

May 8/76

Dear George,

Rankine has directed all the grasshopper  
~~see~~ pamphlets both to  
 Mannheim and U.S.,  
 leaving me about 70  
 copies of the whole  
 edition, of which I  
 mail 6 more to you  
 to-day, so that at  
 least 220 copies have  
 been forwarded to your  
 correspondents, in addition  
 to a few to entomologists &c.  
 As to the Indian  
 languages I think we

could publish them  
here. I quite forgot when  
you mentioned this & am  
wondering to give you a  
hint of some importance  
viz that it is of the  
greatest consequence for  
any philological purpose  
& shall use the words  
in a vocabulary. From mere  
annotations of ease —  
setting the words, most  
lists contain little else  
than names of parts  
of the body, & names of bones  
<sup>of the</sup> animals. These  
are of little value as

being the most changeable  
arts, and therefore the  
of differ <sup>or to be the same from accident,</sup> <sup>close,</sup>  
allied languages. The  
words of real value are  
the little changeable ones  
and of these the most  
important are

Man, or mankind  
People, or nation  
house, or place of abode  
boat, or canoe  
weapon, or weapons  
god  
spirit, manna or demon  
Earth, or land  
Water, with modes for  
lake, river or

There are little changeable  
words derived from minor  
animal roots, little affected  
of monotonous, which affects  
all names of animals we,  
and practically traceable  
in all the languages of  
the world. The question  
of what name any tribe  
calls its house or dwelling  
place, and its people,  
is of more value when  
ascertained than any other  
whenever it indicates its  
affinities and filiations.

Thank you for your  
Memorandum of books  
& I am with the

expect that he will  
write for them in  
book catalogues,  
and pick them  
up as he can. He  
can do this, I think  
better than any  
one else I know.  
When secured, will  
be sent them by  
book post, or keep  
them here till for  
return.

We are all  
well, and enjoying  
our wet weather

As you had at  
Victims in winter  
I have been waiting  
but rain success  
may come in and  
very early.

With all  
love

Your affectionate  
father

W. Dawson