my dear Spencer

I was delighted to get your letter, forwarded on to me as I was away. I was very glad that the memorial was successful, and that you and Gillen are going to continue the good work you have begun. You will have a splendid field over the line of route you propose to follow, and it will be very interesting to trace out the connections between the arts and culture of the McDonells, Range region of Northern Australia, and perhaps Japan.
of you, so set something down to us as soon as opportunity offers. I suppose you will hunt for "new mammals" amongst your things! You will have heard of the death of Sir Henry Acland, Max Müller, and Sir John Conroy at Oxford. All great losses. Acland was certainly my desideratum, but I was very fond of him and his work in setting up the museum. Fowke, the museum founded the deep interest he took in it to the end, make one miss him as a founder of science in Oxford. Hatchett Jackson is Radcliffe librarian now. The museum is throwing out pseudopodia in all directions. A new pathological laboratory, a new morphological depot, and a new library are all large
additions, & being all built-in different styles (none of which are anything definite). The Museum is becoming the most heterogeneous medley of architectural horrors that can be imagined. However inside is better than out. The Pitt Rivers' goes along silently, & I have had a fine year for accessions. With the Nardy collection I got a large number of good Australian things. Amongst them two of the 'strangling cords' which B. Smyth describes I believe there are but three or so known—though I may be wrong. Also I have a—
beaked boomerang made for two pieces, somewhat thus, a new type to me.

Also many other interesting things which are very good additions.

Now I must wish you good health and all prosperity, the best of luck & a safe return with heaps of information. I wish it most heartily, & I shall be quite anxious for the news to pass quickly in order that news may come of you. Tyler & Thomson would send greetings if they were here.

Sincerely,

Henry Balfour

Thanks, I got over my dyspepsia in time, it took 6 months, but I put in a trip to S. Africa for the sea voyage, & that was something. The rest was sheer waste.