

Euler to Wettstein
Berlin, 27 April, 1751
Letter 268 (2769)

[...] The death of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, (2) which has tossed the city into great consternation has struck me all the more sharply since it is so closely associated to you and I hope with all my heart that the changes that it will have caused, will not be to your disadvantage.

I am very impatient to receive the tobacco soon, that you have had the kindness to send to me since I am forced to smoke filler and as to what I see, the tobacco will be paid for by the books that I sent to you on two separate occasions with the accounting as follows:

Ex.	Rt.
g.	
1. Codex Fredericianus nebst Register fol	1.16
3. Exposition du plan du Roy	4
2. Dito teusch?	3
2. Projekt der Tribunalordnung	6
2. Instruktion fur die Neumarkische Regierung	6
2. Formular fur die Advokaten fol	
2	
2. Preussisches Landrecht fol.	20
2. Projet du Corp de droit Frederic	1.-
2. Codex Fredericianus mit Register	
2.16	
2. Edikte 3 Bogen fol.	
8	
	<hr/>
Summa	7,9

I hope that you will not forget Sir, the geographical maps for our Academy and the seeds for the mulberry bushes from Virginia and Canada; it does not matter as long as we get some even though it will be a pound and the Academy will certainly continue to be in your debt. Since I will not know the amount of the purchase, I request that you give me some indication as to the amount, so that I can obtain the monies from the Academy's coffers. I have taken the time to interview a young man to enter into Mr. Finch's services, to whom I ask that you pay him my humble regards as Mr. Pelletier has told me that he has a young man of about 30 years of age who would work out extremely well and that it only matter to know the conditions remaining details. I have also spoken to Mr. Andrie who has entrusted me with best regards to you and with whom I shall be orchestrating everything in this work, since he is well versed in the culture and social enterprises of London.

As for the **Uranography**, the subscribers are really in trouble, and I hope that someone will soon be able to pull them out of their difficulties.

You will have no doubt noticed that the Academy of Saint Petersburg has fixed the price of 100 ducats for its prize, which she will award every year to he who will have best answered the question that will be asked for that year and for the first time the Academy has published this question: "Are Newton's theories sufficient to explain all the inequalities which are found in lunar motion or not?" This question is of the greatest importance and I must admit that until this moment I had always thought that this theory was not in accord with the lunar motion of the apogee. Mr. Clairaut was also of the same feeling; however he publicly retracted while declaring that the movement of the apogee was not contrary to Newton's Theory. At that occasion, I revised my researches on this subject, and after lengthy and complicated calculations, I found to my satisfaction the explanation of the movement of the moon's apogee. Such that this research is of the highest degree of difficulty and of those who have pretended to have a proof of this concordance of the theory with the truth are truly mistaken. It is therefore to Mr. Clairaut to whom we are indebted for this important discovery, which provides Newton's

theory in an alternate relief and it is only known that we can expect good astronomical tables concerning the moon.

My entire family proffers its very humble compliments, and I have the honor of being in the most perfect attention [...]

(2) Es ist unklar, wen Euler hier meint

1st Edit 12/1/03