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Muhlenberg, Henry Melchior

Philadelphia, Pa., 21.01.1761-31.12.1762

13. August 1762

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 Ich sende Ihnen zur unigen Zeit ein unser Correspondenten
 in Europa flussend superlitteral und die nützliche Gott
 um seine Arbeiter ausführt, welche aber durch die uns
 gebrauchte Krieger-Flamme zu Wasser und zu Lande schwer
 zuwerfen wird. Volte der Gnädigste Gott uns eine baldige
 Hilfe schenken, so werden wir an unsere Brüder in und aus
 Oesterreich zu erst mit danken, und uns in die Pflichten
 von der Reich Gottes und seiner Gesalbten unter dem
 Kreuzen mächtig. Ich werde Sie durch unsere Correspondenten
 froh! Der Herr! Ich sende recommendirte, und mit den
 übrigen respectiven Gliedern des kaiserlichen Ministerii
 des Innern, und die, welche Brüder und ungesessene
 Genußman, in dessen der aller kaiserlichen Pflichten unser
 kaiserliche Reich, und aber in dem Augenblicke,
 wo dem Gnaden von anseher. Herr v. Mühlenberg
 Philadelphia 31. July 1762.

[illegible]

1762.
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Your Honour's most humble Servant H. Miehlenby, Lutheran Minister and Son in Law to Gen^l 88th of late, has several times had a condescending free Access to Your Person, tanquam Patri tutela, within twenty Years past, when ever in Distress and trouble among the Germans in publick Affairs, and received always good Counsel and Support in just Matters, Tending to the Welfare of Protestantism. This encourageth Your most humble Servant to acquaint Your Honour with a new Quarrel, that ariseth at German Town among a People, tho' some Persuasion yet of different Character. 42. It is about 20. Years when I found a small Lutheran Church at German Town founded, by the Rev^d Minister of the Swedish Church and a small flock of old Settlers, that called me to attend Divine Service. The Congregation encreased and were served by me and some of my fellow-Labourers above Ten Years all in Peace and Quietness, And, being obliged to enlarge the Building, the Elders were favoured with a sum of money from Your Honour in Trust, with Charitable Collections from Germany, and from the contributing Members here. The House being scarcely finished and Dedicated, when there arose a Set of Ministrels and noisy New-comers, a Lawless and undisciplined Crew, which insulted and abused me, my fellow-Labourers, the Elders and almost all the quiet contributing Members, who had bestowed their Mites, sweat and blood towards the building. The said New-comers ceased not to disturb us in a riotous manner Sabbath after Sabbath. The Ministers and quiet People would not go to Law, and when at last tired, left the Church, and the old honest Settlers lived separate and by consequence to bulk or rump took possession of the Church and pertinencies, and introduced one Bagnabond and Prostibulum after another to this

very

every Day, who cut Piety and Morality at the root, and
 breed Variance, hatred, strife and Malice among the People.
 The old honest Settlers and contributing Members seeing
 with Grief and sorrow, that the Mob usurped their
 Church and Property, to the irreparable hurt of their Children,
 especially in the present most critical Time of dreadful
 War, when all true and loyal Subjects should be of one
 heart and Mind, and ready to live and die pro Aris
 and focus, the said old members proposed therefore,
 they would join with the Newcomers into one Body,
 in case they would discharge their present scandalous
 Minister, and call a moral and Loyal one, but the best
 Proposals were in vain, for they would rather go to destruction
 than to meddle with pious Ministers. And the old
 Members and Owners of the Church being at a
 Loss, made Application at our last Synod in Philad^a
 for a moral and loyal Minister, and got one appointed.
 Having this promise they spoke several times more
 to the Opposers of the Church, yea, offered to give 30 £.
 to the offensive Minister as a Congratuit, if he
 would move in peace, but all in vain. And therefore
 all the old Settlers and contributing Members, yea,
 even Mr. Berghenthaler who is bound to Your Honour
 for a Sum, lent to the Church, joined yesterday and looked
 up de Church, to the purpose that neither Minister
 should preach there, till the Matter be justly decided,
 resting in sure hopes, that next to Almighty God, our
 Gracious Superiors will please to protect innocent
 and loyal People in the Enjoyment of their Property
 for Soul and Body, which is the fervent prayer of
 Philad^a 13th August. YOUR HONOUR'S most humble Servants
 1762 Henry Mühlenberg, by order of the Synod Moderator
 Vinzenz Brischard dem Anthon Gilbert mit

