Royal Observatory Greenwich  
1851 Jan 13

My dear Sir,

I have long intended to write to you, but I really have been driven so hard by various kinds of work at the Observatory, and especially by the erection of the large Mount Circle (which came into use at the beginning of the year, but for which some small fittings are not finished yet).

Yours sincerely,

Montague Brunei
That I have been very much impeded in my correspondence.
I shall however very shortly send a Draft of Suggestions for the observation of the total Eclipse of the Sun, and I hope soon to write at length on other matters.

First — inform me what is the state of Otto’s health, and of that of all your family.

Next — the business upon which I write is this. The sorrowful news of the decease of our revered friend Schrenck has given us very great grief. We are desirous of giving some short account of his life and
history of the anniversary meeting of the Astronomical Society, which will be held on the second Friday of February.

I know that you are most perfectly acquainted with his history: could you at once draw up a short notice upon it and read it to me without delay?

I will write again in a short time.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly

[Signature]