

a Mounta

11<sup>th</sup> Oct 1899

My dear Spencer

I returned from Town on Saturday after a pleasant little trip & found your two letters & medicine notes awaiting me. I was before the select committee on two days but beyond damming certain objectionable clauses of the bill I was not able to do much. I strongly recommended that the powers of protectors be increased so as to enable them to investigate & check abuses also recommended more liberal treatment in way of rations & pointed out that we spent less than any of the Australian Colonies on our blacks. The bill

When it emerges from the select  
Committee I think to of some  
benefit to our protégés. The fact  
has very clear in passing it in its  
original form has toward Judge of  
the H. D. who proposed it is a great  
personal friend of Kingstons & the  
has filled Kingstons with all sorts  
of extraordinary expenses. May  
Adelaide has done with enlarging  
Kingston one of the number so I  
did not have a chance of seeing him  
By the way Stewart during my  
examination that there is a clause in  
Smyth's Crown lease reserving to the  
Black right of access to all  
naturalities & to all parts of the  
run. I made a recommendation to  
that effect. (I want facts rather  
about it) it was pointed out  
to me that such a clause already

exists. The fact should be mentioned  
to see that Crown Lease should be  
the clause for its benefit in case  
of the general scheme of her ship &  
anyway to the base - Science \$50  
out of the Museum for one point  
Purvey Mission Station! & my Committee  
are pillars - Now about the precedence  
I have been worrying over it for days  
& would you mind to be able to  
say that I feel myself able for  
the occasion but I can't. I want  
the faintest idea how to see about  
preparing an address. I can tell my  
friend Geology Brown a damn  
dog when it comes to selling fish  
my ideas on paper. This is the  
difficulty. I can't write. One of  
the paragraphs in your letters ends  
"believe in us we could fix up your  
address" if that means that you

am prepared to undertake the labor  
of preparing it & that I shall simply  
have to read it. Then the difficulty  
vanishes & I can take the presidency  
although in doing so I should feel  
myself a bit of a fraud. If this  
is what you wish write me fully  
indicating the lines upon which you  
wish <sup>to base</sup> the address & I will do my  
best to set forth briefly my views  
or suggestions. The possibility of  
a fat billet as a result of the  
address does not tempt me at all  
or stimulate me in any way.  
Had I feel myself competent ~~to do~~  
it I would do it to please you &  
glorify it - perhaps also to please Froun  
& Horner. Now you know exactly how  
the matter stands; do what you  
like old fellow & be sure that I  
shall be satisfied whatever you decide.

I spent a very pleasant evening with Gordon in Town. He is meditating a big criticism on the book which by the way is now very much in evidence in the Adelaid's book shops. He expects to be going over to Melbourne shortly & will call upon you. Treat him well. He's a good fellow and a most interesting man. I felt sorely tempted to ask Todd to let us run over to Melbourne but in view of the January visit I thought it better not. I saw Stirling & Zetoy on two occasions & spent an afternoon with the former. He was just recovering from influenza & looked very poorly. I suppose you know that he has been away for some time on a fossil hunting expedition. He showed me the Maggs things not much variety but a good

lot. Jaily has heard of the pleasant terms with him, has very  
may you are arranging your indignant about my not getting  
ethnological things & would like North Atlantic or at any rate seem  
to follow your example but limited official recognition of my services  
that he had no say in the matter. Services not wanted to mention the  
I don't think he Sterling are Master to the Governor but I  
altogether a happy family - strongly objected. I don't think  
I am meditating another descent that either Kingston or any of  
upon the Mission Station & am has got all my reasons why they  
only waiting to hear that certain should accompany my services in my  
old ones have turned up there special way - If they had saved one  
I think that I can promise ~~you~~ a class as they could have done  
to find out something definite without inflicting injuries on anyone  
about Antislavery if I can lay Island has felt that it was a  
hands on two old shapes also sort of official recognition by my  
are at present misunderstanding amount from Govt for good work done  
the Parliament. That confounded - And I have done good work and  
South Eastern Inquirer has gone away saved the Colony thousands of pounds -  
Shewing that Govt only knows when it isn't the additional salary that  
hell turn up again. Some Division I shan't after. This year's estimate  
Smith in Town to spend a couple of me before the house & they have

given me a shilling increase  
+ next year my services will be  
forgotten I shall be a factorial  
officer lost in the crowd -

It is now 10 + I have been  
in this infernal office since  
8.30 + am dog tired -

Please convey my kindest regards  
to Mrs Spencer I feel how I wish  
how a pleasant trip I hope she will  
find all her people well

My wife sends kind regards  
she is settling down + making  
some nice friends of course I  
don't let her know that I am not  
quite content I shall be

Yrs ever

F J G