
 The legend of Chambers Pulari
 is I think somewhat remarkable
 closely parallel to the episode
 of Jots Wife - Were the tables
 of the mound merely Chooringa
 I wonder? This question or
 speculation would shock the
 orthodox! Are these legends worth
 collecting? By the ghost of
 Mahomed's knee & the sacred
 beard of St Patrick & Muslims
 I detect the megal. odour
 somewhere in the vicinity
 Yes my instinct was correct
 it is the King the brings
 with him an emaciated
 mouse dead at least three
 days. Bah! Awgh! Even
 the Professor's nose could

Scarcely stand it. Bri is
Continually discovering what
he calls "big bitays" for
the Fessa. The Ichillyvora
contained in bottles was found
by him in our bath
home. Did I tell you that
the Muggon believes that the
breath of the Ichillyvora
causes wasting disease & death?
It would be interesting to
know how this superstition
arose. I have just heard
that shares are booming again
may the Lord in his
infinite mercy & wisdom
grant ~~me~~ me a bit of
luck - a neat little thousand
would satisfy me - Prof
Tale knows in the Dundee

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(15)

fields in which I hold
considerable interest. I
am very curious to know
how you are going to
manage him. When I
last saw him he declared
that he was done with
the Horn Expedition, he
will require careful handling
and you are the only
member of the Expedition
who has any influence
with him. It will be a
great pity if his map
& journal are not included
in the book. How does
Kearney's journal look in
its finished condition?

Deputation of greedy
Admiral's ^{brothers} part covered

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inform me that they are prepared
to allow me to photograph
a Corroboree this afternoon
in return for a blow out
of flow tea & sugar. I have
accepted their terms generously
adding sundry half sticks of
tobacco if their get up be
satisfactory. I have been
talking to the old King
about you & telling him of
the kindly interest you take
in the Blacks generally &
the Alice Springs lot in
particular he asserts that
you are of his Class Galthara
& that you must be of the
Udnoringala. He wished to know
if you were a big or little
Boss in your own country

(E)

Spencer got those good pictures
My kind regards to Mrs
Spencer More to the kiddies
Don't spoil little Chappie
& don't work too hard

yourself remember that you
are not made of cast iron

Ever the kind regards
in which wife joins
Yours most truly

W. L. G.

P.S. I apologize for the length
of this letter my excuse must be
that it is so long since I
have had a fair shot at you
W. L. G.