

Madurai the 15th April 1887.

Dear Sir,

By Mr. Mackenzie Kinders I had a few days ago a copy of the Times in which your letter d.d. 29th October 1886 in my behalf appeared.

Although, as a working naturalist, I had always the greatest admiration for you, the master of our science, you have now laid me under such personal obligations that, I fear, I never may be able to acknowledge them sufficiently. Unknown to you, lost and forgotten even by my few friends, I had no whatever reason to believe me remembered by you: so great becomes my gratitude for your generous intercession, so heartier my thankfulness for your disinterested advocacy of my and my people's relief.

I, nevertheless, believe it my duty to tell you plainly that I am not at all willing to leave my mob. They stand to me in hard and bloody times; so it would become me very ill to leave them now that a ray of hope appears. I did not work twelve long years here for running away as soon as an occasion offers itself. What Girdan trusted to me, and also people, I shall hold them to the last. Let England put matters aright in Mysore and open us a sure road, that is all we want for the moment.

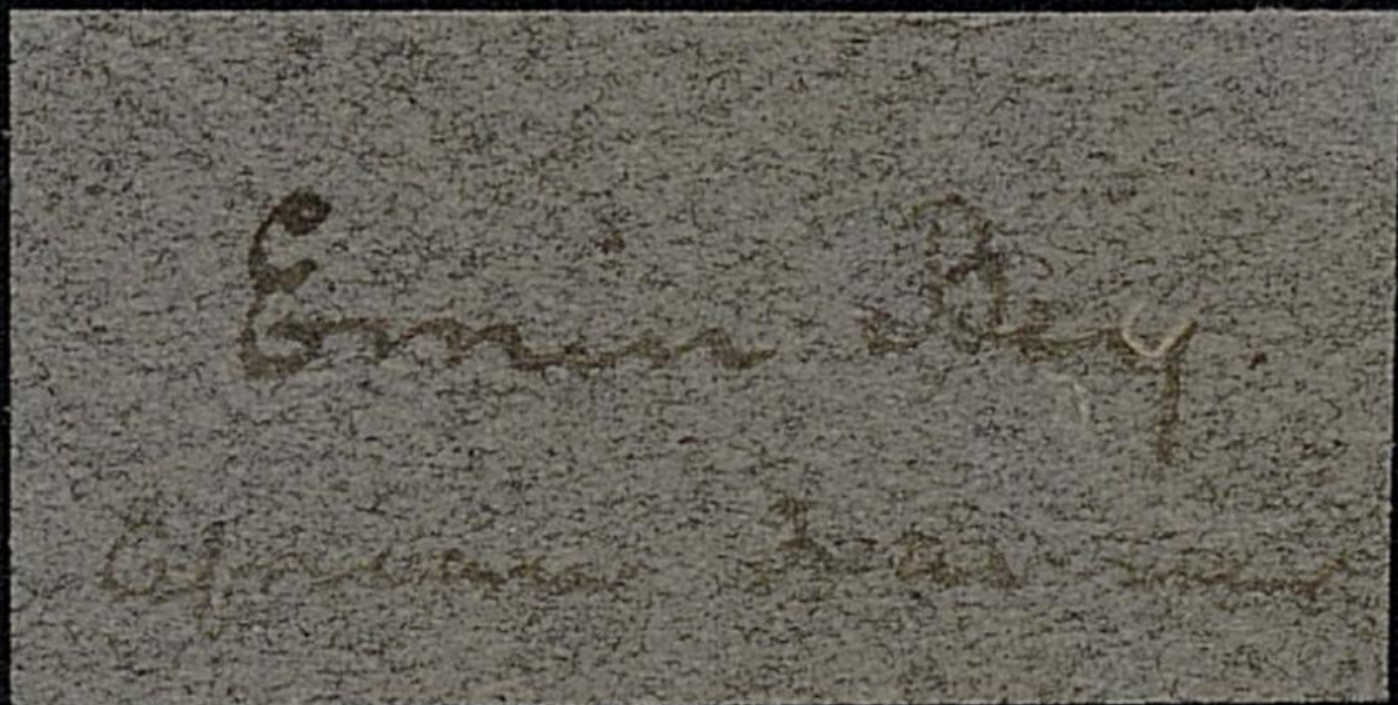
that besides my official work, I always shall do my best for
showing and collecting, I need not tell you. A lot of material
history collections, amongst them many new species of birds and
mammalia, I collected in Hankow country, I forwarded in
November part to the British Museum. I had intended to send over
the birds to the Zool. Society, but as I can only pay the transport from
here to Tangibar and did not know if the Society would consent to
cover the return transport to England, I refrained from doing it.
If, however, you wish for specimens from here, I am quite ready
to assist you and your friends by forwarding whatever I am able to
get, except such specimens as require the preservation spirits.

The geographical and zoological exploration of Ulut Lake, I began
some time ago, has given me many interesting facts, particularly
for its geography. Unluckily my literary resources are very scarce
and I do not know of Mr. Hartland, my valued friend, is yet alive.
If the Zool. Society would be agree some contributions from me and
as an outsider has no right to intrude, I shall be happy to embody
my notes on various items in a paper or two and send them at
the first occasion. I must, however, request your charity for my
uncouth English: what I know of it, I learned it here and Central
Africa is certainly a strange school for European languages.

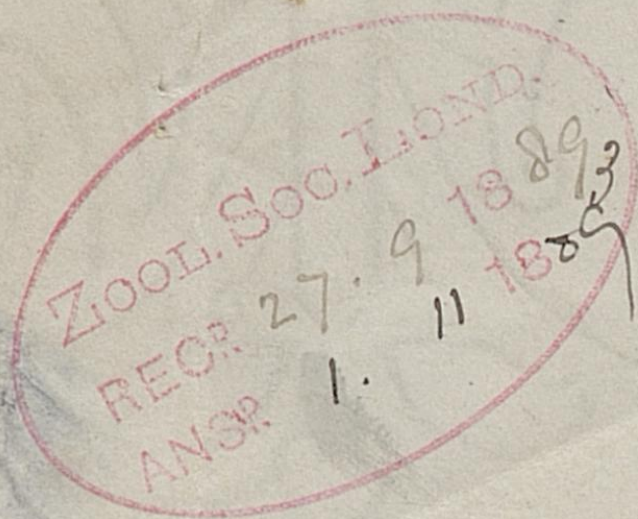
My letter has become already too long and it would be a shame to
proceed further on your valuable time. So let me once yet repeat
you my cordial thanks for your great kindness and your warm
sympathy; I shall be happy if you will favour me with some
word from time to time.

Alight me by acquainting me with any particular wishes of yours
and your friends, I may be able to satisfy and believe me, Dear
Sir,

Yours most faithfully
Dr. Emmer Rey



Dr. P. L. Sclater, F. R. S.,
Secretary Zoological Society



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