

FRAZER

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~~DARLEY,~~
~~ARMADALE.~~

University
Melbourne

Nov. 15. 13

My dear Frazer,

I have taken my passage home in the P. & O. steamer 'Mongolia' leaving here on Dec. 2nd. I shall come overland from Marseilles & reach London early in January. My address there will be Morley's Hotel & after I have got through the preliminary stages of some business I hope to see you in Cambridge if you should happen to be there at that time of the year. I shall only have about four weeks in England as I must be back in Melbourne in the middle of March.

I am very hard at work with Examinations but, on the voyage home, hope to complete a book dealing with the work that I did

East year in the Northern Territory.

My time there was so much occupied with routine work in Head of the Aboriginal Department & I lost so much valuable time at the best time of the year for travelling owing to an accident to my leg, that my results are by no means what I wish they were. However they are I think

good so far as they go & probably represent my last contribution to field anthropological work because it is not likely that I shall be able to go into the wilds again.

My wife nor myself are growing younger. My wife has been most self-sacrificing in regard to my work & has had as far as I can imagine many anxious times. She is not in good health & it would not be right for me to go out again so I must regard my field work as finished - except perhaps for minor work which will not mean long absence from home.

While going through my notes I have often wished that I could get back again & clear up certain points but these are more or less matters of detail & I do not think that any further investigation of our ^{central} tribes would yield anything of primary importance. I do not know whether Brown has made

more to say about the West Australian natives but they seem to be very much like the Central ones in all fundamental points & I think that we have now a fairly good knowledge of the Australian tribes generally - except of

course the West and Arnhem's land where they are too wild to do anything with at present. I fancy however that there are much the same as the Kakadu amongst whom I was working last year.

With kindest regards to yourself,
and Mrs. Dräger

Yours very sincerely

W. Baldwin Spencer.

P.S. I hear that several anthropologists

are coming out with the Brit.
As next year. Some of them
seem to think that we keep
tubs of wild animals in our
back yards to work at when we
feel so disposed. W.B.S.