

8
Darwin

Aug 7 1914

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Professor Baldwin Spencer Esq. C.M.G.
University
Melbourne.

Dear Professor

Kindly thank Miss Spencer for me;
for the lovely little letter case, that she sent me. Every one who
has seen it, admires it very much.

Mr Cahill & Ruby has
at last consented to take a trip to Darwin & we arrived
here last Tuesday, by train, from Rurnundie. We left Oupelli
on Thursday 20th July, reaching Rurnundie at 9.30 PM
the following Monday. The country is almost the same kind
as you and I crossed, on our way from Kupalgoe to
Mountain Head. It was a very hard ride for Mr Cahill
and Ruby, and the last stage, was 54 miles; with only
half an hour for lunch. The distance is roughly about
170 miles, and scrub a good part of the way; no
sign of a road until we crossed the Mary
River 24 1/2 miles from Rurnundie. It is now 4 1/2 years
since Mr Cahill & Ruby had been away from Oupelli
and during that time; the only white lady seen by them
was Miss Manow. Once before Mr C & Ruby had been
four years, and only seen two girls and one white woman,
that was at Delamere Station, in the Victoria River district

I have been instructed, by His Excellency, to go to the Woolner Reserve and shoot Buffalo, for about two months, I wanted Mrs Cahill to take a trip south, while I am on the Reserve shooting; but no fear, she will not even stay in Darwin for a few months; so she is off out to the land of the buffalo with me. We hope to get away on Monday, go to the Adelaide River Railway station; and thence on horses, to the shooting ground. Poor old Mukalaki died last month in Darwin last month; and strange to say, his wife Mee-chung, died at Ampelli about the same time. There is a legend attached to Mee-chung's death which I will get + forward to you later on. Mee-chung was not very sick and was able to eat her food the night before she died. In the morning I told Mulwoyo to call Mee-chung (Mulwoyo is her Oma-Karley) to get medicine + food. Mulwoyo saw out to me old Lubra went to Mee-chung to tell her + found her dying, I ran down to the camp, but she had just died. Heart failure I think. You remember old A.O. goo-challie (you photographed him acting as a medicine man,) poor old chap is dead also Kopperakay's wife, Kaaji-Bun-Bun. I had a great deal of sickness this year, among the natives. I sent in to Bunnahie for Benzoin a large bottle - and was sent an ounce bottle - instead, that only lasted about a week.

and I had to send the natives away without cough cure. Poor old Mardalmark was in an awful state when she heard of Munkalaki's death: she almost killed herself cut her head, and beat herself nearly to death. Poor old woman was nearly all right when we left. I left a man named Gorr in charge of Campelli. You would remember him, he was at Bathurst Island with Father Gill, when we were over there. I think that he will be all right. He has as helpers with him, Pomula, Alice, Nani-oot, Min-borka and Mardalmark. So he should be all right. I have handed over to E. W. Brown the Curios that I sent you a list of, some time ago. I have also succeeded in getting you another black Kangaroo ♂ and a ♀. The female has never had (a joey) young one; so her pouch was not developed - I told Brown to try and ship by one of his own line of boats so that no transshipment would be necessary. I hope that they are in good order when they reach you. The war has upset every thing up this way, and people are wondering how we will come out of it. Personally I would like to be carrying a rifle and be in the thick of it. I hope that when you do issue your book, that it will have success that it deserves, for no man living is better fitted to do the work than yourself, or the Aborigines of the Northern Territory.

Hope
 that this will find you in the best of health.

Thank you very much from Mrs. Gorr

+ your family

Gaddybechee