

Letter by Jacob Hoeppner to the Elder of Elbing, Gerhard Wiebe [#19781].

Appears in Wiebe diary 30 Oct 1793, page [258](#).

Translated by Edwin Hoeppner.

Esteemed Ohm Gerhard Wiebe,

Wishing you all the best, I report that I have received your esteemed letter of July 22, 1793. I and my family are well, thank God, and we have our bread, as do all in our colony. Circumstances are getting better. The reason for some people not going as well as they might, is because they are unhappy. Some have suffered a lot of theft others had fires, but most of those who are not well off are people who do not work and do not use their crown money wisely. Of Jacob v. Kampen [#196806] I can't say that he doesn't use his money wisely, but he is always so restless and wants to move away. I thank you for your kindness of sending me the prescriptions which I requested, for it might happen that they will be very useful and necessary for me. Regarding the money mentioned, I report that I have received the bill of exchange as well as the letter to Mr. Proto Pototzkie of Cherson, and by request of the church I have handed everything over to the ministers and have their signature. Some of them did travel to Cherson and did received the entire amount. The two elders have this money and I nor many of the congregations have not heard how much of that money belongs to the church. I think our ministers will see to it that finally a proper receipt will be sent to Mr. Momber [#8293; Hans Momber, minister in the Danzig Flemish congregation]. Regarding your comment that there are more people thinking of coming here, I think it best not to just come and hope for the best. – Already some families from Lithuania have come and they have received permission to look at land. But we don't know what they will select and what kind of a contract they will receive. It might be good for the others to wait for the outcome of this, in order to find out how things were done with the others, then they would know why they would move to Russia. Or if they might be able to enter into a contract with the high crown of Russia before starting out. That would be well too. - They might be able to get good land. - Daniel Fast [#198881] died a while ago and I heard that his aged father is still alive, although he had a long illness. Here it is like that too and one is surprised, because some healthy young men have died suddenly, whereas some of the older ones, where one would have thought that their lifespan would end soon, are ailing from time to time and are among us, some already 75 years old. We had quite a bit of rain in spring, but always dry later in the summer. The hay was good, but the grain was not the best. I am wondering why I haven't received a letter from my father-in-law of the Neustadter Wald [Neustaedterwald, also known as Neustaedter Ellerswald] , namely Abraham Dyck [#1196259], as yet, whereas I have received many letters from their area. Please give him my greetings.

Many greetings and I remain your friend, willing to serve,
Chortitz, Sept. 3, 1793 Jacob Hepner

Corrected by GHP on 11 Aug 2019 and 30 Jun 2025.