Alice Springs
5th Oct 1896

My dear Spencer,

It is fortunate that you did not expect an anthropop burger thru mail, since my poor Brothers death, I have been feeling too depressed to do any work. Though my interest in the past is in no way abated, I feel restless until I am out of town with the place as soon as the mail clears and I will forever get to work

I cannot believe before your arrival I hope to add much to the information already collected...
Our Engineers in I think going to be a great success. Ruggers have already arrived from Mr. Burrell, Hambury & Mr. Mascroth. Donham among more will turn up before next mail. The only thing that p. troubling me is how I am to feed the ruggers. They are corroboreeing almost daily. Highly sacred ceremonies are being performed about once a week. Some of which I have photographed, others I have not. Before you arrive here, it is doubtful whether your photo materials will reach here by mail. Time I think you had better bring a few fresh with you. I wish you a day
or two ago to bring Magnes' ribbon as I thought it likely that you would want to get some night pictures in a ceremony of this sort, it would be hopeless attempting to persuade the blacks to come up or go through any part of the ceremonies, especially during the daytime. There will be no difficulty about seeing everything, you are my protege Houel and verbal greeting in this mail's letter days he would much like to accompany you but in view of his approaching English he is impossible, to writing to him I have not been mentioned.
my anthropological record, I said that during the last year I have been doing a steady grand, that my contribution to the Horn Ethn. only touched the outer fringe of the whole question. In view of later work, it appeared very insipid - he is going to put up for the Anthropological Society of Boston. It has offered to put one cap & I have asked him to do so provided the fees are not too stiff - I am eagerly looking forward to your arrival. I hope to keep you in touch as usual after Christmas. Cooke has recently returned from the George Gore Range, where there has been no rain north of Mounting for eighteen months, in writing to
He says that he intends to take you away about a week before Term but unless your facts I don't see what you can gain by shortening your stay here. There you could be profitably employed for the whole term of your holiday. There would not be much pleasure in travelling about the Western Country in the heat of Summer — in any case don't make any arrangements with him to meet you here, unless after your arrival, the weather here would render a distance of 1 or 2 hours as any gain so that you could let him know to a day when to meet you. I have an idea, I hope it will turn out correct, that once you talk...
down to work. I hope my
down you will not have to
be sent to India. The expectations
of your holiday are close at
hand. I thought it best to
reserve a seat for you at
once in the train as they
cannot take more than four
passengers coming to the
bulky parcels post - there is
nothing that you can bring
up for us. Thanks - you need
not trouble to provide yourself
with a tent fly or mosquito net.
I can provide these things here
by the mail. I am sending
a piece of
American leather for a camp
sheet, he was handed it to you
on arrival. It is strong and
that
in the hurry of leaving by mail you might forget to provide yourself with the necessary articles. I would send a fly box but it is hardly likely that you will get time on the road - the Engraving company was begun the day after you arrived. If I can last at least a week - if we are to see everything that goes on - it will be necessary for us to live as the Camp - a death or a serious ross among them as this juncture would break up the whole thing a calamity which may the Lord in his infinite wisdom forbid. Being a plumbing frame I have paper for your large plates
how I must conclude I do hope nothing will turn up to prevent your coming. I shall not feel quite secure of your arrival at Pondicherry till I hear of your arrival at Pondicherry. I hope the ship will not run too much out of you. Provide yourself with a good hat. Know what to wear. Believe me yours ever sincerely