

Journal Mrs. Mrs.
Hypothese

Sept 27. 1915

Dear Mr. Shaw

I have a fairly bulky amount of detail which I had been collecting for my own edification concerning these natives for some time past. They recorded almost every detail as far as possible which takes place in our local customs & ceremonies - checking off carefully what has come under my own personal observation and my partner's Freeman. I have also taken care to let the native volunteer information concerning their ceremonies rather than ask questions. As I believe through experience with other native races that a native in a general way will say things to please - This information I have entered as coming from that source as against ours which we know ^{to be} fact - I have taken the measurements of groups of typical natives in our locality some 40 or so for my own edification I have no particular instrument for this purpose. I measured the man or woman as for clothing - for instance a tape around the head gave the measure as for a hat - measured from the ground for the different heights to ear, chin breast nipple navel (stomach) knee, calf, and width of palms, nose & eye centres - circumference of big toe & thumb length of latter in some cases - circumference of calf thigh & breast - length of foot etc. I have also recorded their tribe - totems, their parents ^{where possible} & colour of eyes - nature of hair and other incidental details - and guessed at their ages - whether cut (ie circumcised & subincised) or not - I have all these in hand with a collection of various prints about each individual & a side view sketch of most of

The people so dealt with. to give an idea of their dressing,
 or shape of face. I did this for my own edification
 and not with a scientific outlook. The measurements were of
 course taken with a staff for height & an ordinary thin tape. as I
 have not any better machines. - They were also recorded in inches &
 feet. I have also taken pains to check off any deformities ~~amongst~~
 (national) amongst our locals. As to the record of the ceremonies
 & dances. they are extremely interesting to me. but whether to
 other. I would not guarantee. I took care to ~~record~~ all
 that we heard about ceremonies. and generally recorded such as
 we heard it. but ^{with} a note to that effect near. - all that I know
 to be fact. (ie, personal observation. or of my colleagues. I
 placed on such.) hoping ^{that} at some future occasion to link
 all the facts together & get an idea of the object & real
 intention & life of the natives in these parts. - I have also
 gathered together ^{most of} the words used for common things and
 possibly as time allows will have many more. I find that
 the natives here have a word (in respect to the human body)
 for almost every ^{part} ~~part~~. I have recorded them as they
 sound. & find difficulty in getting English letters to answer.
~~As~~ As to the photo films - we have a ~~the~~ camera here
 but only those photos are allowed to be taken which can
 be sold as Picture Cards. to an amicable public.
 I may be able to take advantage of your kind offer shortly
 however. - As to the weapons in use in these parts I have a small
 number. also the hair belt. which is worn by males. it is
 difficult to obtain I believe. - This one Mrs. Stinson under great
 difficulty and as a very special favour. Def. course no one

Here know I have these things, not even the stuff - The mammoth
is an heir loom handed down from father to sons... They are
always difficult to obtain here. (That is the proper mammoth) we have
heard of some being made for 'going away purposes' at Souvenir
hunters at Wexham and other places. - The photos of the
men which my wife has at Midland & here. These side views
and measurements here -

VIEWS

With all good wishes
Yours Truly John Addison

P.S. I was invited and took part in the Corroboree of which
I have sent details. I believe I omitted to mention with note
our action in great haste. That at certain formation the lead had to
be turned the central table. When this happened a person behind
me touched me on the head for the purpose of giving me notice & further
the back hand. was held on hands either of back the we faced
each other (in this case the right) Owing my prompt help others
I was enabled to take notice. The Corroboree is still
continuing it started on Tuesday last. & continues for about 1 1/2 hours
each night at Miss Johnson's. & I have before sunrise -
rather say we shall now have sunrise. & there is the beginning of as you know
we will see ~~sun~~ our first lead down with
stars here on Sunday but no sunrise.

Yours Truly
John Addison