Melbourne.
Aug. 25. 02.

My dear Balfour,

Very many thanks for your letter which I was glad to receive—please excuse my long delay in answering it but I have been having a rather busy time since returning home as a few days after that lectures began with the routine work Museum business &c. the attempt to write all our results I have had very little spare time.

On the whole we had a very interesting & successful time except just toward the end when we were more or less occupied in the shores of the Gulf of Carpentaria. The newspaper accounts of our visit in a bad way
Here all remains but may
primarily result in the Queensland
prominent study of a little
streamer of big in awe. Almost
for the usual diurnal of
travelling in a county where you
must carry anything with you
when heat this morning,
are about as bad as they can
be with not a vestige of anything
in the way of natural beauty,
then you we had no hardships.
and enjoyed the best of health
luckily avoidable material core.
So you will realize it is not an
day matter to study travel in the
corn of a journey on such a day
truly count, what we did even
to try to work out a few typical
and when we had the best opportunity
of doing this.

That our work is of course a
kind of elaboration of what we had
done before in fact fundamentally
all of our central northern trials
are clmeric all but it is exactly
so easy to know that the custom and belief
of the central tribe extend into
of the very nature and civilization right
up to the Gulf country.

The reincarnation theory is common to
my tribe with which we came into contact so I fancy that it is widely
spread one Australia a nation was
until the white man civilized to
spoil the black.

Both as you know was some
week time we met this amongst
the tribes. On our way down
in fact him and he now say,
that he was mistakes. I asked
him to stake this as Keane has
published saying that Keule has
reported all the presence of
animal and plants by certain individuals
so due to an arrangement between the
other my anger was a simply absurd
statement of me known anything
Australian native, but Rott
decided to do so, told me that he
was going to say nothing. In some
ways he is doing really good work
but he comes very little into contact
with the wild savage and knows
them only as gathered into the fold
of the mission station. I think
that his main work will be in the
dialect of language (which is when
one or two Australian dialects
have been carefully investigated carefully
with a file) + in describing games
+ ordinary things. His Bouli or
Normanton blacks are all civilized
+ clothed +, as he himself describes,
adjoin for tea!

Rott is the same as old and
I shall be my aunt surprised if
he does anything except publish a
series of bulletins dealing with same
- consternation + dialects at the
same time with a my comprehensible
bulletin. He has chance such
as he has in Australia has with
Melbourne,
July 28, 02.

a perfectly fine hand and also a
foot at his disposal to
aids so as to
mean to which he could
judiciously and do as much of
aesthetic work. He will do
fine work, but I fear cutting at
all comparable to what might
be done by a man in his
position with really unique
opportunities.

I wish that you could have
been with us sometime. We
saw scenes which would have
delighted your aesthetic soul
but I am afraid that your
musuem curatorial soul would
have been too much for the savage
who strongly objected to parting with
anything that he holds most sacred.
However, I have got a real live
Waruna pe yon a good
many Chuniya and other Nips of
denser value. When you can
not here I will show you a
bijou in our museum. I speak
concerning objects such as will make
your mouth water. They are
the actual objects used in ceremonies
of which we have orders which in
photographs, engravings or picture-book records,
so far as a savage race is
concerned it is a satisfaction to
know that we have a really
complete record of one such as is
now preserved in Melbourne. Of the
Aboriginal tribe we have a complete
series of clothing, weapons, utensils,
cloth and ornament, pottery, letter, shell, all their sound
music such as didjeridoos, aborigines;
measuring and sound ceremonies.

The ordinary public does not
appreciate our collections but in
years to come it is sure satisfactory
for those of us who will do so.
meanwhile I wish that you would
come and see this night.
I can promise you that
you would not be disappointed in
that your collection would benefit
by your visit.

I come apart from Australia
we have little chance seeing
aboriginal things as an means or
almost nil.

At the present time we are in
a rather bad state. The awful
death rate which you can hardly make
known, over and over the whole of
Australia has become so far an
ingredient and will now come. Indeed
of course our chief cattle
will die, we have only odd thousand.

The result is that economy is in
the state the day.

Advent to this our committee
assumed himself by embarking
$30,000 of our trust funds on the
type of thing the government seems to
not do. The annual allowance of
which salaries are part. The result
is that we are stuck in a very bad
way. Possibly in the cause of
the next few months. I may be at
I am getting 'pull-up' of a democratic movement and am reporting the time when I left the old country, where if salaries are somewhat low they are at least safe. When we are in contact with civilized society.

How are things proceeding in Oxford? I do not want to be a week ago, but I must get some news from him.

I was much interested to hear of your visit to the United States. My conclusions about your ideas 'pole'. My account of your travels is taken from the letters you have sent me.

I am a part acquisition. I have seen the chance to view them. I am interested in all of my share, but I have taken steps to see that our contacts are well maintained. I am looking forward to sending you a copy of the book which Macmillan is publishing. It takes a lot of thinking about it when things are done. I have a more popular work to write, dealing with Central Australia. I have just been reading

John's 'Uganda'. Ethnologically there is not much in it, but it is an artist. I wish that I had his skill. Please write again and send me all of the Oxford news.

Yours very sincerely,

Walden Spencer.

I hope that you manage to keep in good health if you do not move in with us like a fish out of water.