BC151 C16.10

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Sept. 26. 1944.

Dear Miss Bleek.

I am returning herewith the portion of your Bushman Dictionary, with a fairly detailed series of notes which I hope will help you. I am sorry I have not been quicker in doing the work. But the fact that my eyes have not been too good, added to the abnormal volume of work I have to do here will be, I hope, a sufficient explanation. Besides I was desirous of devoting to so important a piece of work as your Dictionary all the care & attention it deserves. Hence, although I did the preliminary work as I best could fit in with my other work, I reserved my final revision and the drafting of the accompanying notes, which embody my considered opinions, to this week

when we are having a short break ~~after~~ in my lecturing (not my Committee work).

I have all along considered it an honour to be allowed to see the Dictionary in the process of being made and a great privilege to be asked to help, and I say again I can only hope that my efforts in this last direction are really of service to you. And I must add that I trust you will continue to enlist me in this, ~~really~~ to me, very gratifying task.

With the kindest regards

Yours very truly

L. F. Maingard

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Notes on portion ≠ of the Bushman Dictionary of Miss Bleek

Introductory page – 1.

It would be well to give the full references to Doke's book, with page, etc.

General Remarks on pp. 2–67.

A. I see that you give the Bushman words and phrases, quoted in the body of each item, in the original script and symbols as used by each individual author. This is perhaps the best solution of a difficult question. Another solution would have been to reduce all these words and phrases to the uniform script used by you at the head of each item. This naturally would have disadvantages.

The solution adopted by you, might however give rise to difficulties with the publisher, as it will, I think, increase the cost of printing. This is, in any case, a question that can be solved by direct contact with the publisher.

B. Since you have adopted the first solution (i.e. original script of the author), may I suggest, ~~that~~ if this is not already your intention, that you explain, perhaps in a short prefatory note at the beginning of the ~~work~~ dictionary, ~~on~~ the symbols & diacritic signs used by the different authors, the value of ~~those~~ signs or symbols. It would help the users of ~~your~~ your dictionary very considerably.

C. In your English translations of the words & phrases quoted I see that you also keep the original order of the words in the translation.

e.g. ~~P. 30~~

(a) P. 30. line 30. "on a branch the bones stick, over a fire put and roast"
– 31 — 31. "a man the apron ties."

also on pp. 32, line 15; p. 36, last line; ~~page~~ 38, last line but 2; p. 45 l. 21, p. 47 l. 18, p. 56 line 1; p. 58, l. 27 & 28, p. 60, l 24, p. 53. line 13

(2)

p. 63, l. 4; p. 64, l. 20 & 21;

(b) also in the translations of the quotations from my work (Mg.) e.g. pp. 84 line 8 & 20; p. 44, last line

I know that you have tru these translations are either literal or else attempt to preserve the Bushman order of words. If you decide to keep them as they are, here again a prefatory note with is indicated where you might quote some of the examples (Bushman & English) and explain.

D. Suggested corrections or emendations

Page 15 line 2. yellowish instead of yelloish
— 19 — 6. flip should this be flick (?)
— 24 — 21 shall instead of shal
— 25 — 16 wound — — wavound
— 29 last line "Explanation of a painting" should be better within brackets thus: [Explanation of a painting].
— 37 — 1. add after right [speaking of the hand]
— 44 — 16. "poundingly" replace ~~sitting~~ by "heavily"
— 41 — 17 mishear replace by "to hear wrongly"
— 54 — 30. off instead of of [they of themselves come # of].
— 57 — 13 after Museum add [Cape Town], as the word Museum is not readily understood by those who are not familiar with the Bleek ~~Mus~~ & Lloyd mss.
— 65. — 26. ~~instead of~~ insect instead of animal.
67 — 3. whall ~~on the~~ should this word be "will" or "all"?

Answers to questions in your letter [3. 8. 1944]

1. I think it is useful to give the grammatical values of your words, as far as possible, [Bushman is rather fluid in these respects] by inserting as you have done m & v.
2. You can use either see or cp (= compare). The references are useful.
3. You should use the hyphen for one thing and no thing

T. T.

(3) as otherwise it might lead to confusion in the reader's mind

only. i.e. either (a) to indicate the absence of ~~and~~ (b) to indicate ~~and~~ the different members of a composite word. The hyphen is usually employed for (b)

Page 33 line 4.
"Concerning" is this for "concertina"?

Page 63, line 21
"to fetch his sticks" instead of ~~to fetch~~ to fetch for his sticks

(3)

only [otherwise it may lead to confusion in the reader's mind]: either (a) to indicate the diphthong or (b) to indicate the different members of your composite word. The hyphen is usually employed for (b)

L. t. M.