

FRAZER

20

13 Guest Road
Cambridge

21st. November 1898

My dear Sir

I was very glad to learn by your letter of October 6th that you are so soon to be in England, and I look forward with much interest and pleasure to making your personal acquaintance and discussing some of the problems of anthropology, particularly the origin of totemism, with you. On this last point (the origin of ~~and~~ totemism) your book seems to throw fresh and important light. Towards the end of August I wrote a letter to you in which I sketched in outline a new explanation of totemism based on the facts collected by Mr. Gillen and yourself. Perhaps the letter did not reach you before your departure

for England. In any case I hope to discuss the theory fully with you. It would give my wife and myself great pleasure if you could spend a couple of days or so with us in Cambridge. Except for December 6th, we have at present no engagement for the time of your stay in England, so that any time (except Dec. 6th) which might suit you would be quite convenient to us. There might be some advantage in coming early in the month, as I should like you to meet my friend Dr. Henry Jackson of Trinity, who is much interested in these subjects and who will probably be leaving Cambridge for the Christmas vacation somewhere about December 10th. As your time is so limited and you will probably have much to do in it, you might perhaps find it most convenient to come from a Saturday to a Monday, as Sunday is not a day in which much business can be done in London. But please name your own time. We shall be delighted to see

you at any time, if you can put up with very simple accommodation, which is all that we can offer in our little house. If you preferred it, I could easily get you rooms in College for as long as you cared to stay, and in any case I would suggest that you should dine with me in hall while you are here. In that way you would have a better opportunity of meeting various men whom you might wish to see, for our tiny parlour is hardly adapted to dinner parties.

I have now corrected all the reviews, but have directed the printers to print off nothing more till your arrival, beyond what was printed off before I knew of your coming to England. How far the book is printed off I cannot say, as clean sheets have not been sent to me. The glossary I have not corrected, and hardly need to do so now, as you will be here so soon. The only liberty of any moment I have allowed myself

in dealing with the revises has been that of transposing a few of the illustrations into what seemed more suitable places. Some of them had no connexion with the context in which they were placed (so at least it seemed to me), but a close connexion with other passages, to which accordingly I made bold to shift them. But the number of such transpositions is small, perhaps a dozen or so in all. I trust the changes will be approved or at least not disapproved by you.

Hoping to see you soon, I am

yours very sincerely

J. G. Frazer.

I have told the printers to keep all my corrected revises, and I am myself keeping all your corrected first proofs. By comparing them with the book as printed off you will see exactly the extent of the corrections made by me in the revises.