

Peter Stephen Duponceau an Wilhelm von Humboldt, 28.07.1821

Handschrift: Grundlage der Edition: Philadelphia, American Philosophical Society, Hist. and lit. Comm., Letterbooks, vol. 2, p. 47–49

Mattson 1980, Nr. 11655

Albers, Johann Abraham Barton, Benjamin Smith Barton, Thomas Pennant Friedrich Wilhelm III., König von Preußen Lieberkühn, Samuel McCulloh, James Haines Pickering, John Zeisberger, David American Philosophical Society (Hrsg.): Transactions of the Historical and Literary Committee of the American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia, Volume 1 (Philadelphia: Abraham Small 1819) Amerikanische Ansichten von dem Gottesdienst und andern Eigenheiten der Deutschen. Der Mosheimischen Gesellschaft in Philadelphia zugeeignet, und monatlich herausgegeben vom Pastor Plitt (Germantown: Michael Billmeyer 1820) Archaeologia Americana. Transactions and Collections of the American Antiquarian Society, Volume 1 (Worcester: Manning 1820) Barton, Benjamin Smith: New Views of the origin of the tribes and Nations of America (Philadelphia: John Bioren 1798) Barton, Benjamin Smith: Some Account of the Siren lacertina, and Other Species of the Same Genus of Amphibious Animals. In a Letter from Professor Barton, of Philadelphia, to Mr. John Gottlob Schneider, of Saxony (Philadelphia: J. Harding 1808) Du Ponceau, Peter S.: A Discourse on the Early History of Pennsylvania; being an annual oration delivered before the American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful knowledge; pursuant to their appointment, in the Hall of the University of Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, the 6th of June, 1821 (Philadelphia: Abraham Small 1821) Lieberkühn, Samuel: Die Geschichte unsers Herrn und Heilandes Jesu Christi aus den vier Evangelisten zusammen gezogen (Barby: Ebers 1769) Lieberkühn, Samuel / Zeisberger, David: Elekup Nihillalquonk woak Pemauchsohalquonk Jesus Christ. The history of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: comprehending all that the four Evangelists have recorded concerning him; all their relations being brought together in one narration, so that no circumstance is omitted, but the inestimable history is continued in one series, in the very words of scripture. By the Rev. Samuel Lieberkuhn, M. A. Translated into the Delaware language by the Rev. David Zeisberger, Missionary of the United Brethren (New York: Daniel Fanshaw 1821). – Preface datiert 1806 McCulloh, James Haines: Researches on America; being an attempt to settle some points relative to the aborigines of America (Baltimore: J. Robinson 1817) The German Correspondent. No. 6, Januar

1821 (New York: Schmidt 1821) Zeisberger, David: Delaware Indian and English Spelling Book for the Schools of the Mission of the United Brethren (Philadelphia: Mary Cist 1806)

|47|

Philad.^a 28th July 1821

The Baron William von Humboldt
Sir

By desire of the Historical & Literary Committee of the [American Philosophical Society](#), & also of the [American Antiquarian Society](#), I have the honor of addressing to you a Copy of the first volume of each of their Transactions, which they beg you will be pleased to accept in token of their respect for your personal character & of their high estimation of your literary labours. At their like desire, I take the liberty of sending also to you another copy of each of the said Transactions, which they should feel exceedingly happy if they could obtain a place in [his Majesty's library](#). They have been informed that [your august Sovereign](#) has given orders to procure here American Books of Science, & they would be pleased to contribute to the promotion of an object so honorable to our country. They request that you will be pleased, Sir, to obtain for them this signal favour.

|48| My much lamented friend, the late [D^r J. A. Albers](#)^[a], of [Bremen](#), informed me in one of his letters, that a copy of our late [D^r B Smith Barton](#)'s account of the [Siren lacertina](#) was wanting for [his Majesty's library](#), & requested me to procure a copy of it. I searched thro' all the Bookstores without success & found that the Edition was entirely exhausted. On my mentioning the circumstance to the author's son, [M^r Pennant Barton](#)^[b] (who is now in his travels to Europe & probably will visit your city) he immediately caused a few copies of the work to be reprinted, of which I have the honor to send you two, one of which [M^r Barton](#) begs leave to present to [his Majesty's library](#) & the other to you.

Having understood from my friend [M^r John Pickering](#) of [Salem](#), that you wish to have certain American works, of which he gave me the titles, & having fortunately duplicates of some of them by me, I take the liberty of sending them herewith enclosed. I do it with the more freedom, that most, if not all of these works, are entirely out of print, & are not to be obtained for money. I have long wished to

a) |Editor| [Dr. Johann Abraham Albers](#) (1722–1821), deutscher Mediziner aus [Bremen](#).
b) |Editor| [Thomas Pennant Barton](#) (1803–1869).

dispose of these duplicates to some useful purpose, & am happy in the opportunity which M^r Pickering gives me of effecting my design.

I beg leave to add two small pamphlets by which you will see that German Literature is duly appreciated in this country, & becomes every day more & more the object of our attention [49] If I can be of any use to you, Sir, in affording my aid to your learned Philological & Philosophical researches, particularly as they relate to the language, History & manners of the Aborigines of this country, which have been a favorite object of my studies, I shall be happy in rendering you all the services that will be in my power & I beg that on all occasions you will command them freely.

I have the honor &^c

[Anhang]

List of Books enclosed herewith

Transactions of the Historical & Literary Committee of the American Philosophical Society. 2. Copies. one for his Majesty's library, the other for Baron W^m Von [sic] Humboldt.

Transactions of American Antiquarian Society. 2. Copies do. do.

Barton's Dissertation on the Siren Lacertiana [sic] (Pamphlet). 2 Copies. do. do.

The following books & pamphlets are for the Baron W^m von Humboldt

- 1 McCullough's Researches in Americas
2. Zeisberger's Translation of Lieberkuhn's harmony of the Gospels into the Delaware language
3. Barton's new views of the origin of the American Indians
4. Zeisberger's Delaware & English spelling Book
5. Discourse on the early History of Pennsylvania
6. German Correspondent No 6^[c]
7. Amerikanische Ansichten No 4 to 10.

c) [Editor] The German Correspondent, No. 6, Januar 1821 [Zeitschrift]; erschienen sind: No. 1, Jan. 1820 bis No. 6, Jan. 1821.