

November 12, 1844

and Pastor

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To the bretheren
Teichelmann, Klose, Meyer, and Schürmann
in Neuholland.

Dear bretheren, beloved by the Lord!

May grace be with you, and peace from God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The letters from the brothers Teichelmann, Meyer, and Klose, as well as from the colonist Lühns from January 3 to February 10, arrived at our office on August 19. However, we delayed responding to them for so long because you promised to share with us the results of a joint discussion that was yet to take place, and we were unable to make any decisive decisions beforehand.

On October 22nd, we finally received your comprehensive letter from April 15th, as well as the individual letters from the brothers Schürmann, Teichelmann, and Meyer dated from April 10th to 15th.

We first consider the overall letter, in which you present us with the result of your deliberations held in Adelaide on March 9th. We fully acknowledge with you the particular difficulties that stand in the way of converting the local natives, and we readily admit that it requires an extraordinary faith to sow the seeds of the divine word on such a well-trodden ground. We also fully approve of your decision to focus primarily on the youth, given the appalling receptivity of the adults. We share the joyful hope that not all of their words will fall on deaf ears, but that some seeds will sooner or later bear fruit, even if it's hidden. Therefore, dear brothers, we urge you most urgently to continue on this well-trodden path ~~with all~~ patience and perseverance, without, ~~however, giving up hope that~~ you will not misunderstand us as meaning that you should henceforth abandon the adults altogether.

As for the purchased property "Ebenezer", we cannot hide that its sale would be all the more painful for us, as ~~you yourself share the opinion we also cherish~~, and which you have expressed, that the particular difficulties encountered by the mission there could best be resolved by colonizing the natives. We therefore advise you to postpone the

sale if at all possible and to look for a tenant. ~~We are happy to offer our services.~~
Although you write that it would be difficult to find a solvent tenant, we would argue that we are satisfied with the lowest possible rent and would be happy if it were ~~well-managed~~, in good condition, and properly cultivated. Perhaps Mr. Lührs could take on this responsibility?

We are truly sorry that Brother Schürmann's attempt to get the natives used to farming has failed. We would wish that he had faced particularly difficult circumstances, but - - - - - he should not let this discourage him from trying again. However, we fully approve of his decision not to accept the school offered to them by the governor in Walkerville. ~~We hope, moreover,~~ that it would please us greatly if the governor would keep his earlier promise to help establish a school in Port Lincoln, and we look forward to this with great anticipation.

The joyful mood with which Brother Meyer informed us that he moved into his own house a few weeks ago and that the walls of the school building are almost finished, has done us a great deal of good. May the God of all grace give him many reasons to praise His glorious name in his home and in his profession.

~~We learned from Brother Schürmann's letter that Brother Klose has already gotten married. We were actually just about to grant him the permission he requested in his last letter; but now, since the matter is already concluded, we transform our wishes into blessings and hope that the marriage has already taken place. We also hope that Brother Klose did not let his choice be guided by considerations of his profession. We pray to the Lord that, in His great mercy, He may allow this step to further His kingdom to benefit us all.~~

Please give our warmest greetings to Mr. Lührs and express our sincere regret that he did not find the conditions there in line with his wishes and expectations. May the Lord look upon him with mercy for the sacrifice he has made and lead his endeavors to a glorious conclusion.

We finally inform you that we sent you a box of school and printing supplies last summer. We will send you magazines and similar items again as soon as possible. In the meantime, to inform you about the current status of our mission, we enclose the latest issue of our Dresden Mission News, which describes the mission's last annual celebration and shares the report that was presented and filed during the year P*.

From the new name, which was co-signed for the first time, you will see that our committee in Dresden has increased its membership by one member.

The brothers in East India have kindly informed us through their announcement that they have collected a number of East Indian curiosities and have just sent them to us. Since we have been considering the idea of gradually establishing a small museum in our mission house for some time now, we would like to invite you to contribute to

this endeavor as well, if possible.

We were very pleased with the description of the local indigenous people in the vicinity of Encounter Bay, which was drafted by Brother Meyer. We hope that the other brothers will also do the same, and in particular, pay close attention to our missionary newspaper.

We hope you have received the 100 pounds raised in August of last year. As soon as our cash register, which now contains no more than 200 thalers, is in a better condition, we will not hesitate to provide you with more funds.

And now, dear brothers, hold fast to the word of promise! We lift up our hands in prayer to the Lord of the Church, asking that He may grant us the good confidence that He will yet have mercy on us and gloriously complete His work, be it in this way or that. In this confidence, we greet you all most cordially and commend you to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is highly praised in eternity. Amen.

Dresden, November 12th, 1844

The Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.