

Amund
Dec. 15.

45

My dear friend.

It was under the 20. Jul. that I had the pleasure of writing to you. In the mean time it occurred to me, that the different analyses on the Chemistry of vegetation, which you have given so famously in the American review, merite to be known in our country, and I began to work them over, translating some parts and bringing others nearer to the german agricultural interests. By an by and understood, that it would be necessary for this purpose to know Prof Johnsons book in particulars, and I asked Cottay bookseller for it. But I received some days ago the news, that Johnsons book is exhausted in England. Therefore I apply to your kindness, begging that you may send me over by way of Mr. Nestler & Welle a copy ^{of Putnam's edition} (so soon as possible). Afterwards I shall communicate to you my paper, which is written particularly in the purpose of being useful to our agriculture. I must make you my compliments on account of the lucidity and spirit, with which you have exposed the new doctrines of vegetation. It is indeed a very wholesome and useful task, and I saw by this specimen, that you, my excellent friend, are on a sure and glorious way for popularising science and introducing the newest results of profound investigation to your countrymens knowledge. *Tracte videri*
Tica!

In the mean time I did so much as possible for forwarding the generalities of *Palmar*. I hope You shall not be totally disappointed with the perusal of this last part, which shall yet reach you in this year.

After this there remains for my work the history of *Spadix*, flower and fruit, and a general view of the geographical distribution of *Palmar*. For this reason, I take the liberty

of asking your assistance in particular. The matter is, that I do not know well the different species of *Sabal* and *Chamaecyparis*, which are indicated in your ^{and their geography} ~~east country~~. All I know about the matter is contained in my *Palmae*. Therefore you can easily judge what of novelty you can communicate to me. Pray do not forget my wish!

In the last time I received a most accomplished collection of East-Indian *Palms* by poor late Griffith. It was sent from Calcutta in Decbr. 1844 and on the 10. of Febr. the excellent man died at Malacca, leaving a widow, with whom he had himself united on the 21. of Sept. It is indeed a very lamentable event. East India did never see before a Botanist equal to Griffith in profound knowledge of organisation, a better physiologist and observer. Also no other had seen so great a part of the country, from Afghanistan till to the Straits.

You wrote me in your last letter, that you are about of making a new edition of your botanical text book. I am very curious to know what are your new ideas and expositions there. Our science is in a great fluctuation; there are also many great alterations come over our science, especially about the doctrine of the cellula, its nucleus and nucleus, its division, propagation etc. You will find that Schleiden, Naegele, Unger etc have worked about this matter.

I am very thankful to you for the communication of Silliman's Journal. If you are once in the possibility of gaining the first series, I shall be happy to receive it, and to send in exchange a complete copy of the *Flora*, which I shall then give.

In my former letter I asked to you, whether the copy of the Journal of the Boston of Sciences and Arts, which came to me under my address, without any letter, was destined to me or the Academy



Martius, Karl Friedrich Philipp von. 1845. "Martius, Karl F. P. von Sept. 12, 1845." *Asa Gray correspondence. Senders McA-Ma*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/224822>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/250565>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.