

of the Springs
April 17th 1898

My dear Spencer

Natur Cures are stored
to their very toe tips the royal
family are plunged in sorrow &
covered with peevishness. Yesterday
I had to send the youngest
son of the home - you know the
young Nelsons - to do six months
hard in St Angusta gaol, our old
friend the King is terribly afeared
& has threatened to visit the
Arungquethe stone at ^{path of Schump} Africa & bring
about the death of himself & all
the blacks about the place - the blacks
are nearly in a terrible state of

alarm was given
noticed that they are going to
bold tonight
old fellow heard the sentence
he blabbed off to his camp
turnt off his hand & discharged
all his weapons & even his
bladder. I have never seen a
black fellow take any thing so quick
to publish - This young scamp
has given a good deal of
trouble during the last twelve
months & on three occasions he
has been allowed to go
unpunished when he idly
assaulted a poor fellow
instance where a black offender
against the laws I have only
to tell his white father & brother

and he is at once brought in
but in the end of the King's
son the hotel fathers & brothers
dared not interfere with our authority
from the old man who always
declined to go to his camp
This morning all the blacks
have shifted camp from the
vicinity of the Engwara ground
to the gap between the two
parties they do when a new
idea - The King with his company
have found & boarded face is a
was object for a few days past and
returned from the camp where I have
been trying to get for the
who, in all the years I have
known him has never so far as
I know, done a dishonest action

he has, so the fins feel my
Wife, threatened to project
Arumg quatha under our doors
tonight!

Typescript + prints came to hand
safely ~~and~~ I am returning the
sketches of illustrations and sending
all the negatives you asked
for except the one of Narramunga
two years which is amongst my old
plates at Basler & Horners Establishment
in Adelaide. I have said them to
send it on to you. I think you
has made a splendid choice of
illustrations & sincerely hope that
McMelons will print them all.
Long Rod wrote this mail thanking
me for information about seals -
he has also sent me a paper
which I am passing on to you.

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He writes "with this I am sending you a paper of mine written some 5 years ago on Couvadé. You will see that owing to no further discovered evidence as to its existence among the aborigines of Australia my paper is not able to support the theory of my friend Mr Tylor that Couvadé is the ceremonial representation of the change from the matriarchate to the patriarchy. Can you throw any light upon this much debated question?" — I have read the paper hurriedly & with much interest & if it be not presumptuous for me to say so I think Mr Tylor is wrong. We have got deeper, probably, than anyone else in Australia & we have found no evidence of Couvadé

in the same way you cannot
the husband's abstentions from killing &
high games during the earlier stages
of pregnancy with the Customs &
you will note that the women
of Indian tribes abstain from
eating certain food during pregnancy
that the Customs prevail among the
tribes & I am very doubtful as
to whether I have previously
informed you of this and I have
been looking for it in my ~~last~~ highest
note books & cannot find it
Cape Verde - the people believe
that if a pregnant woman eats
of poison the child would hang
on to her with a poisonous life
tenacity & she would die in
Newland was - a student of all sorts

would not be eaten or they would
come to life inside the woman
& eat up the child & destroy
the mother & so on & so forth
Ekuapai also is forbidden if
eaten the mother & child & would
become emaciated & die to keep
Yams may only be eaten sparingly
otherwise the body will become
emaciated & very painful
I find these notes in Cape Verde
one of my rough note books
quite 9 months ago & it will have
not gone there until you previously
I discovered you ramp & found a
bit - it is I have for given to
you for anything it is almost
certain to turn out important
- please read it & return Rocks paper
& tell me what you are to do

if the cost of correspondence should
increase I shall pass it over to
you. Why oh why do you
not send me some copies
of the initiatory paper? is it
not procurable? I am very
proud of that paper it simply
gallops over Rock of Auld who
detains it of the meagrest
I am indeed glad to hear
that Mr. Frow is better again
I quite look forward to seeing
his ruddy old face when I
next visit Melbourne, it is a
pleasure to know that the dedication
has given him so much satisfaction
- Is Massford's book on folk lore
published? When the present
trouble blows over I shall go in
for collecting myths —

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Winnick has been very good & I
am glad you acknowledged this
in the preface a copy of which,
by the way you have not seemt
sorry to hear that Sterling is feeling
his loss death so keenly. poor old
chap. Time alone can heal his
wounds he has not written to
me for three months & I am
beginning to think that he
has dropped me altogether -
With regard to the pointing sticks
they are of all sizes from a few
inches up to two feet many of the
lobans have poison sticks peculiar
to the loban. I am returning
McMullens letter it appears to be
very fair & I dont think we shall
experience any difficulty in that
quarter Messrs Proctor & Taylor have

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undoubtedly improve him without the
impairment of the world which hands
the Lord is now fairly out of your
hands it is quite evident you find
your last lecture that you have
been working too hard, I don't like
to hear of your making yourself
ill you are not physically strong
I think it you will run at things
like a hell at that rate
My intention of the consequence
last things easy for the
next one or two months to give
work a full amount of all up to
one thing I don't want
If I dare believe politics also without
bringing down upon my head a
measure of mischief I am sure I
would like to say that I too admire
Lord Salisbury agree with you in

that he is the one dignified figure
in the present juncture towards the
future has never been a
it is that decision he has taken
a restraining influence upon the
republic of your country men
whom I certainly do not hate
I do hate the policy England
has pursued with regard to
for the last 600 years but I
have a particle of ill feeling
against the English people - my
but I cannot find any
Kingtons since against morality
occurred 600 years ago - there was
some excuse for it I don't think
the fault to be found here now as
a man of despicable moral character
if I held such an opinion
now - and I know a good deal of his

inner life - I would not support him
under any circumstances for I hold that
the ~~public~~ private life of a
public man should be clearly - his
enemies instead of trying to forget
the errors of his young youth multiply
& exaggerate his sins so that to the
outsider it is hard to discern where
truth ends & where he begins - Kingdon
is with all his faults a good,
honest, generous hearted man, if he
were less honest & less outspoken he
would be more widely appreciated
that always annoys me - and I believe
deserves my vote - is that the
Colonial Conservatives will surely give
the Liberals credit for encouraging, if
a liberal politician advocates extreme
measures he is invariably "paneling to
the mob" or he is a "reckless

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reckless, unpatriotic, unpardonable
 almost criminal. The Conservatives
 arrogates to himself the quality
 of Patriotism & rarely gives his
 liberal opponents credit for honesty
 of purpose or conduct.

You say that you differ from me
 in that you see something to
 admire on both sides, well this
 is the first occasion upon which you
 have admitted any admiration for
 Knappton for instance (and how cruelly
 you qualify the praise) but what I have
 always taken exception to in your
 criticism of our public men & particularly
 of those with whom my sympathies
 are associated is the undecent
 contempt, scarcely veiled at all, the lofty
 patronising Brahmin air with which you
 speak of them as mere parochial

prospectors - there is I think a real
difference between the provincial
politicians of England & those of
the are looking up a statesman
Australia -

You will doubtless be delighted
to learn that the Star of the
North Cracking has turned out
a dismal failure the gruel was
only 10 days thicker than
is predicted at about an ounce and
probably as shall show as the
propriety of it is hopeless by any
to do any thing more I would another
present circumstances, the new set
employed appears to have taken
no pains to be looking the same as
March of the Staff report, though
has rather been back - Friday is not
different one as well as hope

prospecting is as enthusiastic as
was he will probably spend his
four months less or more - some of
the mines are yielding good
results but unfortunately we are
not interested in such - The
dictionary of yours is another injustice
to be reckoned the spelling of my
Pakish day I began now in words
accordance with Swiss usage, with
which I have been familiar all
my life. The words frequently occur
in Swiss papers as I spelled them
but as English newspapers & know
more about the political requirements
of my countrymen, I had not expected
to hear rather they presume to force
our own language - there is as I think
to be that check -

Shall we be able to procure copies
of Edge Parkington album. why not
send him a photo of the Kiva
wednesday? I greatly regret that I did
not get it on time to go
home with the manuscript I was
trying for years before I succeeded
in getting this one & am now
scouring the Country to get one
for you, you may be sure that
I will not send you a spurious
article - The old King has just
turned up he is off into the
back & I have given him a supply
of tobacco on the understanding
that he is not to make any quilts!
I told him that I was making
a paper jacket to you & that
you would be sorry to hear of
his trouble & it seemed to please

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The old chap Samba recognizes that
the young fellows should be punished
old Galwathona the Mother is
furious & does nothing but curse
& moan she is a terrible old
bitch & I would not care to
trout myself with her in a
dark corner tonight - I wish you
now here to see the country
it is looking something splendid
Now I must close I have had
a terrible mail & am sick &
tired of scribbling - My best
regards to Mrs Spencer I dare say
she is heartily glad that the
map of is finished love to
the boys

Steadfast
Yrs ever Sincerely
J. J.

We shall have another mail
on Wednesday week - mails
reach here every alternate
Wednesday