


Miss Springs  
13th July 1898

My dear Miss -  
 I am just fresh from a dugger  
 squab. There was much cluster  
 of tongues, some bloodied, not a little  
 vituperation, the old old story, a roman  
 at the bottom of it, a man got a  
 very nasty scalp wound from a boomerang  
 which struck him just above the temple  
 & I noticed that when he dropped, as  
 he did, he a crowd his Marra woman  
 at once clustered around him while sailing  
 dug the sharp points of their spears  
 into his head while they were booming  
 with blood. This is customary when a man  
 has been injured. You are aware that the  
 boomings these people use were traded  
 from the west coast of North & in the  
 I noticed an interesting little incident  
 boomerang with which the man was struck  
 was a woman's spear, come from the Elpira  
 country, there was some fear that it  
 might be a possession of some Arungquah  
 boy an Elpira man who happened to be

present, a proper巫醫 but not a doctor,  
was asked by the wounded man Othelia  
to come & sing the sound thus prevent any  
evil effects from Arungquithai - only an Affua  
man could have performed this duty. Another  
interesting incident, in the scrimmage I picked  
up a small bundle on walking & inquiring  
afterward, as to its contents. I found that  
it was a Churinga specially made by an  
Arunga man hung over & enclosed with  
magic power which greatly assisted the man  
who carried it in halving Euro, that is Asianga  
it was made by an Arunga man (Shantora)  
& presented to his father-in-law who is of the  
Abakia plume totem, this is an entirely new  
development in the Churinga business & you  
can imagine how quickly I grafted the  
possession of the Stone, I am sending it to you  
this night & you can hold possession of it until  
I go down, the design  Circles in circles  
are intended to represent the interior of Euro  
& the lines on either side old man and old  
woman Euro respectively - lying down - You  
will have learnt from my note that ~~the~~  
I received Robe's book it was provided with  
clip on fly leaf with the Stone secret signs



Compliments, but I presume it concerns friends  
 Rather I have only had time to dip  
 into it here & there, it was good of him  
 to send it, he has certainly got hold of  
 a splendid lot of information, but on the  
 whole less than I expected, he has not  
 touched our Velord Chirings & especially throws  
 nothing about them for that I am truly  
 grateful as you say he is swift and repellent,  
 in fact vulgar & uninteresting from a  
 literary stand point with the same material  
 and with what you would term very  
 characteristic egotism - I think I could have  
 produced a more interesting volume especially  
 if I could have integrated the Grammar  
 to the appendix as Mark Twain did  
 the weather in many of his books. After  
 my leave I shall read the book through  
 carefully in my next letter I shall  
 probably have a great deal to say about  
 it - Your criticisms are quite just & I  
 have no doubt will be delighted but  
 a criticism of that sort by one of the  
 great scientific papers would damage my authority  
 entirely. Quite unconsciously, I think, in the  
 Nova Volume you convey the impression that

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you know more about the Anthropology than the  
 Anthropologist & on this occasion he rather  
 feels that the order has the right & left across  
 up his sleeve, though this is not probably to  
 you as ~~manipulation~~ <sup>laying of wood!</sup>  
 Menstrual fluid is not peculiar to the  
 tribes of aboriginal North America the Kglche & some  
 other northern tribes do it. Amongst the Kglche  
 the men's going round are led off daily  
 by in fact they are led to the concrete in  
 ground by their husbands who then return to  
 the camp & go out hunting, & during the  
 day all the younger men are out hunting  
 & the older men remain at the preparation  
 ground preparing material as used by the  
 women with whom they all have connection  
 the women bring only Ekwinja the actual  
father's brother's in blood (the woman) is ejected  
 by the woman into a patch & in the evening  
 they take it back to camp and hand it to  
 the tidal man who together with women who  
Uviana Ipman Chimia <sup>gapi</sup> put "over their heads  
 & breasts and if any of these women are it they  
 drink the fluid which is supposed to be strengthening  
 again when a young girl is married Wulha Kuma  
 a spirit patch is made by her father who

49493 Roth applies to method practiced by Amule & Kglche



These are Ipomoea Andella Mura Oktea Telia (not in level) Samsona  
Memoria Chimica & Almba but not Oktea or Albora (not)

hands it to Ungaratcha woman who is to perform  
the operation in that she collects the blood  
which flows from the vulva after the operation  
(after operating vulva is enlarged with a plug)  
then a plug of red ochre is inserted by  
the Ungaratcha) & then takes the pitcher to  
the ~~house~~ blood & the Albas Uminas etc  
who drink the blood & smear their bodies with  
it. The Okteas of the girl see that these women  
drink some of the blood & threaten them with a  
Kakua fighting club if they show any disposition  
to shirk their duty - the girls rooms are allowed  
to heat before the men have connection with her  
but as soon as the operation is performed the  
girl goes to her husband's camp & remains with him  
but he does not exercise marital rights until after  
certain men, before specified, have had access when  
the girl is no longer seen by the Ungaratcha & when  
the plug of red ochre paints the vaginal <sup>the</sup> red ochre  
& decorates her with various ornaments she is then  
taken away by the man who has the right of  
access. The woman is expected to be silent which is  
taken into account by Okteas of the girl's husband  
it is said to the girls that when they see their husbands  
as before or must remain if ill, but women may  
also be used to arouse the body of any Urana

man who is at the ceremony just about that  
 after the operations of circumcision in males  
 the blood is collected in a pitcher & taken to camp  
 by <sup>two</sup> ~~the~~ Kilia who holding the pitcher in one hand  
 dip their fingers in the blood & touch the tips  
 of their *Ulcianus* *Sporanna* *Apila* *Thimia*  
*Mua unchabaldia* <sup>is all together not any more</sup> after which the man holds up  
 the pitcher in these hands & each of the women  
 named *Ulcianus* of the blood when it is finished  
 the pitcher is handed to the *Apila* woman  
 who sprouts properly it becomes she guards it  
 & does not let it be touched by any one except the  
 Arunga of the boy, is permitted to drink out  
 of the bowl when she is weary with some people  
 drinking of the boy's blood prevents them  
 becoming from small *uchua* - This is hardly  
 the sort of subject to write about so fully as  
 a letter would be but I have drifted into  
 it. I hope the word I sent you a few  
 days ago about *Ulciana* was satisfactory  
 fortunately had been reading further  
 inquiry from *Ulciana* at *Kangaroo* man  
 of *Ulciana* & old *Pat Pat*. By this mail  
 I am sending in addition to the *Arunga* *Chumya*

\* The woman who gave the pitcher

I have written a few lines about the  
 ceremony of circumcision in males  
 which I have written in your  
 journal in the year 1841  
 I have written a few lines about  
 the ceremony of circumcision in  
 males which I have written in  
 your journal in the year 1841  
 I have written a few lines about  
 the ceremony of circumcision in  
 males which I have written in  
 your journal in the year 1841



a box containing 1 Chinaritja with bundles of  
 Ochnebalanama & 2 boxes Ochnebalanama  
 vaulina & 1 ordinary ditto, feather  
 Chiquon & some pins (amongst the bundles)  
 I am also sending the vocabulary which  
 please return as soon as possible I  
 can't get along without it & had to trouble  
 to take a copy - you can get it  
 copied in Yellowknife & send it back  
 to me & I'll make a clean copy in  
 my best round hand - as to publishing  
 it I don't think that would be fair  
 to Kemp. In compiling it I had no idea  
 of publishing, in fact my only reason was  
 that it would be useful to us in our  
 work. I took Kemp's vocabulary & set it  
 out for word with an Alice Springs  
 & Hermannsburg man where I found  
 there was a difference & made alterations  
 accordingly. As for constructing a grammar  
 of the language I'm afraid that is  
 beyond my knowledge of grammar & that  
 rudimentary - The season was too dry to  
 permit of Martin coming in at that  
 & therefore I have not been able to get hold  
 of a Laritja man & I am afraid neither

no hopes of any kind of a printed copy for  
 the manuscript questions the author's intention  
 and one other little matter (which I pointed out for  
 the second edition) unless after the Congress  
 headed by Zaverine had made a special appeal  
 me to Paris. My getting away from the  
 station while this idiosyncrasy lasted is simply  
 impossible - we had not a horse in the station  
 fit to do a journey of a good kind  
 but I managed to make a very strong tea get  
 out to Rome - Felt that of Cassel Carrozza  
 has promised to bring up a pleads black  
 coat help if anything - I shall be  
 up I will now to Adelaide to get one of  
 the officials there to report to you. I was  
 glad to get the Typo script, you do not  
 say that you want it returned so I have  
 kept it to go over again with if you want  
 I would like to let you know just one or two  
 little success has kept in our knowledge  
 of the true organization, at least to Storace's Creek  
 to the Ruby Waters - the Inspection made into  
 new Inquisition or Managers (Claytonia) and  
 said you have dealt over the said organization  
 of his brain in a lucid & masterly manner  
 I cannot tell you how proud I am of you



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book, The book is going to be a great one & shall  
be anxious to get the best instalment & shall be  
relieved when I know that the manuscript will  
route for the old country. I have written to Sir  
John Lubbock in terms of your suggestion & told him  
that Mr. Fragar was in a position to inform him  
fully of the value & scope of our work on the  
old firm. I am indeed sorry to hear that he  
is in a delicate & delicate way & is a grand old  
man & I have always had a very warm feeling  
for him. I shall never forget his kindly  
beaming face & please remember me kindly to  
him. I hope you will have a more favorable  
report of his condition for next part of the  
week. Mrs. old Echeapa is well, I suppose.  
I like the dedication you suggest & think  
you have hit upon the words most likely  
to please the fathers of Christ & his people.  
You are bound to do the correct thing.  
The Indian paper is capital please  
send me some copies if it is issued  
in pamphlet form, have you sent it to  
Stocking & do you circulate copies in England?  
I haven't had time to read the Churninga paper  
yet. I've been dipping into the papers again  
for the particularly last volume bought 25 years

I have at 1/6 of 6 leaving on the strong  
 recommendation of a small number of  
 Metallurgists & mineral knowledge of the  
 Mine the factors & these persons will go out  
 for 3 months to 4 months - The latter of  
 is intended to be intended to you  
 Proceeders has gone with the charge of  
 party to inspect the land of 5000 acres  
 of Country taken up by a League of  
 English Capitalists. He is a rather good  
 fellow & brought a letter of introduction  
 from Manchester & I have interested him in  
 bags & rats so that in your French way  
 benefit by the reputation of the  
 English shareholders don't let you go  
 to find more capital have you  
 sufficient material from here? I shall be  
 going up north in June with my  
 (if we get some) might be able to find  
 the big collecting box in which the  
 found I will try to get some particulars  
 about the Arrangement, including  
 (about) which we know nothing. If you  
 before or after it is published let me have  
 a copy. My friend Farmer writes this morning  
 saying that his report has heard of the coming



looking in vain to have a copy, he advised  
 me to buy some "Associated Food Manufacturers" shares  
 & carnally reminds that he has just picked  
 up 5000 at £4.10.00 each, the biggest  
 cannot go wrong, every thing he touches seems  
 to turn him to gold & white. I am just  
 affected the other way. If I had not lost  
 so much money on shares during the last  
 two years I could have gone down early  
 this year feeling that I had not left sufficient  
 to educate my boys & get them a start in  
 life but as it is I must stay at least  
 another year unless some good opportunity  
 is thrown at me for the Protectorship of  
 Aborigine. The salary is only £200 without  
 any home allowance - it would be about  
 £500 - I could not accept it at anything  
 under £400. It is hardly likely that I  
 shall be able to go with you on the N.A.  
 trip in 1900 & if I could it is not likely  
 that I could be of much assistance amongst  
 others who know nothing of me - by the way  
 the Protector of Aborigines in that  
 Colony of yours a free hand could do  
 some good work for Anthropology & at  
 the same time benefit the laboring

I am still hoping that Father's will  
provide the means that will enable me to carry  
out the dream. In box of things you will  
find a bottle of bugs which please hand over  
to Fremont. I have sent him some more birds  
let me know if I have neglected to send  
any things previously added to your collection  
most look splendid. I do hope you would  
be tempted to hand it over to our  
countryman. Maintaining probably had  
to be sold to pay share calls some day  
also possessing few stuff with Neophytone balls  
& find it much better than conical or conular  
- Has Beggs written you and Lord returned?  
There was some struggling there upon his return & if he  
mentioned Beggs electro upon the latter might  
think that you had said something about it. He  
is awfully touchy beggar but you find that  
things will come right when rain comes. The rats  
began to turn up - Our Stellinga venture is still  
struggling along the blackening will be ready to crack  
in March we have two tons of stone ready to  
put through - we are now putting down a 100 ft  
shaft in the Star of the North property my interest  
has already cost me £60 & so early as I shall  
never see it again. It is only waste of money  
a small equivalent like ours pottery along masses  
there is a chance of floating the property & that



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Contingency is very remote in such cases. The  
mining people in the Colonies know nothing of  
this field & cannot be induced to take an interest  
in it - The race meeting was a very tame  
affair. I quite came out a friend & towards the  
good as did the others. I did not go to  
speak to the subject of local mining. I had  
just received a letter from the Managers of  
the Crookwell & Lyandale works, which I think  
you know is a Govt Concern asking me to  
come & formally open the machinery on Febry  
3d. I am glad to be thus identified with  
the starting of machinery in this field &  
hope to be able to report good yields in  
my next - In years to come, when Arltunga is  
as well known throughout Australia as Kalgoorlie is  
now it will be pleasant to them that I  
started the first machinery going - even if I don't  
take anything out of the field - Now I must  
close up & give someone else a turn - by the  
way the new mail contract which begins in  
April provides for a monthly mail which  
will probably prevent me getting replies from  
you by return mail. I shall be wild if it  
turns out so for your letters have given into  
my lap & I look forward to them from mail to

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Dear Balfour is about again increasing  
his condition but the poor little chap had a  
nasty shunt of the cut of as we call. When  
fortunate. Mrs. W. the sea is so out  
with nursing. I hope all is well with you  
that you have not been overworking yourself

Please give my kind regards to good mother  
to Mrs. Spencer. She has lots to the baron

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to fading and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. It appears to be a continuation of the letter.]*