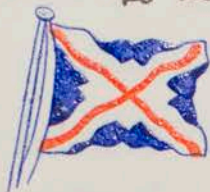


[This reply to Spencer's last letter failed to reach him before he died on July 14, 1929, + was returned to me — H.B.]




UNION-CASTLE LINE

(27)

S-S "LLANDOVERY CASTLE"

July 16, 1929

My dear Spencer

I was awfully 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 Straits must have been most interesting + I hope that your duties as Purser did not overwhelm you! Your Tchuelche arrowheads must be an interesting lot. As for the  shaped one, is it perhaps one of the scrapers which were hafted by clipping between the ends of a bent stick. If the 'business' edge is bevelled this seems likely. The 'boleras' or 'boleadores' are

very interesting things. I haven't got any of the ground examples with their things in the P.R. Museum. The sort that one knows best have the balls inserted in holes to 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 & lately rearranged my series to show variation as far as I can & distribution. There is also a form of bolas which has the balls perforated **D**-section & a metal rod is riveted through the hole & to a ring at the top the thing is fixed. I have one but do not know which people use this form. Probably the Gancheos, but I wish I knew. I hope that you will find your Fregeans & have a good chance of studying them intensively. I wonder if you will investigate the Patagonian

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Channels. I suppose there are still a few Fregeans there who are not too much altered. Any you can find should be worth studying. The details of their boat-life want further investigation. Anyway I am sure that you won't miss anything that is there. Try & get some of the Fregean hafted scrapers. Some of their old camp sites on the islands should be worth digging into & might be profitable as the earlier 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 & 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 set people out
doing archaeological work in Tanga-
nyika, 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

Yours ever
Henry Dalfour