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17 STANHOPE STREET

GLASGOW C.4. 16th August 1927

FB/MF

Professor E. Schrödinger,  
ZURICH.

Dear Sir,

We have your post-card of the 11th inst.

Your Papers are being translated here in Glasgow under our direct supervision so that any suggestions should be sent to us. Needless to say, we shall welcome any suggestions, and shall adopt them so far as we can see our way to do so.

We have given special consideration to the words - "Eigenvalues" and "Eigenfunctions". We did not suggest in our letter of the 4th inst. that the matter could be settled by simply stating that the usual English word is "characteristic". What we have to do is to use a word which is pleasing to the English ear; that will be acceptable to French-speaking, German-speaking, and Italian-speaking authors, for we are actually translating French works on this subject as well as your own; and that is in accordance with English usage so far as such usage is established.

We cannot please everybody - if we use "Eigenvalues" and "Eigenfunctions" we shall possibly have protests from



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French writers that they want the word "characteristic" in accordance with French usage, and, as they will claim, prior English usage. We, therefore, have to be guided by the general considerations that we have already mentioned and we have decided to use the word "characteristic" throughout.

Yours truly,

FOR BLACKIE & SON, LIMITED

J. D. P. Briace Director

