

John Pickering an Wilhelm von Humboldt, 24.02.1824

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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](#)

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]

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.