Alice Springs
1st May 1896

My dear Spencer

From their forces of habit
I cannot allow a mail to go away without dropping you a line. As our mail service is
exasperating, so far none of our
friends have had upon the
right day for posting. I
find that instead of receiving
monthly, replies are only yet
then twice weekly as before. This
is owing to the same service
being unsettled—our mails going
from one end among as occasionally
on Wednesday. Have to wait there
until the trains leaving on the
of James Strathern.

Martin has been staying with us for a few days. He is for Tempo this morning—his task of throwing up the Tempo bridge & removing the lock to St. Helen where most of the cattle have been grazing during the summer.

He & I are on friendly terms at present, but I am afraid there is not much love lost between them.

We are having delightful weather & I hope you could see The County. As to looting, scandals, &c., &c., we are beginning to forget the awful dreary months. The months, months!ading

motion itself. Our last regards to you all.

Yours sincerely,

F.D.