

Hamburg, March 23rd, 1838

Most esteemed Pastor.

I would have gladly waited with a second letter to you until we had received one from you. However, since it has been so long and Brother Teichelmann is now offering me a great opportunity, I would like to share with you what I would have gladly told you if I were in Dresden.

My trip to Osnabrück went exactly as I had hoped and without any unusual incidents, except that I had a very colorful company from Hildesheim to Minden. There were four of us in the car: to my right sat a thin gentleman from Herrenhausen, diagonally opposite an Anglican, and directly in front of me was a Quaker. Only with the Anglican could I have a sensible and Christian conversation. He had previously been awakened in a Methodist congregation, but had lost much of what he had gained, as he himself admitted with tears. In the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, he was, to put it mildly, a seminarian; and it was predestination that made him so despondent and unresponsive to all comforting words. I parted from this man with deep regret.

I arrived late at my family's on February 23rd, and everyone welcomed me with a mixture of sadness and joy, knowing it was my last visit. I found much sympathy for the Lutheran Society from local pastors and other faithful Christians, all expressing their joy at seeing the first missionary from their Lutheran church. Pastor Voß in Schleddehausen said he would deliver the contributions collected so far in the community (amounting to 20-30 Thalers) and future donations earmarked for Dresden. I was pleased that the Schleddehausen community wanted to join the Society, to which I belong both internally and externally. I was even more delighted when Pastor Weibezahn in Osnabrück, the most respected and influential in the entire principality, told me he hoped the entire Osnabrück would join Dresden. To revive and broaden interest in the missionary cause, he recently published a suitable pamphlet and plans to establish a small missionary newspaper for the Osnabrück principality. He hopes this will simultaneously gather forces and unite the previously scattered individuals into a cohesive association. I left all my printed and written materials about the Dresden Society with Pastor Weibezahn, including my annual report, the ordination ceremony, a copy of the Instruction, and advertisement sheets. I also provided him with oral information as much as I could. I look forward with great hope and joy to this servant of God and his work; he has been a great blessing to the Osnabrück principality and will hopefully continue to be so through the Lutheran Missionary Society. He has already requested my address and promised to correspond with me, perhaps he has already done so. I would advise writing to him with the usual courtesy, which will surely win him over. He is closely connected with neighboring

Reformed pastors in Bremen, Barmen, and Tecklenburg, etc. Regarding the North German Society, I've only heard negative opinions everywhere, namely that it has no foundation and therefore will not last.

After having spent 8 days in my beloved homeland, I had to say a difficult goodbye in order to be in Hanover at the right time. I arrived there on the 5th and immediately went to see Mr. von Arnswaldt. After chatting with this gentle man for a few hours, I went to visit Mr. Cand. Küster, as Arnswaldt was busy with a matter at the time. Although I had to introduce myself to him, we soon became so familiar that we sat together until late into the night. As for the mission meeting on the first day, Mr. von Arnswaldt has probably already written to you about it, but just to be sure, I'll write it to you again. Since Pastor Petri's mother was on her deathbed, he couldn't attend, and had to leave the chairmanship to his deputy, Kohlrausch. The annual celebration, however, did not take place in the church as I had expected, but in a large hall of the gymnasium, to which only members or those who pay at least 1/2 Thaler annually have access. At the beginning, Pastor Klopp gave a very good speech on the benefits of missionary publications, which particularly aroused my desire for the Dresden society to soon be able to present a decent publication. Then Pastor Flügge proposed the distribution of the money, as follows: 100 Thalers for Herrnhut, as they had been associated with it from the beginning; 200 Thalers for Barmen, as a pupil from Hanover is there; 300 Thalers for Dresden, as 2 local children, one of whom is present, are in the institute, and as they, being Lutherans, should particularly pay attention to this society. Only one person wanted to send 50 Thalers to Basel, but not from the sum intended for Dresden, which everyone had to agree to. I'm sure that you, like all friends in Dresden, will be pleased with such progress and feel encouraged to continue the work of the Lord Jesus. I've met several more friends in Hanover, mostly candidates, some of whom are still on shaky ground. Mr. Kaufmann Bretschneider gave me a cute family album and, without my knowledge, arranged for all friends to write a message in it. In addition, he gave me 1/2 a dozen stockings, which a lady had donated to the association and which I couldn't accept. In Lüneburg, I didn't find as much interest in the North German Society as the last annual letter might suggest. I confronted the friends there about the offensive remark, and was informed that they should simply reject the accusation from Hamburg that the Lüneburg society had hurt the love towards the North German Society in its behavior. Please tell Brother Cordes that I spent 3 days in Damenz; I'll write to him next time. For your next letter, I ask you to inform us about Engelke, Stephan, and the admission of a new pupil, as well as the plans of the spiritual authority against the institute. I send my warmest greetings to you, your family, the brothers, and all friends.

C. W. Schürmann

I had to promise the Hanoverian Association, as well as Pastor Meibaycher, that I would send them direct messages from me in the future.