

Euler to Wettstein  
Berlin, 28 August 1750  
Letter 265 (2766)

It has been such a long time since I had news from you that I feel obligated to break the silence, since the end of the year is near, and that I wanted to know what to do concerning your intentions to our little almanacs. For I had the honor to tell you that I had expressly had printed a good number of old calendar style which will be printed in soft cover as will others in hard cover. I am awaiting your orders expectantly and the number of orders that you wish and on what occasion should I have them shipped. If you know of a bookseller in London who would undertake to sell a certain number of copies for the benefit of the Academy, we would be pleased to forward to him as many as he likes at the same price that we charge you in so far as that there is no risk to the Academy concerning payment. I must add that in the case that the bookseller would not want all the copies, the Academy will take back the remaining copies in lieu of payment, assuming that there will not be a great number remaining.

You will be surprised to learn, Sir, in telling you that I have not yet received either the books or the tobacco that you had the goodness to send with the trunk that Mr. Mortimer sent to Mr. Grischow nearly a year ago. It is not that the trunk did not arrive safely in Hamburg, but that Mr. Grischow, and I am not aware of the reasons, has not found it appropriate to withdraw them, even though he promised me that he would as soon as he got the trunk. Finally having lost patience, I told his merchant to deliver the package to a friend in Hamburg. He did so, but according to what I have just learned, there was nothing in the trunk addressed to me, I am told that there were some packages of books, but absolutely no tobacco of which I am in very short supply with my stock being at the point of being finished. Under these circumstances I do not know whether you forgot to

indicate my address on the package which you told me of, or whether Dr. Mortimer had forgotten to put it in the case or whether he did not find enough room for the tobacco. However, I will send a list of the books to Hamburg by today's post which should have been part of our specifications to see whether the tobacco is in one of the packages.

If you have the opportunity to speak with Dr. Mortimer, to whom I request that you provide him with my most humble regards, as well as to the illustrious members of the Royal Society, might I impose on you to be informed of an affair which regards his Excellency Monseigneur d'Arnim, Minister of State to the King, The minister having seen the maps that you had the goodness to provide to Count Kayserling, gave the order to Mr. Grischow to procure the same maps. If I am not mistaken he paid 10 pounds sterling, and Dr. Mortimer who received this money reportedly promised to purchase the maps, but it has already been two years without word. In the case that Dr. Mortimer still has this money and that he no longer wishes to take on this commission, and if he unable to find anyone to do the job, it will be hoped that he will have the kindness to send back the money to the attention of Mr. Splittgerber in Berlin.

It is a great joy to have my mother here with us, who I convinced to leave Basel and come to Berlin so as to be more comfortable. We went to Frankfurt to meet her and we have been back from the trip for about six weeks. My wife who delivered a baby on Holy Friday that she had carried for seven months , and the delivery which was more dangerous than usual, but for the grace of God she easily recovered and the trip did her much good. The child even though extremely weak lived for 19 weeks.

Now we are all perfectly well, Thanks be to God and we are awaiting similar news from you and Madame, your wife to whom we provide our humble regards.

I have the honor of being with the most perfect devotion [...]