



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Mueller, Ferdinand von
ACCESSION NO	1961.0012
CATEGORY	Other, individuals
ACTIVITY	Botanists
DATE RANGE	1873-1896
SIZE OF COLLECTION	4 sheets
HISTORICAL NOTE	Von Mueller (1825-1896) was Victorian Government Botanist from 1853 and director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne from 1857 until 1873 when he was succeeded by Guilfoyle (qv). An intrepid explorer and collector of species, he published the seven-volume 'Flora Australiensis' (1863-1878).
DATE OF TRANSFER	Aug 1961
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Open
DESCRIPTION	Two outward letters, one of introduction 1873, one concerning plant samples 1896, two inward letters 1881 and 1887, both concerning plant identification.
LISTED BY	Susan Priestley
DATE	14 Sep 1961

UNIVERSITY of MELBOURNE - ARCHIVES

RECORDS RECEIVED INTO CUSTODY

NAME: MUELLER, Baron Sir Ferdinand Jakob Heinrich von.

ADDRESS: Deceased.

MAIN ACTIVITY: Botanist and explorer.

DATE OF TRANSFER: August 1961.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE: 1825 Born on 30 June at Rostock, Germany.
Orphaned early.

- 1840-6 Apprenticed to chemist, then studied botany under Professor Nolte at Kiel.
- 1846 Ph. D. Then began collection of plants of Schleswig-Holstein.
- 1847 On medical advice sailed with two sisters for Aust. Arrived Adelaide 18 Dec., where he practised as chemist.
- 1852 Sent paper to Linnean Soc. on "The Flora of S.A." Removed to Melbourne.
- 1853 Jan. - Appointed Government Botanist.
- 1853-6 On expeditions within Vic. and to N.Territory.
- 1857 Appointed director of botanical gardens at Melb. Arranged for building of National Herbarium.
- 1861 Fellow of Royal Society of London.
- 1867-9 Explorations to W.A. and Tasmania.
- 1869 Made hereditary Baron by the King of Württemberg.
- 1873 Lost directorship of Gardens; remained Government Botanist.
- 1879 K.C.M.G.
- 1888 Received Royal Medal of the Royal Society of London.
- 1890 President of Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science.
- 1894 Helped form Australian Antarctic Committee.
- 1896 Died on 10 October.

Publications include: Fragmenta Phytographiae Australias, series 1858-1882. Flora Australiensis, series 1863-1878; Select Plants Readily Eligible for Industrial Culture or Naturalization in Victoria (1876), Select Extra-Tropical Plants (1877 & 19 editions), An Introduction to Botanic Teachings at the Schools of Victoria (1877), The Native Plants of Vic., Pt. I. (1879), Eucalyptographia: A Descriptive Atlas of the Eucalypts of Aust. and adjoining Islands (1879-1884), Systematic Census of Aust. Plants, Part I (1882), Part II, (1889), Key to the System of Vic. Plants (1885 and 1888), Description and Illustration of the Myoporinus Plants of Aust. (1886), The Iconography of Aust. Species of Acacia and Cognate Species (1887-8), Iconography of Candolleaceous Plants (1892).

LIST OF RECORDS

There are two groups: GROUP 1 Outward Correspondence.
GROUP 2 Inward Correspondence.

GROUP 1 Outward Correspondence.

1. Letter, von Mueller, Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, to Professor Giglioli, (Europe).
Introduces Mr. Asgood Pritchard, an inventor of an improved Kaleidoscope and also a lubricant.
2 Feb. 1873.
3 pp. (1 sheet) ms.

2. Letter, von Mueller to unknown person.

Requesting samples of plants from the "far inland locality" where the unknown person resides.

12 Mar. 1896.

2 pp. (1 sheet) ms.

GROUP 2 Inward Correspondence.

1. Letter, A.M. Howard, Dept. of Mines and Water Supply, Melb. to von Mueller.

Advises that he has sent the 'decades' (books of 10 plates) of Vegetable Ferns of Victoria to Professor Nathaniel ?

20 May (1881?)

1 p. ms.

2. Ditto.

Re some fossil fruit from Beaufort, which von Mueller was to examine and identify.

15 Nov. 1887.

1 p. ms.

Susan Priestley.

14 September 1961.