

19. Queen Street Edgware Rd. 2
London



nov. 30th 1898.

Dear Sir,

Please, accept my best thanks for your letter of the 10th of November in which you wished me to prepare the Contract of the appointment of Curator in Angola.

In the first instance I beg to ask you to be kind enough as to excuse me for not having executed your orders promptly - The reason of the delay is due to the misunderstanding and disagreements of the letters the Director and I received; namely the Director informed me at the time he received his letter

that the contract is being prepared
by yourself in Portugal, and
after being accepted and signed
by the Home Government is to be sent
to the Portuguese Embassy in London
by which it is also signed and finally
forwarded to me — . I compared
the contents of my letter with the
summary of his which of course does
not agree, I therefore explained the
matter to the Director who still

suspected that there must be a mis-
-understanding, and ultimately induced
me to communicate with the Portuguese
Consulate in London, from where I
received information to come and have an
interview with the Consular General.

Mr. J. Batabu Reis, His Excellency the Consular
received me with greatest hospitality in his

private office, where he explained matters and suggested to write to you himself, so that you would be more in a position to accept my apology. I expressed my deepest obligation to his Excellency for his kindness and hope that he has succeeded with his communication in order that this delay may be grounded — . Believe me, Sir, it is not at all my habit to delay official orders, I always executed this kind of work with greatest care and possible promptness. I am glad to say that this error which occurred is not entirely due to me, but also due to the authority at New — .

I beg to submit the enclosed contract which has been prepared by myself and received by the Director. The contract comprises the general

Conditions on which New-men are engaged
on the west Coast of Africa. I promised
the Director to do my best in respect of
the establishment of your Botanical
Station in Angola. Please, will you
furnish me with the Rules of my office
and introduce me to my superiors under
which my service is to be, respectively.

I may add that I am prepared to enter
your service at the earliest future date.
However I should be pleased to be informed
of the date at your earliest convenience
in order that I am able to complete
the preparation of my service.

I have the honour to be,

Dear Sir,

yours most obedient and humble servant

John Gossweiler.