

Euler to Wettstein  
Berlin, 28 April 1759  
Letter 301 (2802)

[...] It is with sadness that I have learned through Mr. Sack that you are not in good health and that when he left you were not in a state to write. I am most profoundly touched and I hope with all my heart that you will soon be yourself again and that you will enjoy your health again for a very long time. But there was some news that Mr. Sack gave to me that made me feel very happy, and that is that you were prepared, as soon as the public peace was re-established, to come for a vacation to our city. That God should take care of blessing one and the other. I can promise that you will find here all the enjoyments and that the Berliner air will suit you much more than that of London. Everyone and especially me, we will try with all our might to provide for all of your comforts. By why should you have to wait until the peace to enjoy this? I am firmly convinced that we will be safe as we could be in London. Even though we are menaced, divine providence has provided us with such brilliant displays of its protection that it would be a crime if we did not entirely confide in the future. In 1757 it was necessary to fight two battles in the countryside to save us and our army which was weakened and embattled even at Köln fought two extraordinary battles if those at Rossbach had been like those of Prague and Lowoset or of all the other that we won, the King would not have found it necessary to entirely abandon Saxony and to attack the Austrians in Silesia of which they were already in control, and we would have been their victim despite the victory won over the French and other Empirists. Last year there was against a situation when divine providence interceded and saved us in a totally different way but no less marvelous. We were beaten at Hochkirchen and apparently placed out of commission to stop our enemies from advancing, and this notwithstanding the King happily evicted

them not only from Saxony but also from Silesia and that without a battle. Under these circumstances would not recognize the hand of the Almighty and refuse to look to him for the future. All of these events will confuse human understanding and I rest assured that the greatest politicians will falter badly if they wanted to guess the outcome of the next campaign. We were very pleased when the Turks decided not to open a second front in Italy to weaken our enemies, however the road of the Lord is completely different, and he will save us in a way that is no less marvelous than it is glorious.

I have learned from Mr. Sack that this years Almanacs have arrived too late towards the end of February, for which I am very surprised. They were sent from Hamburg towards the middle of November with express posting instructions, in the event that they would not be sent to London and to return them to us, and after having left, I could not imagine what the cause was for the terrible delay. I had predicted that this was caused due to the war. So here we have had a useless mailing and a considerable loss for the Academy and I since the tobacco was dependent on the sale of the almanacs. However the principle point is that I should not bother you anymore in the state that you are in, if however you see Mr. Battier or some other representative of Mr. Splittgerber, I implore you, Sir, to tell him in two words to send Mr. Splittgerber 12 pounds of Virginia tobacco and to put it on his account which I shall pay for immediately.

We have just lost all of our prisoners that the King had jailed in Spandau and the reasons will undoubtedly be important. The statement from the King of France in favor of their deserting Saxon officers also seems to have played a role.

All of our compatriots and in particular Baron de Gorgier and in particular my entire household offer their most devoted regards and I repeat my most passionate wish for your health with which I have the honor of being [...]