July 10, 1907.

My dear Howard,

Many thanks for your letter. Being so far away from England I had almost given up the idea of the F.R.S. but am very glad to have it. As I say 40 is a terrible age but personally I don't feel any different in the matter of age than I did 20 years ago and hope to be able to get through a good deal of work yet. You will be my close guide when this reaches you. Only a short time ago Tubs (you may hardly remember him at Town) who was staying with me here was talking over the Macfadden wonderin what had
harrowed to them. I quite envy them their experiences in S. Africa where they will come out safely.

But I only remember a very minute infant - the thought of this fighting make one feel afraid.

I had quite lost sight of Arnold White and am out at all supposed to find him occupying the position which he does. It is sad, seldom that I hear anything of old school fellows.

Adaskin seems to be doing good work. Canada is in many ways is preferable to Australia - from here it is nearer Europe & without any previous expenditure of money & time one can run one's own way now and again with our friend which is in touch with modern developments. Having Australia offer a big field for work especially in the lines which I like most - zoology & entomology. Alfred and myself have plans - an expedition to N.W. Africa but perhaps before long they will be more defined - of an expedition amongst the arid lands that lie between the Centre of Australia & Port Darwin in the north. This however again means time & money.

Before starting, I must get our National Museum into order. All my plans this during the past year has been devoted to the arranging & rearrangement of the collection which is a big one - quite as big as if not bigger than the one in Manchester & comprises zoology, geology & entomology.

Now it nothing like trying to arrange a big collection for revealing to you your colonial ignorance; when you sit down to write a descriptive label then you begin to realize how defective your knowledge is. I don't know how you find matters but what constantly strikes me most forcibly is
that I can get up a given subject
well enough but that it all goes out
of my head with marvellous rapidity.
So soon as ever I tackle another one.
It used not to be thus but while I
can still remember quite well things
learned at home at Oxford, what I
new learn unless it is constantly repeated seems to evaporate
and all that remains is a knowledge of
where the information was derived from
or a capacity of quickly re-acquiring it.

As you say if only the world were
formerly managed so that it might
have time plenty to go round it
or come and see us out here.
Melbourne

itself is anything but lovely though in
year by year it will make a really
magnificent town: however it is a
paradise compared with Manchester
though we have not a river can have
suburbs which will compare with
Bowdon.

At the same time we
have endless parks with undulating
ground fringing the shores of a big
Melbourne.
July 10, 1900.

Blue bay and we have also endless sunshine with just enough cold, brisk, weather to keep us healthy.

Last week we had ice on the pools in the road and yet our camellias, violets, roses, and primroses are in full flower, at the same time the oranges are ripening.

July 16.

Your second letter has just come. Kelly and I both I your little girl. Many congratulations.

I hope you will call her Kathleen which is one of the prettiest of girl's names. I should like to see your home at Hale but fear it cannot be for some years yet.

My next 'leave of absence' must be spent in the interior. I have vague ideas of an expedition into the country between Alice Springs, right in the centre of Par Dammi or the full of Carpentaria. It
May or it may not come off but I am beginning to learn after a lifetime of air the chance of being near some amongst the inhuman savages than a good deal more interesting than their civilized brethren.

Australia has at all events the first advantage that there is no need of foreign work to be done in any climate in antiquity, at least, except by some if it is to be done at all. There is a great charm in foreign work which quite compensates for the loss of social advantages which are so common in a new country. It is not a matter of success, in being so far away from the center of civilization. It is especially the case in regard to our children and not on the whole Millman is in any way quite equal to an ordinary professional man at home.

My future in coming back from England last term was that if I could not live in London I would prefer to be in something or other. The former was one of which in the center of a big brookies.

Anyhow, if this letter does not go soon it will follow the path of many others which have remained unfinished and ended a miserable existence on the top.

My mother tells us in her letter today that she has been to see your house and it's a very much I am glad to think that you are out of the red. Really house is sure that Lewis will be much better at Heli. It is in the rather awkward position of having either to turn out of our present home or buy it and do not quite know what to do. Lewis has a kind of restful objection to buying a house - I don't quite know why except that with a kind of feminine sentiment she feels that when you want a house
the landlord has for years, unless you
are it for the same yourself.

Robert is going up in Melbourne
freesies to continue doing so especially
with the prospect of the city being for some
years to come the federal capital. The
next few years ought to be interesting one
out here from a political point of view.
We shall undoubtedly have a protective
policy and there are big questions to be
worked out in regard to the opening up of
the more tropical parts. This must either
be done by coloured labour or not at all
but the Australian working man desists.
All black and yellow men and if he is not
willing to do anything himself takes good
care that no one else shall do it.

Someday you ought to come out here +
see things for yourself.

Give my kindest regards to Ellie who
I hope is quite right & strong again.

Yours ever

Waldemar P. Brent.

PS. Have you read Reeves History of New Zealand, called 'On Ice Road' or 'The Long White Cloud,' if not it is the best account of an
Australian colony yet published, give you also
an idea of the trend of modern politics out
here. WBP.