

Penola.
7.10.65.

W.H. Archer, Esq. &c. &c.

My dear Sir,

*Quid retribuam tibi pro omnibus curis anxietatibusque vestris in quaestro difficilime microscopiiii mei*¹. (Observe I have put a double genitive to micros.² because it is a binocular). I wonder whether you will see the joke. Now my very dear Mr. Archer if you are not sulky with me (for I fear that you are) for that wretched joke of mine at yr expense with Verdon³ and for which I don't intend to apologise, I will tell you that you have very much to answer for. You have so upset me by yr glowing description of the microscope that my cupidity is excited and I shut my ears to sensible warnings, my eyes to the Insolvent Court and my conscience and I say, say send me the microscope. Here is your £10 and for the other £10 take your place among the hungry creditors who will ere long be clamouring for a dividend of 7 1/2d. in the pound. Really I am very much obliged to you. It is a kindness to help me in a matter of this sort. I know I can't afford it just now but what matter if the worst comes to the worst I suppose the instrument will always realize its money again. I shan't part with the other until I see yours; indeed I can't for there is a hitch in disposing of it and this is the reason I say so much about my recklessness but it will go eventually.

Many thanks for your "tistics 1862". I hope that the Sydney papers will come soon as I am stopped on something Physical for them. What are the objectives you will send. Please hand over the instrument to Dwight with every direction as to care & - & - & -.

I am in an awful hurry with sick call so pray excuse haste and I will tell you more about my duties in my next which are just now terrific.

vytryyrs.

J.E. Tenison Woods.

P.S. Instead of P.O. order I have sent cheque which Grice, Sumner & Coy⁴ will take without discount. No advices will come of P.O. Order for a week after you receive this as they have to go by sea.⁵

1. "What am I to repay you for all your worries in searching with the utmost difficulty for my microscope."

2. Microscopiiii instead of microscopii.

3. Note 4, 5/9/65.

4. Grice, Sumner & Co., one of the most important mercantile houses in the Australian colonies had premises at 17 Flinders

Street West and 24 Flinders Lane West and extensive pastoral interests in South Australia and the eastern mainland states. On the death of his partner, Benjamin Heape, in 1855, Richard Grice (1813-1882) admitted T.J. Sumner, a clerk with the firm, into the partnership. The company was formed when Grice's eldest son, James, entered the firm. (A.D.B. Vol. 4, p. 300). In 1865 Mr. Sumner was a member of the Commission charged with organising the 1866-67 Intercolonial Exhibition in Melbourne (Note I, 24/II/66). Other Commissioners included Hon. G.F. Verdon, Rev. J.J. Bleasdale, D.D., Ferdinand von Mueller, F.R.S. and Professor McCoy.

5. This sentence is crossed out.