

(7)

~~1898~~ 1899

BANK HOUSE,  
PENICUICK,  
MIDLOTHIAN.

Aug 30.

My dear Sir  
Many thanks for  
the interesting drawings  
and vellum. The  
former is better  
executed than all  
but the Dutch analogue  
that I have seen,  
and that was why  
worked on the  
side.  
I quite see the force of

cannot see that an  
Ringer theory of the

Origin of Totemism  
is probable. I did not  
know that the magic  
of the Totem prevailed  
outside the Central  
region, and, if not,

why not? However,  
I am open to conviction,  
though I see great  
difficulties in the way  
of any ~~the~~ theory.

As to virgin birth,  
what you say is

your argument, but  
Mabius's message  
being certainly the  
least advanced, I

think it not able  
that they have, as  
I understand, the  
usual form of  
Totemism, in

relation to Gogamy. But,  
not having your book  
here, I may be wrong.  
In any case, I

startling, but when  
you remark on  
"the insufficiency of the  
magic power of any  
individual," is the  
individual dead or  
alive? A spirit in  
the air, or a man, or  
a woman? I gathered  
from your book that the  
woman needed  
"preparation" in the  
usual way. A? If we  
could meet for ten  
minutes I could  
understand the

BANK HOUSE,  
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Native opinion better.  
It only exists in the  
Centre, I presume?  
One would like to  
know if so, how  
the change to the  
ordinary native  
notions came about.  
I thought Mr Keane  
was at sea. Mr  
Howitt has always  
been my chief  
authority.

I am not likely to  
write again, same on  
these matters, but I  
shall introduce your  
views if ever I do. The  
distance is the  
difficulty. I can  
bring the natives  
not being surprised  
if women after  
their beauty ceremony,

7  
had children without  
[known] intercourse, but  
women before it are  
different. And how is  
the offspring of bastards  
accounted for by  
these consistent  
philosophers? Any way,  
my article only  
states difficulties,  
which I turned to me,  
obviously they may  
arise from my own  
ignorance.  
Very sincerely yours  
H. Lang

When I said ~~more~~ "more  
evidence" I meant more  
of your evidence, more  
in detail. I did not  
grasp the idea of  
magic, only of  
spiritual entrance

into the woman,  
unobscured, and  
without human magic.  
~~unobscured.~~