

Euler to Wettstein
Berlin, 26 February 1752
Letter 274 (2775)

[...] I should have taken the opportunity to inform you of the arrival of the trees and the exotic plants that you had the goodness to send us. However relying on the normal notice given by the merchants, I thought I might defer my notice to you and await news that the almanacs had safely arrived and that you are satisfied and that I am hoping all the more since the old calendar style, this millstone which has finally been abolished in England. However, before speaking of other things, it is necessary that I discharge the obligation entrusted to me by the President and the entire Academy which is to thank you for the great services that you have rendered to our Academy by sending the books and the maps and the trees in particular of which we are so satisfied. We are not sure of the way that we can show you our gratitude. Having only the title of honorary Academician which would apply to you, but cannot be conferred unless assured of your acceptance as it is done at the Royal Society, I would appreciate your acceptance in a few words as long as this does not inconvenience you. After this I have the honor to tell you that the trees arrived safely and that two Magnolias, even though they appeared too expensive, have given us a great deal of pleasure, they had originally suffered a little from the cold, however our new gardener, who is a very ingenious man was soon able to remedy this in such a way that all of the trees are at this time in perfect condition and especially the mulberry bushes provide us with excellent hope that they will constitute an excellent plantation. Assuming that the shocking death of the late Mr. Mortimer does not cause an obstacle, for if you remember that this worthy man had promised to furnish us with two pounds of seeds of this tree which he had intended to bring from Virginia and I have not doubt that they will arrive in time. Therefore as soon as the seeds arrive, I request that you

send them as the costs of the seeds is one guinea and as you know that the late Dr. Mortimer had an account with H. E. d'Arnim and at the last audit signed in the own Dr's good hand , he still owed Mr. d'Arnim two guineas; therefore when the beneficiaries of his estate pay off this debt, as there is no doubt that they will, I will take it upon my self to pay the two guineas for the mulberry seeds that we are impatiently awaiting, while pressing you to remain forever faithful in your assistance to us in this affair.

I am continuing to hope that Mr. Finch's young man continues to conduct himself in the perfect correct manner. The newspapers allow little hope to us for the improvement of Mr. Folkes and we are particularly upset and the Society of Sciences would necessarily complain should it lose two of it s strongest supporters in such a short time. I ask of you, Sir, to present my very humble respects to those who actually direct your illustrious body.

My entire family , God willing will continue to be well and we recommend ourselves to your well being and friendship which you have provided us with such sparkling marks and by preparing our very great compliments as well as to your wife, I have the honor of being with all possible affections [...]