

Memphis. Tenn.  
Apr. 7 1856.

My dear Friend,

I was duly pained with your kind letter. The favorable manner in which you speak of my imperfect work, gives me more pleasure than a thousand eulogies from others, because it tells me that I have not altogether labored in vain, as I am certain you had not commenced a work you did not really approve. My pen also felt your kindness in its fullest extent.

Whether I have then any ideas or not from ~~the~~ <sup>Dr</sup> Morrison's Grammar you yourself can easily judge by the terms as I dare say you have never seen a copy of both. You will certainly allow that if there be any ideas in one which are not found in the other, these could not have been taken from it; and respecting the ideas which are common to both, it should be enquired whether these are common and obvious, and hence such as a person writing has been likely to meet with in his search

after those which are left common  
as to obtain from a priest, or have in  
China, and therefore better acquainted  
with every thing common than  
any European can be expected to be.  
The fact is, however, that I never saw  
Mr. Morrison's grammar till about  
ten months before my own was  
finished at Nepe, and that tho' I saw  
many things in it relative to Chinese  
they were such as I had already  
perused off or marked for that  
purpose, and respecting which in-  
deed my views ~~were~~ some instances  
~~my views~~ differed widely from Mr.  
Morrison's. But what could I do in  
this case? I could not lay aside what  
I had already collected merely be-  
cause it was also in Mr. Morris-  
on's; I could not say I had borrow-  
ed these ideas unless I had really bor-  
rowed them; and had I said that I  
differed from Mr. Morrison in my  
idea of them, and stated my reasons  
for thus differing as I had reference to

Government, it would have been to take  
an indecent attempt to propose the  
public against a book before they  
had seen it, conduct of which I  
certainly could not be guilty to -  
wards any one, much less towards  
a friend, to obtain the highest prize  
ever yet awarded to a poem man  
I trust then, my dear Manning, you  
have precisely my reasons for  
not noticing Mr. Rousseau's gram-  
mar tho' I detest Government.

I rejoice to hear your  
life has been preserved; I was  
in doubt when I mentioned it  
in my book whether you were in  
the land of the living or not. Mr. Pol-  
ner having just before told me that  
the last time he heard from you you  
were almost past recovery in a fever,  
I hope now you will live to see your na-  
tive land, and to bless mankind with the  
fruit of your labors. I send you, either to  
the post office and should rejoice to be able  
to send them in more for you. I am re-  
membered you with great respect and so they  
Mr. Marshman. Wishing you may be  
freed to share with me in the hope of the  
people's freedom, I remain, your  
Dr. Do my love to your mother and sister  
I am

From Portland

Thomas & Manning Esq

Care of the Bank of