

West-Chester, Penn<sup>a</sup> Octo. 22. 1855.

Sir, I beg leave to trouble you, for a few words of information. At the request of my excellent friend & Correspondent, Sir Wm J. Hooker, Director of the Royal Gardens, at Kew, I have procured upwards of one hundred sections, or trunchions, <sup>of as many species</sup> of the stems, of our Forest trees and Shrubs, each about one foot in length, & 3 to 6 inches in diameter where they naturally attain to that size. <sup>carefully labelled & strongly</sup> They are packed in two boxes, each <sup>box</sup> 3 feet long, 20 inches wide, & 14 inches deep. The specimens are designed for the Museum, established at Kew, under Sir William's direction. I am desirous of despatching <sup>sets in; and</sup> the boxes to England, before the winter.

What I wish to know, is, the prospect of sending them by the Royal Mail Steamships from New York. I observe at the foot of your advertisement, <sup>in the Papers of this date,</sup> that "there will be no steamships of this line from New York until further notice." Will you have the goodness to let me know, if there will probably be any Royal Mail Steamship going from N.Y. to England, this Autumn? and if so, how I should direct the said boxes, so as to ensure their reaching the proper ~~agency~~ <sup>agency</sup> to have them forwarded? I am anxious there should be no mistake, or failure, for want of the exact Address of person, & place, where they should be sent.

If there is no probability of <sup>the said</sup> Steamships going from N. Y. this autumn, it may be more eligible to send the boxes, by <sup>one of the</sup> Packets of Messrs Cope, of Philad<sup>a</sup>.

Such information as you may be able to afford, concerning the best mode of procedure in this matter, may oblige

Sir William, and will certainly confer <sup>special</sup> favour on <sup>Sir,</sup> your most obedient

E. Cunard Esq.

no. 4. Bowling-green, N. Y. }

W. D.

N. B. My address is - Doctor Wm Darlington,  
West-Chester,  
Penn<sup>a</sup>

West Chester Penn. Octo. 26. 1855.

Sir, yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> inst. reached me yesterday. I am much obliged by your attention to my request, and the information furnished. As there will be no Royal Mail Steamship going to England, this autumn, from any Port nearer than Boston, it occurs to me, that my heavy boxes can probably be sent, on equally favourable terms, by the Packet Line, from Philad<sup>a</sup>. If so, it will be more convenient for me. I will ascertain the fact, in a few days; and if the Philad<sup>a</sup> Packet will take the boxes on reasonable terms, I will send them in that way; if not, I will avail myself of your obliging offer, and forward the boxes to Boston, - asking your intercession with Mr. Lewis, to have them carefully sent to Sir Wm. Hooker. In that case, I shall beg leave to trouble you again.

Repeating my acknowledgments for your prompt and kind attention, I have the honor to be

E. Cunard Esq. }  
4. Bowling-green }  
New York. }

very respectfully,  
your most obedient  
W. D.