

PARIS, *November 24, 1862.*

DEAR SIR: Mr. Hermann de Schlagintweit has enclosed me this note for you, asking me to add something as an introduction, which is scarcely necessary, seeing that he is one of the brothers Schlagintweit whose labors in Thibet and high India are so familiar to us. Those of the specimens I have seen are highly interesting, and the fact that they were collected by the Schlagintweits in person gives them a full guarantee.

Your obedient servant,

THEODORE LYMAN.

“MUNICH, (BAVARIA,) *November 7, 1862.*

DEAR SIR: Some days ago I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mr. Theodore Lyman, who gave me many interesting facts respecting your Institution, and especially about your important practical and scientific meteorological researches. He also gave me a most lively description of the extent and the variety of the collections of the Institution. As he has kindly given me an introduction to you, I take the liberty of addressing you this communication relative to such parts of our collections of ethnography and natural history as we are now about to dispose of.

Of the objects mentioned in the accompanying statement, Mr. Lyman has seen but few, but sufficient, I trust, to enable him to give you more particulars as to their character if it should be desired, especially as he has had Professors Kaup and Siebold's opinion of them.

Besides the objects of natural history, I may mention the photographic colored fac-similes of a great number of my water-color drawings, their number amounting to 125, and including only such objects as are not among the plates published in our atlas. Mr. Brockhaus has made several series for England, one for Paris; and two for India, but has a few still remaining in his hands. The price he charges is 70 thalers, or £10, for thirty views, or £40 for the series. Mr. Lyman has seen them, and will perhaps be good enough to let you know in a few words how they are executed, as my description might too easily be influenced by the fact that I made the originals myself, or worked over those made by my brother Adolphe.

My address for this winter will be: Dultplatz 10, Munich, Bavaria.

With the expression of my most sincere consideration, I remain yours, most truly,

“HERMANN DE SCHLAGINTWEIT.

*Ethnography.*—The objects are :

Twenty complete skeletons, head and body, (put up,) of India Thibet, and Turkistan. They include savage tribes of India, such as Gonds, Santhals, &c. Price of the original, £20 to £30 ; of a copy in natural size, color, &c., in papier mache, £5.

Fifty skulls, without the body, from the same regions. Price of an original, £4 to £6 ; of a copy in papier mache, £1½.

I mention especially our collection of *facial casts*, of which I send you the prices of copies in metal and also in plaster. The metallic casts are better able to resist the effects of time and exposure, but for a most careful reproduction of any detail the plaster copies can be entirely relied on. Price in metal, 24 shillings ; in plaster, 4 shillings a cast.

*Zoology.*—We have about fifty large stuffed animals, many in duplicate, among which are *Bos grunniens*, *Equus hemionus*, *Asinus onager*, male and female, *Ovis argali*, (ammon,) in fact, of nearly all the larger animals of Thibet, one to three specimens of each. Price of each, £9 to £15.

Of smaller animals, such as *Cervus moschatus*, the different ovine and caprine domestic animals of Central Asia, etc., the price is from £2 to £6. Numerous skeletons of mammalia, put up ; price, £2 to £5. Besides, skulls of *Equus hemionus*, £5 ; of a rhinoceros, from Bhutan Tarai, £8 ; of *Ovis argali*, £5, &c. An elephant skull, unusually large, with a weight (198 lbs.) and cranial capacity of about 6,200 cubic inches, determined by filling



it with large shot. The *brain* of another elephant skull in plaster. It was obtained by a skull defective in its facial parts, being filled with plaster, and then gradually broken into small pieces, so that the very foldings of the dura mater remained untouched; the original in plaster, £15; a fac-simile in papier mache, £5.

I might add details of about 400 species of *birds*, 2 to 10 shillings, in nearly 1,800 specimens, chiefly from the Himalaya and Thibet; reptiles, 8 shillings to £1, and fishes, 5 to 10 shillings, determined by Dr. Gunther, (Proceedings Zool. Soc., London;) butterflies, 20 for £1, determined by Dr. Moore; insects, 40 for £1, as well as plants and geological collections.

The objects mentioned are at a country seat of ours, Jaegersburg, near Forchheim, Bavaria, not very far by rail from Munich.

CHRISTIANIA, *January 6, 1863.*

SIR: The knowledge of the countries and nations of the earth being particularly useful as well to the mariner as to the trader, it ought to be especially cultivated by us Norwegians. One of the most effective means of calling forth the sympathies of the people in behalf of a science is that of establishing public museums, or collections of objects, presenting immediately to the eye things of which no accurate idea or conception can be conveyed by a mere description. The public having thus, so to say, intuitively acquired a feeling of interest in the subject, it will be possible, by united efforts, in the course of some years, to bring together collections not only instructive to the nation possessing them, but also deserving the admiration of foreigners.

The British government has in this respect set the greatest example. \* \* \*

An ethnological museum having now been established at the University of Christiania with the object of illustrating the manners, mode of living, and civilization of the various nations, it is to be hoped that the numerous and enterprising class of Norwegian seamen will avail themselves of the many opportunities offered on distant voyages to procure objects of interest for such a common national depository. The managers of the collection have already had frequent occasions to express their thanks even to common sailors for gifts to the institution, for which the state has also set apart a sum that, although moderate, will enable the managers to refund expenses incurred in procuring objects for the museum. Thus it will be within the power of any seaman to contribute towards enlarging the collection.

Trusting to the kind support of the public also for the future, the managers consider it expedient to lay down some rules for the guidance of those who, for the sake of public utility, may be willing thus to contribute towards enlightening their fellow citizens:

1. The nations and countries, the condition and state of which it will be of particular interest to see illustrated and exhibited, are especially those most differing from our own country and our own people; consequently, in the first place, the nations out of Europe, and, among the Europeans, those least known, and of the most antiquated manners. As a rule, objects of antiquity are also of greater rarity, and will be more acceptable to a collection than things now in use.
2. The objects, suitable for illustrating the condition of such nations, are innumerable. Sacred images, weapons, tools used in the principal trades, clothing, furniture, domestic implements, and products of industry, may be mentioned. Of course, models, drawings, and especially photographs, will afford quite as trustworthy information as the object itself. Articles liable to spoil, or the preservation of which would involve expenses, cannot be received in a museum.
3. The limited means at the disposal of a Norwegian institution will, as a matter of course, necessitate the selection of articles the price of which is