

1st Edit 12/3/03 Letter 288 (2789)

Euler to Wettstein

Berlin, 5 August 1755

[...] So as to reply to the two letters with which you have honored me, I will start with the last which arrived yesterday and after having read it, I sent a message to Mlle Dehuron who came to me first and after I gave her the enclosed she gave rise to a passionate desire to return to England. I offered my help and asked her to dine with us. Mr. Dietrich picked her up and then returned her to her aunt's in the afternoon, so as to speak with her on my behalf. This aunt protested but finally allowed her to take her things and having taken her leave, she came to my house. My wife has taken care to provide her with everything that she will need to make the trip and we expect that she will be leaving tomorrow for Hamburg. However, since the captain who delivered her is not leaving until Christmas, she will not miss finding another ship ready to leave for London. Until now I have lent her about 5 ecus so as to purchase some traveling clothes, and I will provide her up to 12 ecus as I have been instructed. . She is extremely happy to be in our surroundings and delivered from the clutches of her aunt about whom she complains a great deal, since she was kept shut away and not allowed to speak with anyone. Her inheritance was linked to converting from her religion with threats to have her locked away in a convent. It appears that taking her away by surprise was the best way, since the aunt was unable to muster any forces to stop her. However at present she greatly regrets this sudden move, she has come to me and I have told her that I did nothing else than to provide an alternative to her niece if she wished to return to England which I explained to the aunt and she has since provided her consent, there was really no reason that she could complain to me.

I have not yet been to see Mr. Splittgerber to get the money for the almanacs and Mr. Jefferies need only give the money for

the maps to Mr. Battier as you can tell him upon receipt of this note and tell him that the price of each map is 22 groschen. Mr. Collinson's diploma is still here and I will send it with Mlle Dehuron, Mr. Formey who sends his best regards did not think it appropriate to send it through the mail. The Paris Academy has just honored me with a foreign membership as well as Lord Macclesfield which has given me a great deal of pleasure. My son has been awarded the prize from the Gottingen Academy; however you will easily see that I helped him. However, if he continues to apply himself to his sciences I will have no reason to complain. And it was to further encourage him that Mr. de Maupertuis provided him the honor of receiving him into our Academy.

Next years' almanacs have already been printed and in the case that your library wishes them, you need only order them as early as possible. It appears to me that the commissioners have not done Mr. Mayer of Gottingen justice by objecting that his tables had already been printed. Because these are not the ones in the Gottingen Memoirs on which he has established his discovery, He has mentioned that he has already perfected these same tables to be in concordance with the heavens by less than 30" and these tables have not yet been published. As for what instrument to use to observe the fixed stars from the moon, I am sure that Mr. Mayer will put it in use. It is always necessary to make a great deal of difference between this type of proposition and the ones similar to Mr. Bruckner. Mr. Dietrich has given me the book intended for Mr. Ellis which was intended for Mr. Buttner who also notes its receipt.

I am much obliged, Sir, for the news of our Mr. Raillard came to me a while ago. The gossip here was that he made a fortune of 150'000 pounds sterling by marrying the governor's widow. I also went to our worthy minister Mr. Achard to tell him of the Dehuron affair and to ask for his assistance if necessary. He also requested that I present you with his best wishes as well as to Mr. Achard in London who is no relation. I wait impatiently for the new volume of the Transactions and I would be grateful if you sent two copies, the purchased one will

be for Mr. Eller, my colleague and first doctor to the King. I have been told that the last memoirs are already in London, otherwise I would have sent a copy with Mlle Dehuron, but I would not wish to overburden the poor girl who already has too many things. She has taken the opportunity to send the enclosed as well as offering her very strongest thanks for having provided your help for her most pressing needs. All of my family presents their very humble regards as well as to your wife with the most heartfelt wishes for your welfare and prosperity. Mr. de Maupertuis is also very aware of your memory and has asked me to convey his very best wishes. My entire household is enjoying, thanks be to God, for good health and I have the honor of being with the most perfect affection [...].

PS. After Mlle Dehuron has left I will have the honor to tell you what might still happen. is also very aware of your memory and has asked me to convey his very best wishes. My entire household is enjoying, thanks be to God, for good health and I have the honor of being with the most perfect affection [...].

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