my dear Spencer

I was extremely glad to get your letter of 24th April from Magallanes. I had no chance of answering it before, as I was examining till the last moment before I came away for South Africa. So I am sending a line from Cape Town which we reach tomorrow evening, hoping that it will somehow find you. Your voyage out to the Strait must have been most interesting & I hope that your duties as Purser did not overwhelm you!

Your Tschcheche arrowhead must be an interesting lot. As for the shaped one, is it perhaps one of the scrapers which were fastened by clipping between the ends of a bent stick. If the 'broaden' edge is bevelled this seems likely. The 'bolderas' or 'boleadores' are
very interesting things. I have sent a copy of the ground scraper with these things to the P. R. Museum.
The sort that one knows best here, the balls, and in hand for which the things are attached, some with single balls, some with two, others with three. I am very keen on the varieties of this weapon, and lately rearranged my series to show varieties as far as I can and distribution. There is also a form of stick which has the balls perforated in a section and a metal rod is inserted through the stick to a ring at the top. The thing is fixed. I have one but do not know whether people use this form. Probably the Gauchos, but I wish I knew.

I hope that you will find your Fuegians have a good chance of studying Meroe extensively. I wonder if you will investigate the Patagonian Channel. I suppose there are still a few Fuegians there who are not too much altered. Any you can get should be worth studying. The details of their boat life want further investigation. Anyway, I am sure that you will miss anything that is there. Try to get some of the Fuegian hafted scrapers. Some of their old camps site on the islands should be worth digging into. I might be profitable as the earliest culture is so little known.

I hope that you will return via Oxford, so that I may hear of all your doings. I hope to be back early in October. So do come and stay with us if you can.

I am not sure how I am going home from S. Africa. I may have to return by mail boat from the Cape, but I am hoping to motor across...
Tanganyika Territory from Brokenhill to Dar-es-Salaam. It can be done if there are no wash outs on the 'road', & I want to get people out during archaeological work in Tanganyika, as it is most important.

Well, I hope this may reach you. Best of luck in your interesting venture. I'll be awfully keen to hear the results, & if possible to see you on your return.

With kindest remembrances,

Ever

Henry Mcloughlin