

Euler to Wettstein  
Berlin, 17 July, 1751  
Letter 270 (2771)

[...] It was today that that the young man employed in the service of Mr. Finch has left from here and I hope that he has conducted himself in such a way that we will be pleased and that he should listen to the stern warnings that our French ministers had provided to him prior to his departure. At least he shows a great amount of zeal for this position, and since I told him that Mr. Finch required him to have a better understanding of grammar, he applied himself from that moment onwards to do everything possible in these studies and I hope that he will have profited from his time and that he will take advantage more and more. I was well aware of the gracious statement that Mr. Finch made and I can only imagine that it would benefit that I address a letter of my thanks and my submission; however as I am unaware of his character and the work that he is undertaking at this moment, I am in the impossibility of fulfilling well my appointed task and closing this matter I ask you very kindly, Sir, to provide him with my humble excuses of this subject and to assure him of all the most respectful feelings for which I am aware on his behalf

I also have a thousand thanks for the tobacco that you had the goodness to send, the more I smoke the more I find it to my taste, and I would be unable to tell the difference between the two. As such I request that you send me another 12 pounds by any good means that you find.

Mr. de Maupertuis has entrusted me to thank you for all that you have done in concerns the geographic maps and the mulberry bushes. I am expecting to include a letter of change in concerns the expenses that you have already made towards the Academy and that I am also entrusted to ask a bit more of you. As for the geographic maps, I request that you do not omit any that have to do with America. As for the Virginian mulberry bushes the

Academy wishes to purchase 200 at 1 shilling a piece, and as you have mentioned to provide assistance, I humbly request that you make the necessary arrangements to send the trees to us as soon as the proper season has arrived. I suggest the Hamburg canal which would probably be the best way. However, one or two pounds of seeds at 1 guinea are well appreciated as soon as we can have them, as such please add them to our bill. Our library also is missing a good part of the Transactions to which I will add a note at the end, and since you wish to employ your self so generously for our Academy, might I add that you should add the trees and the Transactions which we are missing. Mr. de Maupertuis expects for himself the works of President Folkes (to whom I wish for you to make my most gracious regards as well as to the entire society), in the case that he has not already sent them this appears to be the perfect opportunity. As for the **Uranography**, I have very little hope that it will be finished by the time for us to send the trees. Aren't there rare pear, apple, cherry and plum trees in London? If that is the case then you are requested, Sir, to add about a dozen of such trees with their names so that gardener will know which are which and that we not longer cause you any trouble.

So as to avoid a complication concerning payment by letter, I request that you place them at the account of the Academy which will not hesitate in its gratitude for these important services that you are doing for us.

As for the Mulberry bushes and the other things that you would like to send us, I engage you to place them with Mr. Battier who will send them to us immediately. He will also be empowered to have Mr. Splittgerger reimburse you all of the expenses that it could have cost you. It was for this reason that I did not include a letter of change since we had no idea how much all of this might cost.

My entire family presents their humble regards and the same to your wife, of which I have the honor to be with all possible affection [...]

The last work of the Philosophical Transactions is number 433 which contains the month of July and August 1734 and we also request that you send the following numbers.

1<sup>st</sup> Edit 12/1/03