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Tagebuch von Heinrich Melchior Mühlenberg.

Muhlenberg, Henry Melchior

Providence, Pa., 05.10.1781-31.12.1782

14. November 1781

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urn:nbn:de:gbv:ha33-1-172404

Kindesfließ und ist in der halben Mithrüngsch, für 31 2/3 fl.
und etwas Salz zu Lusten, für 18 fl. Laim = oder Lora oft
ist aber so dünn und ist den nicht dabei haben, wegen Ingebrüchig-
keit, zumal, da die Abmeln so lang sind.

Mithrüngsch 14 Novemb. umpfing und schrieb von meinem
Jngl. Tochtermann aus Neuhannover, im daselbst einen Land-
platz gamiatet, malirte, daselbst signir und durch Mr. Krüß,
und er im nächsten frischen verkaufen muß, und noch einen
anderen Aufschall weiß. Ich weiß ihm nicht zu rathen noch
zu helfen. Ich schreib, ob er denn daselbst ein nützliches Stück, für
für 400 £ zu Mr. Krüß, aber für gewöhnlich 1/2 £. Ich antwortete
also: "Sir, by your Favor, I perceive, your rented
" place be sold, and you are necessitated to look for another,
" and that there is one to be sold for 400 £ ready money.
" As willing I might be to assist you, as sorry I am to confess,
" that it is impossible for me to lend or to be bound for
" money. Your Wife and all the rest of my Children know
" how our temporal Circumstances are situated. I am un-
" able to maintain myself, being worn out by decrepitude
" and Fatigues, and my Yoke-fellow in a distressed
" pitiful and helpless condition. The Inheritance my
" Wife earned from her Father she had lent out, in hopes
" to preserve it for her Widowhood, before the present War,
" is dwindled away, because her Debtors redeemed their
" Obligations with the depreciated Paper money in a Peri-
" od, when the penal Laws of the Country enforced the Creditors,
" either to take the Principal and Interest in Paper money equal
" to Gold and Silver, or to forfeit and loose all. The little Plaz-
" ce where we live upon, yields but the fruit of Labour, mostly done
" by hired Labourers, for Wages. The Pension I had hitherto du-

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" during Pleasure of my Benevolent and Gracious European Be-
" nefactors, amounted to 70 odd £ curr: being the Interest of a
" Legacy, which I was obliged to receive in Depreciated Paper
" Money as long the penal Law remained in force until last
" year. This said Pension and an other of the Congregation
" in Philadelphia, together with some Corn of the Hannover-
" rian Congregation for my weak Service, did reach so far
" as to maintain myself and sickly Family in a frugal
" way of living. Being in such Circumstances, we can not
" assist our Children with money, nor expect to be assisted
" by them in our Want. I am at my Journeys End, and as soon
" I depart, mine Income will cease, and my distressed surviving
" Widow be left in a destitute Condition. Tho we ought to
" put our Trust in God, who has promised to plead the Cause
" of the Widows and to be the Father of the fatherless, yet ought
" we to use the means, where Divine Providence entrusteth with,
" accordingly; especially when we are young and enjoy
" Health and Vigour in Mind and Body yet. There are
" many Ways and Opportunities open yet, where young
" People may improve their Talents and find an honest
" Living by Industry and the Blessing of God. Let the
" Farmer exercise his Plough, the Mechanick his Art, the
" Penman his Pen, the Soldier his Sword, the Merchant his
" Store, Debt and Credit, the Sea Captain and Mate their Com-
" pas and Quadrant, and every Adventurer his Talents, where
" he is endued with, together wth Godliness and Contentment,
" which is a great Gain; ~~which is~~ ^{and} the hearty desire of your well-
" wishing Friend H. M. B. Novemb. the 14th 1781.