

European growth which would be acceptable, I beg you to point it out, and I will procure it as soon as I can. I return you thanks for what you were so kind as to send me, along with the above dissertations, by M. d'Havrincourt.

Farewell, Sir, and continue your learned writings, for the benefit of all good men! I remain, &c.

NOAILLES DUKE D'AYEN.

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ADANSON TO LINNÆUS. [Latin.]

SIR,

Paris, June 28, 1754.

Being just arrived from the west coast of Africa, I beg leave to acquaint you with my return to France. I have been devoted, from a child, to natural history and philosophy, and the persuasion of my friends induced me to devote five years to the investigation of a tropical country at Senegal. M. Bernard de Jussieu, by various letters, has informed me of my being not unknown to you, in consequence of numerous communications relative to the above science, and especially to botany, which I have sent every year to the Academy at Paris. I am therefore unwilling that you should any longer remain ignorant of my return, or of my zeal and affection for the highly important study of botany. I am anxious for your acquaintance and correspondence, more especially that we may thus discuss the hidden secrets of Nature, and that, as far as my present occupations will permit, I may lay