

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF HORTICULTURE IN THE NETHERLANDS

— established by P.F. von Siebold and C.L. Blume in 1842 —

Gerard Thijsse
Isabel Tanaka-Van Daalen
Katsunori Miyazaki

SUMMARY

オランダにおける王立園芸奨励協会

1839年に F.Ph. フォン・シーボルト, C.L. ブルーメ, J. ピエロー, J.C. ロットバルトが日本と海外のオランダ領から植物を輸入するため協力し合った。園芸家ロットバルトはオランダに輸入された植物の栽培の責任者となった。植物採集家ピエローが出島に向かう途中死亡したのではあるが, ロットバルトの栽培場に十分な植物が栽培されていたので, シーボルトとブルーメは1842年に新しい王立協会を設立することを決めた。この新しい協会は特にオランダにおける園芸の振興と, かつては世界中の新しい, エキゾチックな植物の集まる中心地であったオランダの名声を取り戻すことを目的した。この事業は協会の会員が輸入された植物を手頃な値段で購入し, 自分たちでそれらを市場に出す機会となれば, その目的を達成できるとシーボルトとブルーメは考えた。

1843年にロットバルトが共同事業から離れ, 彼の栽培場にあった植物はシーボルトの栽培場に移された。次にブルーメもこの事業から離れ, シーボルトが

植物輸入とその栽培だけではなく、協会の会員への植物売買の全ての責任を負うこととなった。植物輸入の経費は高額であった割には、実際オランダに到着した際に生き伸びた植物は比較的になかった。そのため、協会の会員にはその輸入植物に高い値段が要求されるようになり、その結果、協会の財政もあまり良くなかった。シーボルトは、健康問題だけではなく、財政的な困難もあり、ドイツに引越すことも考えていた。彼は最初、栽培場を現金で王立協会に売却しようとしたが、うまくいかなかったので、次に協会の会員に栽培場の株を分配しようとしたが、皆の興味を引くものではなかった。1847年末にシーボルトの栽培場は全く王立協会から独立の存在となっていた。その時点で、シーボルト本人に日本からの植物輸入の5年間の独占権が許されていたが、それ以降は王立協会が自ら日本からの植物輸入を行うことになった。しかし協会の運営の成功率もあまり高くなかった。

1848年以降になると、協会の会員はむしろ植物の展示会の開催に力を入れることになった。時間が経つにつれて会員数も減り、残っていた会員は最終的にはこれらの展示会でさえ継続することができなくなった。結局、王立協会は1867年に解散となり、その古文書類はロッテルダム市立古文書館に引き渡された。その内容のリストもここで紹介することにした。今までほとんど知られていないこの史料群が、シーボルトによる日本からの植物導入に関する今後の研究の参考になればと思う。

In 1839 a partnership was formed by Siebold, Blume, Pierot and Rodbard, to import plants from Japan and other Dutch overseas territories. The horticulturist Rodbard would be responsible for the cultivation of the imported plants. Despite the death of Pierot, the collector of plants, on his way to Deshima, sufficient plants were growing in Rodbard's garden in 1842 to make Siebold and Blume decide to set up a new society. This new one had to promote horticulture in the Netherlands, and restore the fame the Netherlands once had as the centre of the world where new exotic plants arrived from all corners of the world. Siebold and Blume thought this could be

achieved by giving the members the opportunity to buy the introduced plants for a reasonable price and let them bring the plants on the market themselves.

In 1843 Rodbard left the partnership and the plants in his garden were transferred to Siebold's own nursery. After Blume had left the partnership as well, Siebold became the only one responsible, not only for the import and cultivation, but also for the sale of the plants to the members of the Society. The costs for importing plants were high, while relatively few plants actually arrived in a living condition in the Netherlands. As a result, the members had to be asked high prices for the imported plants, and consequently financial results were not very high. Siebold, who had not only health, but also financial problems, wanted to move to Germany. He first tried, without success to sell his nursery for cash to the Royal Society, after that he invited the members to take shares, in which there must have been little interest.

At the end of 1847 Siebold's nursery became completely independent from the Royal Society. He was allowed a 5 year monopoly on the import of Japanese plants, where after the Society would import plants from Japan itself, though the success rate of their attempts was also not high.

From 1848 on, the members of the Society more and more tried to reach their goal by organizing plant exhibitions. Over the years the number of members gradually declined and in the end there were too few to keep the Society financially sound, and to continue to finance these exhibitions. Finally, in 1867 the Society was disbanded, and its archives, of which a list of the contents is given here, were handed over to the Municipal Archives of the City of Rotterdam. These form a still unexplored source with regard to Siebold's activities on the introduction of plants from Japan.

INTRODUCTION

In 1842, Philipp Franz von Siebold (1796–1866) and Carl Ludwig Blume (1796–1862), director of the Leiden *Rijksherbarium* (now Naturalis biodiversity center, Leiden), established a special society for the promotion of horticulture in the Netherlands. Both considered such a society a logical consequence of the partnership they had formed to import plants from Japan and other Dutch overseas territories in 1839. Their other partners were the Leiden horticulturist Johannes Cornelis Rodbard (1800–1876) and Blume’s assistant, the botanist Jacques Pierot (1812–1841). It was not set up with the aim to make profit by selling the imported plants. This they left to the members of this new special society who were the only ones who could buy the imported plants for a reasonable price, and Dutch growers even got a discount. Of course expenses and efforts of the partners had to be compensated.

The goal of the Society, to promote trade in exotic ornamental plants, the members wanted to achieve, not only through the import and cultivation of new interesting plants, but also by organizing plant exhibitions. In total 26 exhibitions were organized. Over the years the number of members diminished. In 1867 the number was so low that the Society had to be disbanded. The archives were handed over to the Rotterdam municipal archive, where they are still kept. For the research on Siebold’s activities with regard to the import of plants from Japan, and his nursery von Siebold & Comp., this archive seems to have been seldom or never used. In this paper the establishment of the Royal Society is in short described, and a brief description of the contents of their archive is included. Most information presented here is taken from the archive of the Royal Society and the yearbook of 1844 and 1845. The archive has been fully digitized by Katsunori Miyazaki in 2018.

A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE INTRODUCTION AND CULTIVATION OF PLANTS FROM JAPAN, CHINA, AND THE EAST INDIES

After his arrival in Japan Siebold soon noticed that the plants he saw growing in the gardens there would form a great asset to the European gardens. At the time he probably will not have thought about importing them into the Netherlands. It was Chancellor Klemens Lothar Wenzel, Prince of Metternich (1773–1859) who suggested him to establish a society for the introduction of Japanese plants into the Netherlands and Austria when he was in Vienna in 1835 (Mac Lean 1978 : 54). He offered this plan to the Dutch government, but for several reasons, the Minister of the Interior was not prepared to give it his support.

In the past the Netherlands was the centre of the world where exotic plants arrived from all corners of the world, which were grown in the gardens of the elite. As director of the botanical garden in Buitenzorg (Bogor), Blume had made many experiments with various cultures, such as coffee, tea and cotton. He saw this role had now been taken over by England and other countries. The living Japanese plants Siebold had brought to the Netherlands in 1830, and had to leave behind in the Ghent botanical garden because of the Belgian uprising, had contributed immensely to the profits of the Ghent horticulturists and the fame of the city as the capital of Flora. It was Blume's wish to restore the former position of the Netherlands and he knew well that some tropical ornamental plants could also thrive in the open air in Europe and could contribute to achieve this goal.

The Leiden horticulturist Rodbard was also interested in importing Japanese plants. He had sent his own scheme how to acquire them to the Ministry of the Interior shortly after Siebold had submitted his. Rodbard wanted to send ornamental plants to Japan in exchange for Japanese plants which he could cultivate in his nursery and bring them on the market. He seems to have been the only one who had developed his plan mainly from a commercial point of view.

Eventually, Siebold, Blume and Rodbard decided to work together and they formed, together with Blume's assistant Pierot, a partnership of four in 1839. They had decided, not to import plants only from Japan, but from the Dutch East Indies as well. The necessary funds to pay for the sending of Pierot to Japan to collect plants there, would be provided by Blume. Rodbard, who had instructed Pierot (Blume 1844 : 60), would take care of the cultivation of the imported plants in his nursery. Siebold, as the fourth partner, would do his best to bring together specimens of all species of Japanese plants he had abandoned in Ghent in 1830.¹⁾

In the month September of the year 1840, Pierot sailed to Batavia. His final destination was of course Japan, but first his first task was to make a collection of all Japanese plants already growing in the botanical garden of Buitenzorg. Of the Javanese plants there, he should collect only those which stood out by the splendour of their flowers, or sweetness of smell. Also plants with medicinal properties or for domestic use were eligible. The zeal with which Pierot had accepted his task gave the partners high expectations of the outcome of his mission. Unfortunately enough, the ship that would bring him to Deshima was shipwrecked in a hurricane and had to enter the port of Macao. Here Pierot got sunstroke and died in August 1841. With the support of the government, the pharmacist Carl Julius Textor (1816-ca 1869) was appointed to take over Pierot's task. He arrived at Batavia in March 1843 and came to Deshima in August 1843. From Deshima, Textor would send out many species of living Japanese plants, bulbs, and seeds, but only a small fraction of them were alive when they finally arrived in the Netherlands.

1) A copy of their plan, dated October 1839, is preserved in the archives of the Royal Society (Rotterdam city archive).

THE ROYAL DUTCH SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF HORTICULTURE

The Siebold period (1842–1847)

Despite the setbacks with the import of Japanese plants, Siebold and Blume thought the time was now ripe to establish a special society to give the Dutch growers the opportunity to benefit from the plants they had imported. They thought that in this way it was possible to re-establish the fame of the Dutch horticulture, and give plant trade a boost. Blume, in the first yearbook of the Royal Society Blume, worded it as follows :

*The Netherlands once owned the fame that, when it came to cultivate exotic plants, it had not to give way to any other European country. A lively trade in strange flowers and plants, which made flow rich sources of prosperity for the diligence of the inhabitants, was the fruit of the expertise and care with which horticulture was practiced. The desire to revive this economic sector has brought us together some years ago, to form a partnership [by way of a society], which by importing such plants which excel by their beauty or useful qualities, could revive the domestic and foreign plant trade from the languid state in which it has fallen.*²⁾

2) Original text : *Nederland bezat weleer den roem, dat het in het aankweken van vreemde gewassen voor geen der landen van Europa behoefde te wijken. Een levendige handel in vreemde bloemen en planten, die voor de nijverheid der ingezetenen rijke bronnen van welvaart deed vloeijen, was de vrucht van de kunde en de zorg, waarmede de tuinbouw in hetzelfde beoefend werd. De wensch om dezen tak van nijverheid te doen herleven, heeft ons, eenige jaren geleden, de handen ineen doen slaan, om eene Vereeniging [bijwijze van Vennootschap] tot stand te brengen, welke door het invoeren en aankweken van zoodanige planten, die door nuttige eigenschappen of schoonheid uitmunten, op nieuw den binnen- en buitenlandschen plantenhandel uit den staat van kwijning, waartoe hij vervallen is, zou kunnen terugroepen* (Blume & von Siebold 1844 : iii).

Only the members of this new society were allowed to buy, for a reasonable price, the plants that were imported by the partners. Of course the expenses and efforts made by the partners were charged to the buyers (Blume 1844 : 58). The prices of the available plants were set in consultation, and the plants were offered for sale by means of a printed price list, which was sent to each member at the same time. Growers in the Netherlands were given a discount. Finally, of each imported species one specimen was donated to the various academic institutions. The financial risks involved in the importation of the plants was completely taken by the partners, while the eventual profits from cultivating them would benefit the growers (Blume 1844 : 77-79).

The way the imported plants were sold to the members of the Royal Society made it less attractive for Rodbard to act as the horticulturist for the partnership. His reasons to join had been mainly commercial and he expected big profits. The fact that members of the Society were able to buy rare plants for a small sum, which could make them large profits, while he carried the risk of the import of these plants, must not have been to his liking. He also was against the rule to donate plants to the academic gardens. He feared that via that way plants would come into the hands of other horticulturists. This all made him decide to leave the partnership already in October 1843. Also the fact that so far only few new plants had arrived in his nursery will have contributed to his decision (Blume 1844 : 77-80).

With Rodbard's garden now no longer available for the partners, and with winter coming, the plants in the garden of Rodbard had to be moved to another place as soon as possible. Siebold and Blume disagreed about how to continue the cultivation of the plants. Blume thought of buying a garden together with Siebold. The latter, however, considered his own nursery just as suitable for the purpose. According to Blume, Siebold had put him to the choice to take on the management of the nursery and the sale of the plants, or to leave that in his hands. Since it was impossible for Blume to combine this task with his other duties, Siebold was entrusted with these

tasks as well (Blume 1844 : 81).

To prevent him from coming into conflict with Siebold again, Blume gave him the choice to buy his share in the partnership, or, in case he did not wish to, to sell his own share to him (Blume 1844 : 83–84). Siebold, who claims in his public letter of 1864 he had been forced by Blume to do so, chose the first option and in June 1844 he bought out Blume. For his share he paid him 6,000 Guilders (Mac Lean 1978 : 70–71). Later, in 1845 Blume also resigned as director of the Royal Society. Siebold, as the only remaining partner, was now responsible, not only for the importation of new plants, but, as one of the two chairmen of the Royal Society, also for their cultivation in his nursery, and for the sale to the members of the Society.

Siebold was faced with various difficulties and probably began to think seriously about selling the nursery and move to Germany. The sending of Textor, had caused him a large debt to the Department of Colonies of more than 3,000 Dutch guilders (Mac Lean 1978 : 61). This money was spent on the purchase of the plants and the fabrication of the transport cases (von Siebold 1845 : 54). His wife could not stand the damp climate in the Netherlands. In the wet season it gave her the dreaded malaria, and on medical advice it was decided to stay here only during the summer months (Bijleveld 1920 : 115–116). In October 1847, Siebold asked permission to leave the country for one year. He wanted to go to St. Martin near Boppard am Rhein, to live there in the house of his mother-in-law. The official reason for this request was his bad health (Mac Lean 1978 : 69). Siebold indeed suffered severely from problems with his feet.³⁾ It is, however, also suggested that financial problems also played a role in his decision to leave the country (Mac Lean 1978 : 61, 69).

3) Letters P.F. von Siebold (St. Martin bei Boppard) to W.H. de Vriese, 18 July 1848 and 9 October 1848 (Naturalis biodiversity center, Leiden).

The bond between Siebold's nursery and the Royal Society is broken

At the second general meeting of the Society on 10 September 1846, Siebold proposed to expand the activities of his nursery, a task which was too much for him alone. To bring together sufficient money he suggested to invite the members of the Society to form a limited partnership. By issuing 500 shares of 100 guilders each he wanted to raise 50,000 guilders. This would make the garden and everything in it the property of the partners. There were no objections against this plan on the part of the board of the Society (Mac Lean 1978 : 67).⁴⁾ However, not many members were prepared to invest. At the 38th board meeting on 27 May 1847 Siebold announced the sale of about thirty species of completely new peonies. These had been collected by Textor, and despite they had arrived in a very poor condition in 1845, were now flowering. Siebold warned the members of the Society that he expected much interest, especially from the Dutch members. When this was not the case he would break the bonds between his nursery and the Society. Obviously the nursery was not profitable because of the poor sale results. Especially the Dutch members showed little interest. Siebold now proposed to sell his nursery to the Society. During the third general meeting of 14 October 1847 it became clear that a purchase was not feasible. For this a total of 50,000 guilders was needed, 30,000 for the plants and the garden, and 20.00 for the continuation of the import of plants. Siebold now breaks the ties with the Society, and from that moment on his nursery Von Siebold & Comp., is completely independent. Siebold resigns as chairman, and became honorary chairman. As a reward for all his efforts to the Society he is granted a 5-year monopoly on the import of Japanese plants. After this period, the Royal Society wanted to import plants from Japan itself, and would try to do so under the same conditions as had been allowed to Siebold.⁵⁾

4) Document from the board of the Society, W.H. de Vriese, chairman and J.H. Molkenboer, secretary (Leiden), to the Minister of Colonies, 1846 (Siebold archive, Schlüchtern).

5) Letter from the board of the Society (Leiden) to the Minister of Colonies, 26 April 1851, in the archive of the Royal Society (Rotterdam city archive).

Importation of plants by the Royal Society

After the break-up with Siebold's nursery the Royal Society seems to have made not many attempts to import new exotic plants. For as far now known, only in 1849 and 1850 plants for the Society arrived in the Netherlands. In some newspapers of October 1849 the arrival of 5 crates with West Indian plants are announced. These were sold in Leiden at *Hotel Lion d'Or* on 26 October.⁶⁾ In 1850, a case with tree ferns arrived from Buitenzorg. Also these were publicly sold in the same establishment on 4 October 1850.⁷⁾

The efforts of the Royal Society to obtain Japanese plants seems to have been more successful. It seems that already in 1851 the physician on Deshima, Jan Karel van den Broek (1814–1865) sent plants to Buitenzorg destined for the Royal Society. The transport was done by the ship *Joan* (Capt. van Assendelft de Coningh) (Tanaka-van Daalen 2008 : 26). After Siebold's five year monopoly had passed in 1853, the Society itself requested van den Broek to send Japanese plants. He almost immediately prepared a shipment of plants which he sent to Batavia in December with the *Hendrika* (Capt. Admiraal). Unfortunately the plants never reached the Netherlands (Mac Lean 1978 : 76 ; Tanaka-van Daalen 2008 : 26).⁸⁾ The plants he sent to Batavia in 1854 with the *Sara Lydia* (Capt. van der Tak) arrived in the Netherlands in a bad state. They were put in the hands of Rodbard.⁹⁾ The ones he was able to keep alive would be sold soon.¹⁰⁾ The plants van den Broek dispatched to

6) *Opregte Haarlemsche Courant* (23 October 1849), *Dagblad van's Gravenhage* (24 October 1849).

7) Verkoop van planten op 4 Oct. 1850 van eenige boomvarens [...], list of buyers. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

8) Letter C.F. Pahud, Minister of Colonies (The Hague) to W.H. de Vriese, secretary of the Royal Society, 30 March 1855. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

9) Letter J.C. Rodbard (Leiden) to the secretary of the Royal Society, 6 September 1855. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

the Netherlands in 1856 with the ship *Resident van Son* (Capt. C. Kramers), were sent to the Netherlands in the ship *Ouwerkerk aan de Amstel* (Capt. D.H. Kramer) which arrived in June 1857.¹¹⁾ This shipments consisted of one open case with living plants together with a case containing a jar with aquatic plants.¹²⁾ In 1858 another two cases with living plants arrived in the Netherlands. They were transported by the *Ferdinanda Emma* (Capt. Tange).¹³⁾ The cases were addressed to the Royal Society in Leiden. Unfortunately all plants were dead. Supposedly also this latter shipment had been taken care of by Van den Broek.¹⁴⁾

Van den Broek will have had much help from the interpreter Kitamura Motosuke (1802–1868) in bringing these living plants together. In 1851 he had become the person in charge of collecting useful living plants at Deshima in 1851 (Tanaka-Van Daalen 2008). Motosuke also sent plants to the garden in Buitenzorg as a private person. After the shipment of 1857, however, no more living plants were sent from Japan by Van den Broek and/or Motosuke. For reasons of health Van den Broek was discharged and was succeeded by the physician Johan Lidius Cathrinus Pompe van Meerdervoort (1829–1908). In the same year Motosuke was sentenced to prison for the illegal sale of European books (written communication Tanaka-van Daalen 2008).¹⁵⁾

10) Minutes general meeting, 5 April 1855. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

11) *Opregte Haarlemsche Courant* (7 July 1857); Minutes general meeting, 21 November 1857. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

12) Letter J.K. van den Broek (Deshima) to the Royal Society, 6 December 1856. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

13) *Utrechtsche provinciale en stads-courant : algemeen advertentieblad* (3 April 1858).

14) Letter H. Boursse Wils (Leiden) to W.M. de Brauw, 25 April 1858. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

15) Letter W.J.C. Huyssen van Kattendijke (Deshima) to P.F. von Siebold, 23 October 1857 and 9 August 1857 (Siebold archive, Schlüchtern).

The plant exhibitions

Another way to promote the trade in exotic plants was by organizing exhibitions by the members of the Society. Prizes were offered for many different categories of plants. The first exhibition was held in The Hague in 1848. In 1851 it was decided to organize two exhibitions annually, one in Rotterdam and one in The Hague. In total 26 exhibitions were staged. The 25th exhibition was held in 1864, the 26th and last one in Rotterdam in 1866. Because the Royal Society was one of the main organizers of a general horticultural exhibition to be held in 1865 in the new large glass exhibition building *Paleis van Volkslijst* in Amsterdam, no exhibitions were organized by the Society that year. The building had opened in 1864 and was inspired on the Crystal Palace in London.

At almost every exhibition also Japanese plants from the von Siebold & Comp. were on display, often newly introduced, and the catalogues are therefore also a source of information about the plants which had been introduced from Japan. All catalogues, with the exception of the ones belonging to the 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th and 11th exhibition are present in the archive.

The archives

In 1865, the number of members had fallen to such low level that it became impossible to finance, apart from the exhibitions, a yearbook as well. The decision to disband the Society was taken at the general meeting of 19 January 1867. Probably in 1864 or 1865 the Royal Society had moved their principal seat from Leiden to Rotterdam.¹⁶⁾ Therefore it was also decided to request the Municipal Archives of the City of Rotterdam to accept the archives of the Royal Society, for as far it had any historical value. In 1868 it was taken there.

16) Letter by the Burgemeester en Wethouders van Rotterdam, 11 January 1866. Archive of the Royal Dutch Society for the encouragement of horticulture (Rotterdam City archive).

List of the contents of the archives of the Royal Society for the encouragement of horticulture

122-1. Minute book 1844-1848.

122-2. Minute book 1849-1867.

122-3. Documents and other annexes to the minutes 1844-1847.

a. Report from the treasurer 17 April 1845.

a. A. Royal decrees for the establishment of the Society and the acceptance of the protectorate by His Majesty Willem II.

B. Documents belonging to the minutes of 26 April 1845, relating to financial matters and the appointment of correspondents.

C. Annexes to the minutes of 24 April 1845.

D. Concept report of both directors for the yearbook of 1844.

E. Concept report compiled by the secretaries from the previous report.

F. Text for inclusion in the yearbook submitted by Zollinger. See minutes 12 May 1845 and its provisional translation.

G. Annexes to the minutes of 12 May 1845, and annexes to further specification of Siebold's protest.

H. Concept contract and notarial contract between management and treasurer.

J. Annexes to the minutes of 23 May 1845.

K. Translation of the report on the state of the society in the yearbook of 1844 pursuant the decision of 23 May and copy of aforementioned with changes added to the latest proofs of the Dutch text by the Director Blume, received 2 June 1845.

L. Missive from Blume notifying his majesty of his resignation, and the relevant documents.

M. Missive from the Minister of Colonies including the accompanying list of the Dutch East Indian members of the Royal Society.

N. Missive from Blume accompanied by a missive from Blume as director, and other related documents.

- O. Report of the secretary on the occasion of the first general meeting on 27 September 1845.
 - P. Report of the Committee regarding the most efficient manner for the society to sell the plants.
 - Q. Illustrations for the yearbook of 1846 or later.
 - R. Diploma of the *Genootschap Dordrechtse Flora* (The Dordrecht Society of Flora) and the gifts received from the same society.
 - S. Report of the secretary on the occasion of the general meeting 10 September 1848.
 - T. Draft statutes, see minutes 10 September 1846.
 - U. Report of the state of the Society for the year 1846–1847 for the general meeting of 14 October 1847.
 - V. Letters of the registration of membership.
 - W. List of discharge on the occasion of the resignation of Hoffmann as secretary.
 - X. Original documents of the proofs of the statutes at the occasion of the general meeting of 1847.
 - Y. Printed matters of the society for as far these do not belong to the yearbooks.
 - Z. Report of the committee to record the financial state on 24 October 1847.
 - AA. Notes concerning sendings etc. made by Hoffmann.
 - BB. French translation of the speech by the president to the general meeting of 27 September 1845.
 - CC. Proceedings of the general meeting and the thereby made agreements.
 - DD. Program of the first exhibition with the corresponding documents.
 - EE. Sending of laws and the programs of the first exhibition 14 December 1847.
- 122–4. Documents and other annexes to the minutes 1850–1860.

122-5. Documents and other annexes to the minutes 1860–1867.

122-6. Report of the general meeting of 19 January 1867.

122-7. Laws of the Royal Society 1847–1864.

122-8. Yearbooks 1844–1864.

122-9. Programs of exhibitions 1848–1865.

122-10. Current account book 1860–1867.

122-11. Receipts 1844–1867.

The existence of this archive has remained under the radar for a long time with among those who have occupied themselves with the study of Siebold and his activities concerning the import of plants from Japan. Particularly the part of the archive that deals with the period when Siebold [and Blume] were directors of the Royal Society is interesting, because it contains a lot of data about the ups and downs of Siebold's nursery.

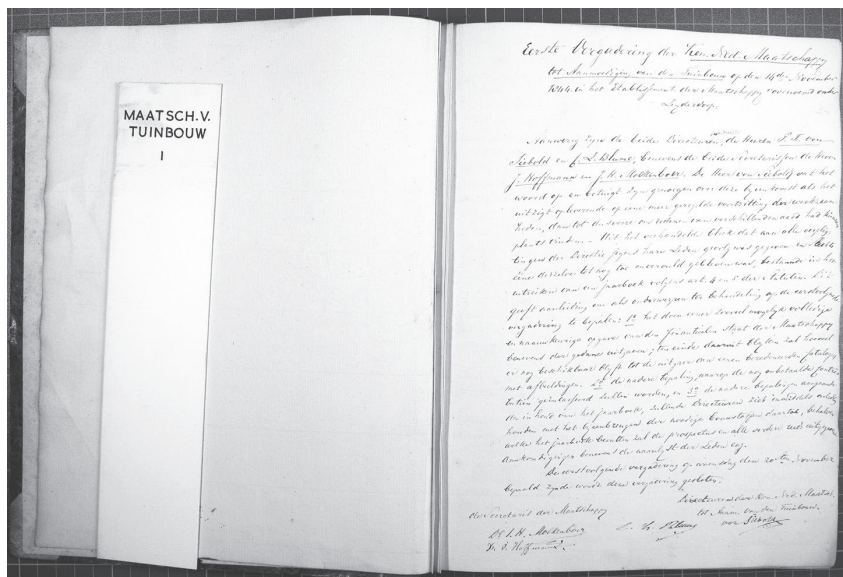
UNPUBLISHED SOURCES

Siebold, P.F. von, 1864. Open brief aan Zijne Excellentie den Minister van Binnenlandsche Zaken strekkende tot verantwoording van Japansche gedroogde planten die als's Rijkseigendom van den ondergeteekenden teruggeëischt worden [...]. (Public letter to His Excellency the Minister of the Interior serving to account for the Japanese dried plants that, as property of the State, are reclaimed from the undersigned [...]). Würzburg den 15 Augustus 1864 (Naturalis biodiversity center, Leiden).

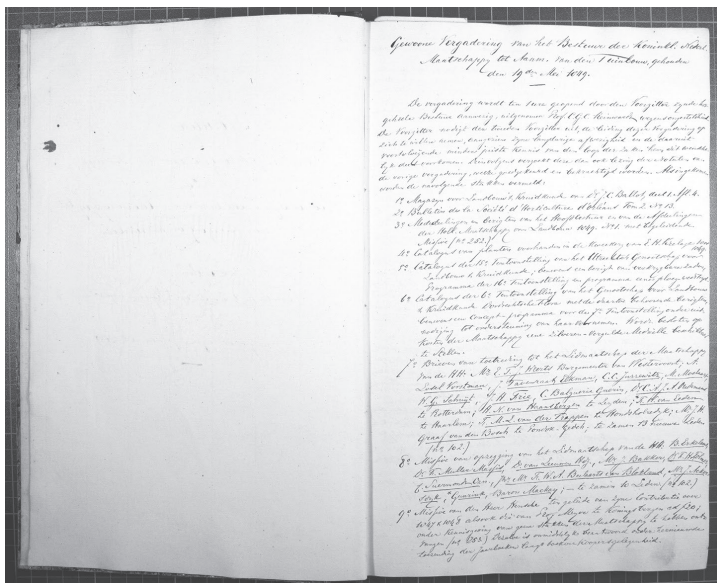
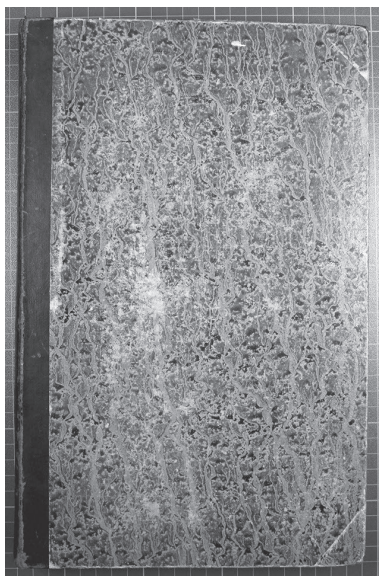
LITERATURE

- Blume, C.L., 1844.** Over het nut der invoering van vreemde gewassen en de laatste pogingen om daardoor den tuinbouw hier te lande op te beuren (About the purpose of introducing foreign crops and the latest attempts lifting thereby horticulture in this country). In : *Jaarboek van de Koninklijke Nederlandsche Maatschappij tot bevordering van de Tuinbouw* 1844, pp. 40–88. Leiden.
- Blume, C.L. & P.F. von Siebold, 1844.** Ontwerp tot oprigting van de koninklijke Nederlandsche maatschappij tot aanmoediging van den tuijnbouw (Plan for the establishment of the Royal Dutch society for the encouragement of horticulture). In : *Jaarboek van de Koninklijke Nederlandsche Maatschappij tot bevordering van de Tuinbouw* 1844, pp. i-vi. Leiden.
- Bijleveld, W.J.J.C., 1920.** Verloren Glorie. Jhr. Dr. Ph. F. B. von Siebold en zijne buitenplaats Nippon (Lost Glory. Jhr. Dr. Ph. F. B. von Siebold and his estate Nippon). In : *Jaarboek voor geschiedenis en oudheidkunde van Leiden en Rijnland* 20 : 102–129.
- Mac Lean, J., 1978.** Von Siebold and the Importation of Japanese Plants into Europe via the Netherlands. *Japanese Studies in the History of Science* 17 : 43–79.
- Siebold, P.F. von, 1845.** Verslag vanwege de kweekerij van Siebold & Comp. ten behoeve van de Koninklijke Nederlandse Maatschappij tot aanmoediging van de tuinbouw (Report in name of the nursery von Siebold & Comp. on behalf of the Royal Dutch Society for encouragment of horticulture) In : *Jaarboek van de Koninklijke Nederlandsche Maatschappij tot bevordering van de Tuinbouw*. Leiden 1845. Leiden.
- Tanaka-Van Daalen, I., 2008.** Kitamura Motosuke and his contributions to botany and zoology (I). *Narutaki Kiyo* (Annual report from the Siebold Memorial Museum in Nagasaki), 18 : 15–28. (in Japanese)

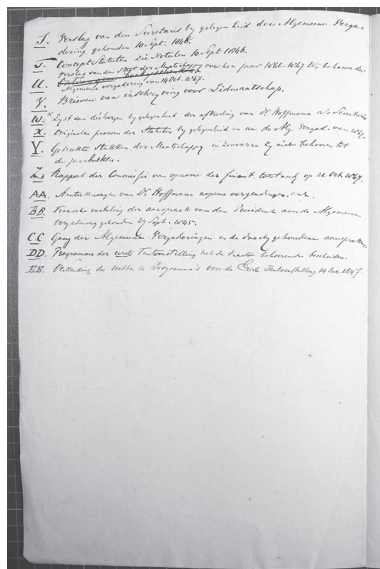
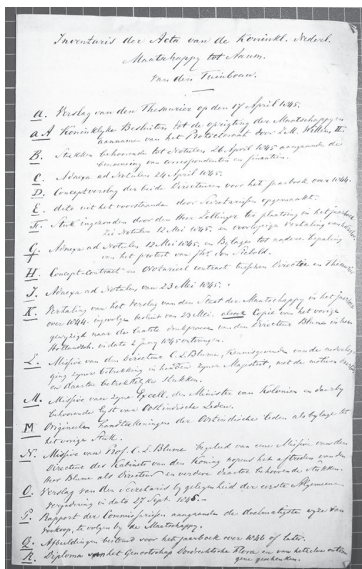
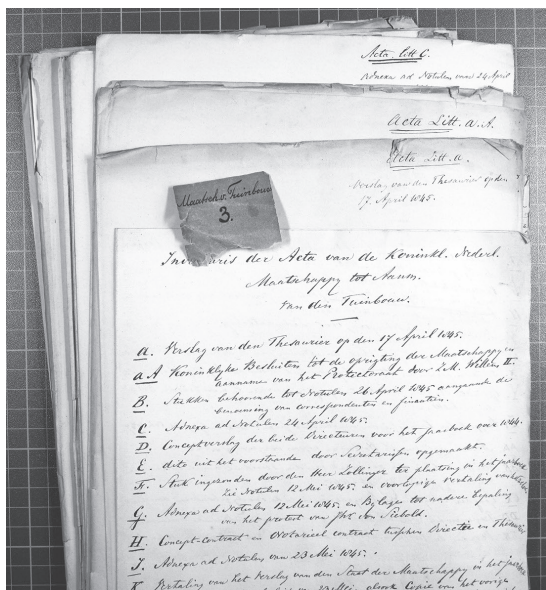
122-1. Minute book 1844-1848.



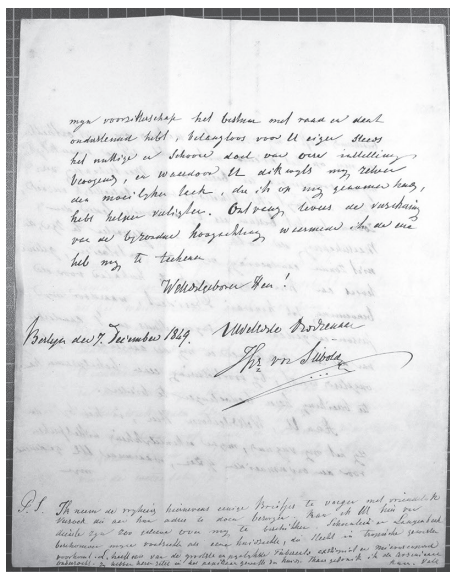
122-2. Minute book 1849-1867.



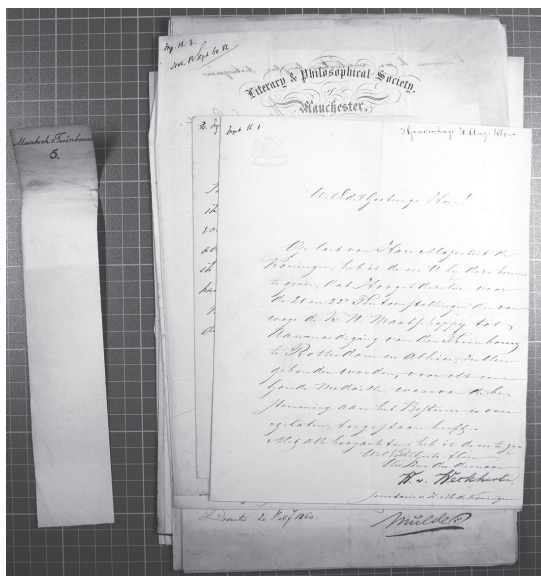
122-3. Documents and other annexes to the minutes 1844-1847.



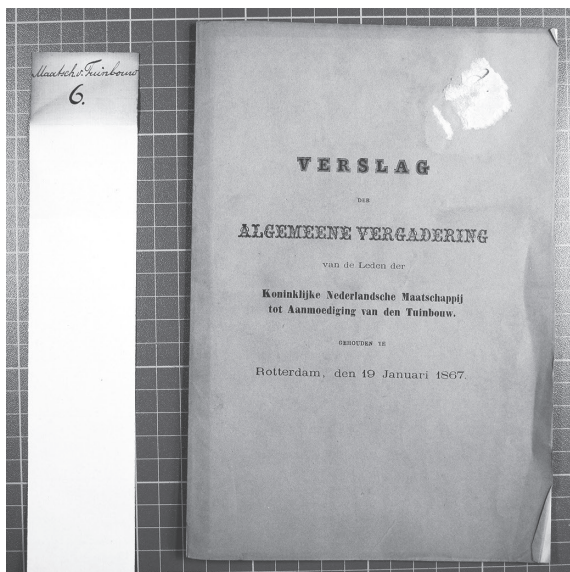
122-4. Documents and other annexes to the minutes 1850-1860.



122-5. Documents and other annexes to the minutes 1860-1867.



122-6. Report of the general meeting of 19 January 1867.



122-7. Laws of the Royal Society 1847-1864.

