

John Pickering an Wilhelm von Humboldt, 24.02.1824

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Jonathan / Pickering, John: Observations on the Language of the Muhhekaneew
Indians (Boston: Phelps and Farnham 1823) Humboldt, Wilhelm von: Über das
Entstehen der grammatischen Formen und ihren Einfluß auf die Ideenentwicklung.
Gelesen in der Akademie der Wissenschaften am 17. Januar 1822. In:
Abhandlungen der historisch-philologischen Klasse der Königlichen Akademie
der Wissenschaften in Berlin aus den Jahren 1822 und 1823 (Berlin: Druckerei der
Königlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften 1825), S. 401–430 Morse, Jedidiah: A
report to the Secretary of War of the United States, on Indian affairs, comprising a
narrative of a tour (New Haven: Converse 1822) Pickering, John: Grammar of the
Cherokee Language (Boston: Mission Press 1830)

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To Baron Humboldt

Feb. 24. 1824.

Sir,

I take the liberty to send you the present letter by one of my young countrymen, [Mr. Theodore R. Jenks](#), a son of the [Rev.^d William Jenks](#), of [Boston](#); his father is one of our most profound philologists, particularly in the Oriental Languages, and is the same gentleman to whom I am indebted for one of the specimens of the Mohegan Language published in my edition of Edwards's Observations. May I be permitted to have the honour of presenting to you [Mr. Jenks's son](#) to you, so far as I may be allowed to have any claim on your attention in this respect.

I wait with much impatience for your Memoir on the Difference between the Grammatical Forms of the cultivated & the barbarous Languages. I am eagerly anticipating its arrival in the course of the present spring.

I avail myself of this opportunity to send you a few sheets of a Grammar of the Cherokee (or, Tsullakée) Language, which is now printing under my direction by the [American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions](#). The work has cost me much labour (amidst the constant engagements of business) but it will

be quite imperfect. Yet, imperfect as it may be found, it will, ~~prese~~ if I am not mistaken, present several new & striking facts in Indian Philology. I shall send you the remaining sheets of the work as fast as they are printed.^[a]

You will permit me to mention, that on the 14th of February 1823, I did myself the pleasure to address a long letter to you accompanied with a small packet of books & ~~maps~~ papers relative to the Indian |2*| languages: I hope they were duly received.

Some months after I had sent mine, I was favoured with your letter of the 9.th of april |sic|, in which you acknowledge the receipt of D.^r Morse's Report on Indian Affairs. I am happy to learn, that this last work has been found useful in your researches.

I am &.^c

Salem, Massachusetts

Feb. 24, 1824.

a) |Editor| Der Druck dieser Grammatik des Cherokee von Pickering blieb ein Fragment und wurde nach 48 Seiten eingestellt; siehe Sylvain Auroux (Hrsg.) (2011): *Geschichte der Sprachwissenschaft*, Berlin u. a.: De Gruyter, S. 1911. [FZ]