

Euler to Wettstein
Berlin, 8 July 1752
Letter 276 (2777)

[...] After the satisfaction of seeing you as a member of our Academy, I also had the satisfaction of having our Academy induct Professor Wettstein of Amsterdam for which I am very pleased. As for you, Sir, you have already rendered so many important services to our Academy, that it was only a small marking of our appreciation. I must admit that I gave Mr. Formey your address, and I have never doubted that you were a member of the Royal Society of London, since it is to you that I received that honor in virtue of the axiom: *Quod qui non habet, alteri dare nequit*, I concluded that you were as well and even eminently a member thereof, I must be in error, and you should use this as your motto. If however, it is the distance and the length of your stay that keeps you from entering the Royal Society, a greater distance that has placed you to do so many great things for our Academy.

In case the money for the almanacs with the two guineas for His Excellency Mr. d'Arnim has not yet been sent, His Excellency has entrusted me to request that the heirs of the late Dr. Mortimer to send something instead of the two guineas in maps or something else of equal value that they will accept and which he leaves entirely at their convenience.

I have received the Halley and the Sherwin tables and I repeat my very humble thanks. As for the almanacs now that the old calendar style has been abolished in England, we will not longer have to add them and that the principal information is in the new style. I am hoping that in the future they will be more to your liking and that we will be able to sell a greater number of copies. In order to make this deal even simpler and in your hands, we can tell Mr. Vallant that he will not be obliged to pay for the copies that he has not sold, as long that the number which were not sold does not exceed the 6th part of the whole number of copies. Then he would return the unsold copies before the end of the year, and since he will pay us only what he sold, he could then sell at a discounted price and that would

increase the sales. I therefore request, Sir that you write to me concerning this, since the almanacs will be completed earlier this year and I can send them before St. Michael's.

We are expecting the two pounds of seeds from Virginia, since everyone admires our mulberry bushes in this part of the country, most of which are growing very well. Some of the other exotics plants did not do well through the cold and perished, furthermore the two Magnolias which arrived are doing better than all the rest. Hardly any of the fruit trees have perished.

A young doctor from here who stopped in London has recently sent two letters to me, one from Mr. Short and the other from Mr. Dolland, the latter having had some doubts on my new theory on optics that I had proposed in our memoirs. I replied to them through the same channels, and I hope that these gentlemen will be satisfied with my answer, perhaps it will be part of the Royal Society's Transactions since I have so fully developed this topic that there is no doubt. They had imagined that I had somehow spoke against the great Newton, however I clearly defined that my reasoning is in perfect alignment with this great man. If you should hear anything concerning this matter, I urge you to inform me.

All my family presents their humble respects as well as to you dear wife.

I am with all possible affections [...]