

Literarischer  
Briefwechsel

von

Johann David Michaelis.

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Geordnet und herausgegeben

von

Joh. Gottlieb Buhle

Professor zu Göttingen.

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Zweiter Theil.

Vol. 2 has letters by  
Sir John Pringle

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Leipzig,

in der Weidmannschen Buchhandlung,

1795.

565 pp.

386 John Pringle an Michaelis.

1774 manners of the North-American Indians I have heard often and often from Dr. *Franklin*.

I am with the greatest regard,

Learned Sir,

Most sincerely and affectionately  
Your very faithful humble Servant

John Pringle.

P. S.

I presume, You know, that none of those nations have any courts of Judicature; another argument, how faint any title to property can be.

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§4.

Learned Sir,

London, of the 5. June 1774.

I hope, the Pymont waters have by this time had a good effect, repaired, what damages Your painful studies have done Your constitution since the last time, You drank those salutary fountains, and prepared it again, for undergoing more of that precious labour.

Your

1774 Red Sea, where he was to embark for Egypt. Mr. *Bruce*, not trusting the royal word, demanded his oath: but though he obtained that further assurance, yet he did not so fully depend upon it, as not to turn suddenly off the road, pointed out to him by the King, and in three days to get into the territories of another people, where he knew he could not be pursued. The route given him by the King kept him 62 days within the Abyssinian territory, and he apprehended, that either his royal master never intended, he should get off; or that if he had intended it, when he gave his oath for it, he would afterwards repent of it, and bring him back on some pretence, or another. From this time he found innumerable difficulties to encounter, passed through immense deserts, lost all his camels and servants; and after several months travelling came at last on foot to a town in Egypt, the residence of a Mahometan governor, in a sad condition. This person used him with great kindness, and after his recovery from his fatigue, furnished him with servants and camels; with which retinue he went 11 days journey back into a sandy desert, where he found all his books, instruments

ments and MSS., which upon the death of 1774 his former camels and servants he had been obliged to leave behind.

The animals common in Abyssinia, and rare elsewhere, are the Rhinoceros, the Camelopardalis, the Gazello and Antilope. Their Rhinoceros is a different species; it has two horns, one placed above the other: the Gazello is also a different species from the one commonly described. They have several birds too undescribed; as Mr. *Buffon*, who saw either themselves, or the drawings, told Mr. *Bruce*. Before he came to England, he had sent over for the Kings garden at Kew several seeds of new plants; and I understand, that there are already from 12 to 20 of them come up, and thriving.

But one of the greatest curiosities, which I am informed Mr. *Bruce* has brought home, is a great number of drawings of the ruins of ancient buildings by the Romans, (and in their best times), in Mauritania or Lybia, which if ever visited before, had never been designed. I hear, they are most accurately done, partly by himself, and partly by a draughtsman, an Italian, that he carried along with him, but who died in the journey home.