

Alice Springs
Good Friday 1895

My dear Sarah

My wife insists upon
this day being kept as a rigid
fast day & I am suffering (she
calls it expiating my sins) upon
a sparing diet of tinned fish
denominated Salmon but in
reality shark so if this letter
proves less interesting than
usual you must put it
down to the shark. The little
woman has tried her hand at
making some hot cross buns
with fearful awful results, half
a dozen of these too too cold
buns (bombs rather) would annihilate

The Pope & the whole College
of Cardinals. The box of
Termin you received from the
at Odaadada contained a
small collecting bottle full of
Apos and Malcas. I quite needed
the one & especially remember
~~the~~ putting in this
particular bottle these birds
we brought from after rain
& there are now preserved
at present. Very many will
hand out for the printed they
are a very interesting lot to
a welcome addition to my
Spencerian collection. It is doubt
known how our earth you
have patience to tone such
a number of fine prints & only
it is made your & stars

of your letters, in separate
enclosure at lower rates. I send
sending you a bundle of
prints, amongst them a series
of the Catag pictures & some
herbals photographed according
pictures. One of the pictures
(that is the tree you saw of which
the Begon is a good example)
in which the Chap is naturally
decorated you will notice that
the figures standing behind him
are not of a few & foggy looking
I cannot for the life of me
understand them. I look from pictures
of the Spencerian scene & I thought
to say only one of the plates
proved worth printing & that, as you
will notice, is face from being
good enough the old Chief One

out fairly well. Many of my
prints I notice ~~are~~ have small
spots take rust on them when
I take them out of the toning
bath, these ^{spots} become lighter & sometimes
fade away altogether in the
washing process. Can you tell
me the cause? How many prints
should 8 oz of toning solution
pass through? I am sending
you some Star prints but I'm
afraid you will not think
much of them. I fancy the
water here is a great drawback
it is strongly impregnated with
some Chemical Salt & I have
no means of storing rain
water - The Higgins heads are
I'm afraid, a bit too large
but in any case it is almost

impossible to get good results
in the very hot weather

Your Star print is of a type
Downs Nigger is the best
photo of a black I have ever
seen if you turn out
much Nigger work like it

my efforts will appear very
amateurish by comparison

I quite agree with you that
the little brush with The
Doctor is likely to do good
he has had things so much
his own way over here that
he has to a certain extent
been spoilt I have always believed
him to be a good fellow though
somewhat selfish in matters scientific
& I feel glad that you & he
understand each other & are in

no way estranged over the
"little brush". The quality you
know possess in common you
are both free from side
tramping. The best of us are
fairly unfortunately. About
the Chooringa stones some months
ago when I had mistakenly
augmented the collection which
you saw I made unforlunately telling
him that I had a large number
of "Choringa" connected with
various Ceremonies & that if he
would like to describe them
I would describe for the Form
worth, I would send them to
him at my own expense & he
replied to the effect that if
he thought it desirable he would
communicate with me later on

Send then I have heard nothing
from him about the Stones in fact for
the last two or three months
he has never mentioned things
ethnological or anthropological
(What awful words). Having off
him the Stones am I not, in
your opinion, bound to let
him have them if he asks for
them? I would infinitely prefer
to take them to you & get
all the information I can about
them (it is very meagre indeed)
& let you describe them on
your account. My literary style is
not of the grandiose & I have
been too long a denizen of the
back block to attempt anything
of that sort. I am feeling
applying for the stones I shall

probably take them to Melbourne
if only that I may have
the pleasure of showing them
to you - I am constantly
adding to the collection & must
confess that I was a bit puzzled
at Stirling's offhand ~~comment~~ don't
care a d--n style about ~~the things~~
my offer. I am sending you
^{through Minnecke} one connected with the "Atunga"
Euro Ceremony, this you can
add to your private collection.
I have also sent to Minnecke
for Cunnels a fine white
Cockatoo ^{hatched} at Tennant's
bred as the Corella species. &
I am asking him to send
it on to you as soon as
possible after arrival. These
birds are fine talkers & thus

one has already begun I do say
 you will find him very shy
 & frightened at first but he is
 thoroughly tame & will soon get to
 know you - I am glad the
 parrots are doing well, if
 you cage them separately they
 will soon learn to whistle &
 even to talk nicely. I find
 they are very delicate - Strange
 to say there is not an old
 bird in the country now, they
 disappeared as mysteriously as
 they came these birds will serve
 to remind you of your stay
 in the McDonnells - You might
 show the Stone Choosing to
 Dixon & Horrell that we know
 what they think of it. Has Horrell
 any knowledge of these stones?

I sent a Sterling some impressions
in printing but of various sizes
some months ago & I have since
given him particulars as to the
ceremonies & times to which they
belong. These impressions were sent
at the time I offered to send
him the shoe collection - I have
secured another Kurbinga - (I note
under which operation I sub-
mission to performed) which
you had seen in photo. It
now adorns the corner of my
my desk & the tiggers are
greatly exercised but some of
the Labras or Peccanamis should
get a glimpse of it through
the doorway. Under the old order
of things & without the restraining
influence of a Law-protector any

Woman or breast youth seeing the
pole would be killed or at least
blinded with firesticks, the same
penalty is attached to looking
at the Chooranga Stones or sticks
and I have known many poor
wretches made female to be
blinded for gazing to a
momentary curiosity & in some
cases for what was a purely
accidental view - I hope to learn
for Redbadalla with the wife &
Hudson about the end of this
month with ordinary good
luck should be back here by
end of May. I have arranged to
get Consobore & Ceremonial pictures
as the Perovs & Menant &
in all probability I shall see
you in Melbourne sometime in
July. The wife does not think

She will be able to go to
Melbourne on account of the
youngster requiring her attention
This will of course curtail
my visit considerably but I
hope to be able to spare a
week - Am anxious to see as
much as I can of the your
theatres which always afford
more variety than ours. I
shall write you when leaving
here - Your next letter will
I trust reach me somewhere on the
road. Polly got the glass & tobacco
& was greatly delighted she bade
me Yabba "longa puff-fessa you
very good whitefellow no monkey
yab longa me" The glass was
a rather fragile sort of one
to send her something stronger

Colonies have had to adopt it
in a modified form in self
defence - Recent New Zealand legislation
has met with encouraging results
& the fact about Capitalists being
afraid to invest their money is
all moonshine - merely the old
Capitalistic gag in another phase.

The screws which are read in
the local Tory organs are inspired
by the Capitalists who hunger after
the good old times when high interest
ruled the roost & all the poorer
Classes were created to increase their
illegitimate gains - Nephew joins in very
kind regards & little Bri sends
love to the Fessa. His nose is not by
any means out of joint he is still the
old man's darling. I have sent you
photos of both - instantaneous picture taken in
very dense shade. Yours always Sincerely
Ed Quin

Our friend the Doctor who has
just appeared has been sending you
me of some of his photos
in connection with his English
Illustrated paper without authority.
When I told him that I had
furnished Sterling with copies
of all my Aggers photos he
naturally had a fit - I had advised
to post the Stone choosing a direct
method of sending through Wambles
and also in packing both containing
no short notes one of which
appears to me remarkable in that
it has two fair late growths - perhaps
fundamental legs - on the side -
Nigger do not appear to mind it -
Young Newberry son of your grand
M. Combs Newberry is travelling
with Brown this very steadily

promised to take charge of island
Coastal at Orono after a late
I might have thought you would
Melborne - he will call upon
you at the University. I have
told you that Brown is here,
to argue the point rather than
about progress towards but we
believe in your letter I trust
emphatically late receptors to - you
say the financial condition of your
College is sounder than ever,
Statutes show that the student
is entirely wrong. He has not
the intellectual power, he has
rather towards, he had a surplus
though an small one last financial
year. He has a surplus upon the year -
you, while you had a total loss again
by default. Victoria state is responsible
for protection in Australia other

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defence - Recent New Zealand legislation
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all movements - merely the old
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The screws which are read in
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illegitimate gains - Myself joins in very
kind regards & little Bri sends
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old mans darling. I have sent you
photos of both - instantaneous picture taken in
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G. G. G.

yet cheaper would have suited the
 rough usage of the Camp better -
 The old dame is greatly concerned
 about the wife going away, she
 will be thrown on her own resources
 the good nature of Solomon for
 took out - & after being so long with
 as she does not take the stern
 mealy of a blue shirt & buskey
 tuxedo

13th I was interrupted yesterday by
 the arrival of old Mike Selist
 otherwise Henry Yorks Lyell Brown
 Govt Geologist who is en route for
 Adelaide after a big trip through
 the Territory he takes great interest
 in things anthropological & has been
 going through my collection with
 much interest I was rather amused
 to find he had a quarrel against