

John Pickering an Wilhelm von Humboldt, 15.04.1830

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Nachweis: Mueller-Vollmer 1993, S. 209

Mattson 1980, Nr. 12280

|55r| Sir,

I did myself the pleasure to address a letter to you on the 29.th of March last, accompanied with two packets, containing your Cherokee Newspapers & five copies of Cotton's Indian Vocabulary, which is just published by our Massachusetts Historical Society.

[a] I now forward five more of your newspapers; & also a little volume of Scriptural Extracts & Hymns in the language of the Seneca Indians.^[b] This tribe of Indians is one of the Six Nations, as they are called, formerly known in our histories as the Five Nations; & their language is a dialect of what is called the Iroquois stock. I am gratified to observe that the translators take my Orthography as the basis of theirs. I have been anxiously expecting to see your great work (at least some part of it) upon the American Languages; |55v| but I can appreciate the difficulties of such an undertaking; & it is this circumstance, which makes me so earnestly desire that you may accomplish what no other man, probably, will be able to do.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
with the highest respect
your obedient & faithful
servant

Jn^oPickering

Boston, U. States

Apr. 15, 1830

|56r/v vacat|

a) |Editor| Textabschnitt von "I now forward ..." bis "... our histories as the" am linken Rand mit Bleistift angestrichen.

b) |Editor| In Humboldts Nachlass fanden sich zwei Bücher in der Seneca-Sprache (Schwarz 1993, Nr. 437 und 438). Das eine ist ein Lukas-Evangelium, das andere ein Auszug des Matthäus-Evangeliums. [FZ]