BC 151

BC 151 C11.4

~~My dear Sir Thomas~~

~~I received yours~~

Dear Sir

May I enquire from you whether you are inclined to undertake the translation of a treatise of mine on the Origin of Language. I have had it printed in German, though as yet only in a few copies for private circulation. I should like the German and English editions to appear simultaneously. ~~Yours~~ I have on that account proposed to Messrs. Macmillan & Co to undertake the publication of the English edition, and ~~to come to~~ asked them ~~I shall be obliged to you for this purpose~~ to make some arrangement with you respecting the translation of the German edition. I know that the task of such a translation will be by no means an easy one, ~~and on that account~~ but I have no doubt that to a scholar of your ability it can offer no ~~will be by no means~~ insuperable ~~bar~~, ~~&c~~ and I trust that Messrs. Macmillan & Co will be able to offer you a sufficient remuneration to make it worth your while to undertake this task. I should, however, be already ~~engaged~~ prevented from undertaking this work, ~~I shall be obliged to you~~ if you ~~will~~ kindly ~~reply~~ ~~what~~ this ~~scholar~~ ~~might not~~ ~~confidently~~ ~~not~~ ~~this~~ ~~work~~ ~~confidently~~ ~~on~~ ~~that account~~ ~~regarding~~ any ~~request~~ ~~depends on your~~ ~~reply~~ ~~to~~ ~~you~~ ~~reply~~ ~~upon~~ ~~might not~~ ~~confidently~~ ~~not~~ ~~this~~ ~~work~~ ~~of~~ translation ~~might~~ ~~not~~ ~~confidently~~ ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~at the same time~~ ~~would probably be involved to undertake it.~~ ~~be entirely~~ ~~of course~~.

I can, of course, by no means expect that you or any other scholar will agree with all ~~my~~ the ideas of this treatise; ~~and~~ ~~as~~ I am quite ~~fully~~ prepared to find that you ~~totally~~ ~~what~~ differ from them. On this account I must leave it entirely to you whether you ~~wish to~~ prefer to have your name as translator ~~must~~ stated on the title page or not.

You may perhaps ~~wonder~~ ~~why~~ ~~I offer~~ ~~to you~~ ~~it is that I offer it to you~~ I make such a great point of one who is personally quite unknown to me. I will ~~candidly~~ confess that ever since ~~the~~ 3 years ~~of~~ the publication of your Grammar

with great regard

Grammar of the Persian Language, I have taken an interest in one who besides ~~the~~ common (and otherwise so uncommon) family name X (for my Grandfather still spelled his name with a c like you) and only my father who dropped it) seemed to share similar literary and scientific tastes. Hearing, therefore, lately ~~something of your, which rendered it probable~~ that ~~that~~ ~~I~~ ~~would not~~ probably be unacceptable to you, I at once resolved to ~~ask you first whether~~ offer you ~~the offer of the~~ honor of translating this my little work.

I need ~~not~~ hardly add that whether or not you undertake ~~the~~ the translation, you will consider my communication as confidential, and look upon the treatise until it ~~appears in~~ is really published as merely a private manuscript.

I had hoped to be able to send ~~my~~ this March the ~~m~~ treatise with the Preface and the Title, but the Preface is still in the Printer's hands, ~~and~~ ~~I must defer it~~ ~~I shall send it by the~~ ~~only~~ send the treatise itself.

To Messrs. Martin Macmillan & Co

I am this time and must defer the transmission

Transmission of the Preface Fillmont Mark.