

erh. 25/1 [18]42
W.

To the missionary preacher, Mr. Teichelmann,
Most Reverend.

and Rev.

Beloved brother in the Lord!

The wish you expressed at the beginning of your letter of March 11, 1841, to receive news from us quite often, at least every quarter, speaks to us from the heart, and we wish and hope to fulfill it, if circumstances permit, and therefore we hasten to respond to your last letter this year. Unfortunately, in this latter letter, you also addressed four important points, although you did not mention anything about your missionary activities, which we would have gladly and gratefully heard about. We by no means demand or expect to always hear about extraordinary and joyful events; but we do wish to always hear about your daily experiences in your profession, the nature of your activities, etc., so that we are always able to properly appreciate your work and the field in which it is carried out. Hopefully, perhaps, while we are writing this, you, as well as your colleague Klose, have already done so.

It's painful that you never go beyond the financial matters in your writing, and you even deliberately deprive us of the hope of seeing you reassured and devoted in this regard in your latest letter. Therefore, your letters, especially the last one, carry more of a businessman's tone than a missionary's. We must regret this, although we don't want to cut off the necessary discussion of external circumstances. Moreover, we think it's better to stick to the old arrangement regarding cash management and therefore hope that you will continue to handle this matter as before. However, we welcome the question you raised about the most appropriate way of salary payment, but we can't make a decision on this matter yet.

What you have further said about the often-discussed issue of marriage will already be partly addressed in a letter we sent to Klose earlier and at this moment. Therefore, we will simply note here that if you claim the same right in this regard as every church servant has at home, then you must also recognize the same consideration that everyone at home must take into account - namely, whether their circumstances allow it, that is, whether their position enables them to support a wife and children. Furthermore, the relationship of a missionary to the society that sent him to

temporarily represent the church is not quite the same as that of a church servant at home, as it necessarily bears the character of a contract, especially since the external circumstances in the mission area are very different and particularly difficult. The arrival of a wife and the growth of a family here are of the greatest and most serious importance. Therefore, we leave this matter to your more careful consideration, and we declare that we are not inclined to prevent a missionary from choosing a wife, as long as we have reason to hope that she possesses the characteristics specified in the scripture (1 Timothy 3:11), which we must, however, verify in practice.

As for news concerning the committee, we can only inform you for now that Mr. Geisler will leave Dresden in January (1842) and go to Waldeburg to take up a teaching position there. Mr. Schütze will also leave us, as he will go to Leipzig at Easter to pursue theological studies.

By warmly greeting you, like Brother Klose, from whom we would like to hear more, we commend you to the grace of the Lord as...

Your fellow brothers

v. W.

Therefore, the company's approval should definitely be obtained! I'm not entirely sure whether a definitive conclusion has been reached on this point (and if so, what is it?). Best regards.

Response from the reply letter to Missionary Schürmann and Pastor Pfr.

When this letter was written here, your letter of July 1st arrived on December 27th. Regarding what was communicated in it, we would like to add the following. Your wish to go inland and establish a colony with the natives is by no means, as you fear, contrary to our principles and views. Among wild peoples, who are as morally and intellectually underdeveloped as the New Zealanders, the missionary cannot simply be a preacher, but must first and simultaneously become a father, teacher, and educator, and in this way gain their trust, gratitude, and love. This practice has indeed had the most blessed and surprising consequences in many other peoples who were at a similarly low level - we say "finally", so that you do not lose hope and patience. (We can therefore only wish that your purpose will be achieved, and you will have seen from a previous letter that the Committee is already making preparations for its attainment.) Therefore, even if we cannot materially support your purpose, at least for now, we can only wish for its achievement.

You should receive the requested journals. By the way, there has been talk here in the country about a German-Russian war.

v. W.