

FRAZER

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The University of Melbourne.

Oct 6. 1898

My dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of August 26th accompanying the last batch of proofs.

By now you will probably have been through a considerable portion of the "revises" and I trust that you have not found the work much heavier than you anticipated. The relationship chapter & tables would I fear be rather trying.

Quite forgetting that I had not received this last batch of proofs from you I sent my copy home, the result is that I did not alter the sentence which you very correctly

describe as "clumsy & cumbersome". I enclose herewith a slip hoping that you may be able to make the correction on the "revisé".

With regard to the appendix on names I had merely added a reference to the secret names thinking that this would be sufficient as they & the relationship terms etc had already been explained in the body of the work but to make the matter clearer I have written more fully & enclose slips A1. A2. A3. to take the place of the letter-pairs above the table. I hope that this also will be in time.

It is possible that I may be able to save you the trouble of correcting the final 'revisé' that is the part relating to the end of the book, unless

it is being pushed through rapidly, as circumstances have arisen which make it necessary for me to run home for three or four weeks. I hope to be in

London on Dec 3rd or 4th & shall leave again on Dec 28th. We'll till a few days

ago I had not made arrangements had I known earlier it would have been possible by delaying matters somewhat to save you all the tedious work of correcting the "revisé".

Anyhow I hope to have the pleasure of running up to Cambridge to see you & to thank you personally for your kindness to us & I only wish that it were possible to bring Horvath & Finckh with me.

With regard to the vocabularies & grammar. In the first place I know very little personally of the language having had to rely upon Mr. Follen for this. There has been already published a vocabulary & grammar of the Arunta tribe though it could be

attended with advantage. Jellen can talk to the natives & understands them. but though I have pressed him to work carefully at a grammar he is evidently rather frightened at the task which is a most difficult one. If I can only get up into the centre again for some time we shall set to work but mean while to publish what we have worked, with numerous small changes in the vocabulary due to local variations, he simply publishing what is already in print.

Would you kindly send me a line to Professor G. B. Howes, Royal College of Science, South Kensington telling me when I should be likely to find you in Cambridge. My time will be very fully occupied and it will be vacation with you but I should very much like to run up to Cambridge for a day when I am in London, so as to see you.

Yours very sincerely

W. Aldwin Spence.