

**Henry T. Colebrooke an August Wilhelm von Schlegel**  
**London, 15.10.1824**

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[1] Argyll Street

15th Oct 1824

My dear Sir

I have much to apologize to you for the length of time which has elapsed since I last had the pleasure of writing to you. I should hardly know how to excuse myself, if I had not Mr Lassen's testimony to appeal to, that I have been busy in your cause, for I know you consider the advancement of Sanscrit literature in that light. Every moment I have been able to snatch from pressing avocations & Business have been devoted to the Mīmāṃsā. I have sacrificed the usual summer excursions to it, and have been nearly all the summer in town; and I have still many months hard work in prospect before I can arrange the plan on which I shall give to the public a summary or indeed any account of that branch of Hindu philosophy.

[2] What may be deemed philosophical in the Mīmāṃsā, ~~in the Mimansa~~ is so mixed up with disquisitions on religious ceremonies, that it is necessary to go completely through both, before any account can be given of either: & the disquisitions on ceremonies as necessarily lead to reading through half the Védas, and this draws attention to all the obsolete words and technical religious terms which abound in them. To turn my labor to the best account, I am seriously considering of taking up two or three great undertakings at the same time: a series of dissertations on religious ceremonies of the Hindus, completing what I began in the Calcutta Asiatic Researches; my dissertation on the Mīmāṃsā, of course; a glossary of obsolete and technical terms; and, were I a younger man, I should be disposed to resume my original plan of dictionary and grammar; vizt an etymological dictionary, and a grammar found[ed] <sup>on</sup> the rules of Pāṇini. The recent death of Capt Fell, from whom I hoped the completion of the latter task, has put it into my thoughts. I hesitate, because I hardly could expect to finish the task; & this consideration may probably deter me from setting seriously about it. Meantime I go on provisionally though very far from thinking I shall persevere – I have troubled you with all this detail, to show, that, if I have been lately deficient as a correspondent, it is not because I have been idle.

[3] I have had the pleasure to receive Your letter of 10<sup>th</sup> Decb last which was Yesterday left at my door by Baron Schilling de Canstadt. I was unluckily out. I will endeavour to see him today or tomorrow We shall have our first fasciculus of transactions of the R. Asiatic Society early in next month & an early opportunity will be taken of forwarding a copy of it to you I think you will find some articles in it interesting I hope Mr Wilson's paper on Cashmirian history has appeared to you to be so. We are just going to print a good analytical account of the Pancha tantra by the same author. It will be the fir[st ar] ticle of our second fasciculus.

I must not conclude without thanki[ng you] which [I] do again and again, for your care of my s[on.] I am inclined to hope he is making good progress. I shall be glad to be told, as early as an opinion can be made up on the point, whether he manifests a turn for mathematical studies.

Yours very Sincly

HColebrooke

[4] A Monsieur

Monsieur AW De Schlegel

à Bonn

Sur

Rhin

### **Namen**

Colebrooke, John Henry

Fell, Edward

Lassen, Christian

Pāṇini

Wilson, Horace H.

Šilling, Pavel L.

### **Körperschaften**

Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland

### **Orte**

Bonn

Kalkutta

London

### **Werke**

Colebrooke, Henry T.: A grammar of the Sanscrit language

Colebrooke, Henry T.: Amara Simha, Cósha or Dictionary of Sanscrit Language

Colebrooke, Henry T.: On the Philosophy of the Hindus

Colebrooke, Henry T.: On the Religious Ceremonies of the Hindus

Mīmāṃsā

Pañcatantra

Veda

Wilson, Horace H.: An Essay on the Hindu History of Cashmir

Wilson, Horace H.: Analytical Account of the Pancha Tantra illustrated with occasional Translations

### **Periodika**

Asiatic Researches

Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland

### **Bemerkungen**

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