

Schlehdorf, Post Muraau, 8 Sept. 1858.

My dear friend!

I have before me your beloved letter d. d. 10. Aug. and I see with great pleasure, that you are flourishing. If your excellent Lady, (to whom I kiss the hand in old Bavarian style) is not equally well, I hope that shall not last long, and soon you may enjoy of every kind of familiar happiness. If I understand well, the loss you and your family also must suffer from the Commercial Crisis, happily passed over and *post nubila Phœbus*, shall also take place with you. That I am very happy in thinking, that after so much hard working and energetic labor you enjoy of a good income, you are sure from my feelings for you! How happy I would be, if you could once retire from Am. and live with us. If such a scheme cannot be realised for every time (notwithstanding I believe, that you belong more to the European than the American army of science) — it may in every case be so for some months and weeks and I hope, that you once come with your lady and Mr. Clark (a worthy Professor of Chemistry) spend a happy time at Schlehdorf or Munich. — You wonder, that I was not elected on the Throne of Nees! My dear friend, that is not a throne of roses or purple. Nees went on very carelessly and the old Academy wants for all good subsidia and generous patrons in the government. Kieser, who served in the Prussian Army in the war against Napoleon is now an old, a very old man. But he has the confidence of the Prussian government and is was sure, that many others, amongst them also myself, were not so *personae gratae*. He was Director Ephemeridum and well instructed in the affairs. For myself, as you so kindly say, there was no allurements at all. I have much to do, and my power physical and spiritual is quite not equal to the works I got with to much confidence upon my shoulders. So I did all my possible for directing the election on Kieser, and I hope, that we shall enjoy soon of some benefit bestowed on the Acad. by the Austrian and other governments.

It is with interest, I hear, that you can amplify your garden. The gigantic glass palace in the Mun. bot. Garden serves now (for 4 months) as depository

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I say to our friends Clark and Oliver that I shall write to them as soon as I can of the great exhibition of German pictures, a very interesting task; but afterwards I hope one will distract it and give back to the garden a convenient frame of conservatories and hothouses. In the mean time, now Prof. Nägeli is gone to S. Petersburg for seeing and examining the rus-
sian conservatories and hot houses, perhaps also for bringing from
thither Mr. Regel back as a keeper of the garden at Munich? I am happy, that I have nothing more to do with this monstrously ruined institut. All the sinistre insinuations were felt only by the garden itself, because I have won my liberty; and if some one were of the opinion, that my retirement was caused by any royal disgrace, they must learn the contrary by the unexpected advancement in title and range, which the King himself conferred to me, as a Geheime-Rath (in a very benevolent decret d. d. 28. July.)

I was much pleased in hearing, that you want not more to occupy yourself with elementary books. So I hope, you will continue the Flora with Torrey and your excellent genera.

The national Expeditions must have brought much interesting materials for you especially from China and Japan. If amongst such things you have duplicates to spare, I beg you to think on your old friend. I am allways fervously upon my herbarium, which shall be totally fastened on white sheets with final paper — I have received after the Cuba and Venezuela Collection a fine one from Spruce Haupes and some China-plants are announced. If you like to have bavarian and other german plants, I hope that I can procure to you some centuries

will you not publish a note upon the analogies between n.amer. and japonese plants? By such publications you shall direct the attention of geogr. Botanists to your studies.

Botany of Wilkes Exped. is a most eminent work, for which I make my best gratulation to you. I look forward with anxious pleasure



Martius, Karl Friedrich Philipp von. 1858. "Martius, Karl F. P. von Sept. 8, 1858." *Asa Gray correspondence. Senders McA-Ma*

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